

INDEX

TO THE

PROCEEDINGS OF THE MADRAS LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

FOURTH SESSION OF THE SECOND LEGISLATIVE
COUNCIL.

16th to 29th March 1926

Volume XXIX

A

PAGES

Abbas Ali Khan Sahib, Mr.— Budget motion <i>re</i> — Judges and Registrar, High Court Registration Department, Upper grades in the Unparliamentary expressions, withdrawal of certain — See Questions and Answers.	380-381 226, 228 272
Accidents— See Car festivals.	
Acquisition of land— See Compensation; Paddy-breeding station.	
Acting clerks— Question <i>re</i> — in South Kanara	754
Acting officers— Question <i>re</i> special pay to —	556
Additional District Munsifs— See District Munsifs.	
Adi-Andhras— Question <i>re</i> High School for —	747-748
Adi-Dravida hostel— See Adi-Dravida students.	
Adi-Dravida Night School— Question <i>re</i> management of the — at Govindapuram	832
Adi-Dravida pupils— Question <i>re</i> admission of — into Singanallur elementary school	826-827
Adi-Dravida schools— Question <i>re</i> management of — by the Labour department	676
Adi-Dravida students— Question <i>re</i> — in the Adi-Dravida hostel, Madras	418-419
Adi-Dravidas— Question <i>re</i> — in Vellakinar Board Elementary School	12-13
Adinarayana Chettiyar, Mr. T.— See Questions and Answers.	
Adjournment— Motion <i>re</i> — of the House <i>sine die</i>	291-295
Adjournment motion <i>re</i> — Paralysis of industries	851-852
Administration of Justice— See Budget motions; Demands for grants; Demands for supplementary grants; Further demands for grants.	

8

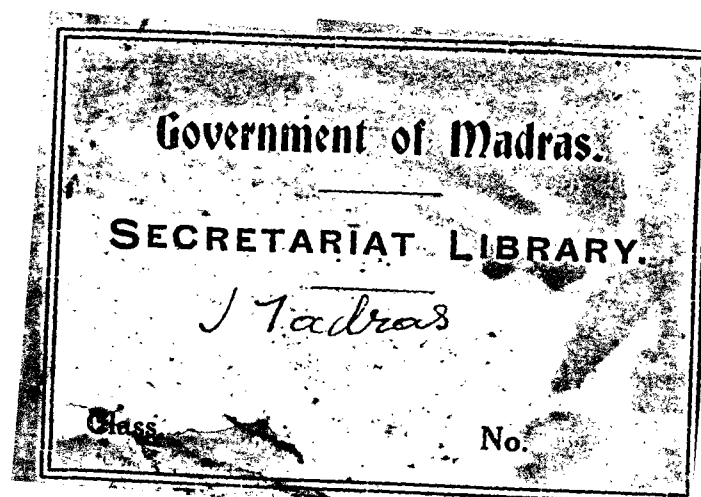
PAGES

Arrack shop— See Surla Arrack shop.	
Arts College (Men)— Budget motion <i>re</i> —	511-513
Arumuga Nadar, Mr. P. K. S. A.— Budget motions— Executive Council allotment—(discussion on Nadar representation) See Questions and Answers.	322-323, 324
Assignment of lands— Question <i>re</i> — in Melathangal	835-836
Assistant and Sub-Assistant Surgeons— Question <i>re</i> appointment of —	190
Assistant Commissioner of Labour— Budget motion <i>re</i> —	781-782
Assistant Director, Coast, Fisheries— See Budget motions.	
Assistant Engineers— Budget motion <i>re</i> Provincialization of —	806-807
Assistant Examiners of Local Fund Accounts— See Budget motions.	
Assistant Registrars of Co-operative Societies— Question <i>re</i> number of co-operative societies inspected by — See Co-operative Unions; Honorary Assistant Registrars.	661
Audit and appropriation reports— See Public Accounts Committee.	
Aarobindo Ghose, Mr.— Question <i>re</i> visitors to —	740
Avaram lease— Question <i>re</i> — to co-operative societies	180-187

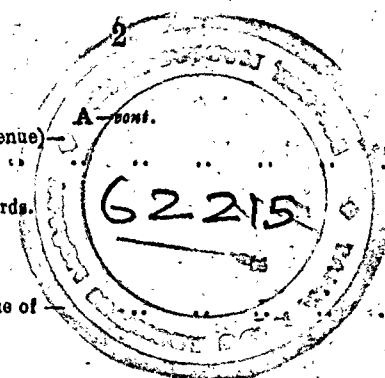
B

Basavanna channel extension— Question <i>re</i> lands irrigated by the —	841
Bee-keeping— Question <i>re</i> progress of — in this Province	843-844
Beedi factories— Question <i>re</i> — in Madras	834
Beedi shops— Question <i>re</i> employment of children in —	502
Bellary district— See Agricultural school; Agricultural staff; Depressed classes pupils.	
Bellary taluk— Question <i>re</i> remission of suspended revenue in —	504-505
Bellary town— Question <i>re</i> scheme for water-supply to —	592-593
Bellary West Canal project— Question <i>re</i> estimates for the —	269-280
Bengali State prisoners— Question <i>re</i> transfer of — to Cannanore jail	833
Bhanaji Rao, Mr. A. V.— Budget motions <i>re</i> — Legislative bodies—Travelling allowance Medical, allotment for —	298 629-631
Bhavani projects— See Hawkins' Report, Mr.	

8181 / R.A. / 80
265 / 2



Administration charges (Land Revenue)—		
Budget motion <i>re</i> —	.. .. .	39-54
Administration reports—		
<i>See</i> Municipalities and Local Boards.		
Administrative Inspectors—		
<i>See</i> Co-operative Department.		
Aeroplanes—		
Question <i>re</i> study of the technique of	.. .. .	844
Agency—		
<i>See</i> Demands for grants.		
Agency—Grants to local bodies—		
<i>See</i> Demands for supplementary grants.		
Agricultural Department—		
Question <i>re</i> experiments by — in famine areas ..	.. .. .	753-754
Question <i>re</i> publication of the enterprise of the —	.. .. .	335
Agricultural school—		
Question <i>re</i> establishment of an — in the Bellary district.	.. .. .	817
Agricultural schools—		
<i>See</i> Budget motions.		
Agricultural staff—		
Question <i>re</i> — in Bellary district ..	.. .. .	661
Agriculture—		
Question <i>re</i> Royal Commission on —		
<i>See</i> Budget motions; Demands for grants; Further demands for grants.		816
Aided secondary schools—		
Question <i>re</i> special teaching grant to — ..	.. .. .	507-508
Amaravati river—		
Question <i>re</i> repair of breaches in channels from —	.. .. .	342-343
Ambur—		
<i>See</i> Toddy and arrack shops.		
Anantapur district—		
<i>See</i> Criminal Tribes Act; Irrigation works; Liquor shops; Survey stones.		
Anantapur Municipal High School—		
Question <i>re</i> construction of a new building for the —	.. .. .	678-679
Anasthasius Moths, Mr.—		
Question <i>re</i> alleged protest against the appointment of — as Jathithalaivan	.. .. .	488
Question <i>re</i> grant of privileges to — in Tuticorin Pearl Fishery	.. .. .	819-821
Question <i>re</i> recognition of — as Jathithalaivan ..	.. .. .	487
Andamans—		
Questions <i>re</i> Mappilla colonization in the — ..	.. .. .	180, 745
Andamans, administration of —		
<i>See</i> Budget motions.		
Andamans Committee—		
Question <i>re</i> — ..	.. .. .	181
Anjaneyulu, Mr. P.—		
<i>See</i> Questions and Answers.		
Ankinedu Prasad Bahadur, S. R. Y.—		
<i>See</i> Questions and Answers.		
Appropriation Reports—		
<i>See</i> Audit and appropriation reports.		
Arbitration cases—		
Question <i>re</i> reference of — of rural credit societies in Rasipuram taluk to	.. .. .	23
Mr. Chinniah Pillai ..	.. .. .	
Areca nuts—		
Question <i>re</i> production of — in the Presidency ..	.. .. .	334
Arpudaswami Udayar, Mr. S.—		
Budget motion <i>re</i> —		
Non-Government secondary schools ..	.. .. .	543-544



Bill—	B—cont.	PAGES
Nurses and Midwives Bill (Bill No. 11 of 1924)—		
Select Committee Report, presentation of —		890
Motion that the Bill be taken into consideration		891
Bill discussed		891
Motion that the Bill be passed into law		901-902
Bindoor—		
See Dried leaves.		
Bindoor division—		
Question re strength and occupation of villagers in —		685
See Forest grievances.		
Bindoor forest reserves—		
Question re —		743-744
Board of Revenue—		
Budget motions re—		
Abolition of —		58-66
Financial Commissioner and establishments of —		73-74
Board Schools, Ponnani taluk—		
See Scholarships.		
Bone-crushing installations—		
Question re promotion of —		271
Bridges—		
Question re reconstruction of — washed away in 1924		24
British Empire Exhibition—		
See Papers laid on the table.		
Bucket shops—		
Question re — in the city ..		580
Buckingham canal—		
Budget motion re —		242-247
Budget motions re —		
Administration of justice ..		389-394
Agricultural schools ..		658-658, 681-683
Agriculture—Amalgamation of the posts of Directors of Agriculture and Indus-		683-694
tries ..		651-653
Agriculture—Demonstration ..		643-650
Agriculture—Direction ..		685-698
Agriculture, allotment for —		423
Andamans, administration of, miscellaneous grants to —		511-513
Arts College (Men) ..		781-782
Assistant Commissioner of Labour ..		729-731
Assistant Director, Coast, Fisheries ..		58-66
Board of Revenue, abolition of the —		242-247
Buckingham canal ..		538-539
Buildings—Education (Transferred) ..		655
Central Farm and College Establishment, Coimbatore ..		425-427
Central Jails ..		247-251
Channels and drains in Godavari district ..		809-811
Chermedu Ghat Road ..		329-332
Chief Secretariat ..		403-404
City Civil Court ..		806-807
Civil Works (discussion re provincialization of Assistant Engineers)		39-41
Coconut and jack plantations ..		42-54
Communal representation (Land Revenue Department) ..		207-208
Conservators of Forests ..		710-712
Co-operative Societies, allotment for —		73-74
Court of Wards ..		454
Criminal Investigation Department ..		66-71
Darkhast lands to depressed classes ..		789
Depressed classes, betterment of —		788, 790-792
Depressed classes hostel ..		787-788
Depressed classes teachers of Hindu faith ..		857-860
Deputy and Assistant Examiners of Local Fund Accounts ..		351-353
Discretionary grants by Collectors ..		109-113
District Collectors and Magistrates ..		

B—cont.	PAGES
Budget motions re—cont.	
District Labour Officers ..	782-783
District Police ..	451-458
Education—Reserved, allotment for —	485-486
Elections, allotment for —	305-322
Establishments (forests) ..	216-217
Excise—	
District Executive establishments (illicit distillation and sale of liquors) ..	123-129
Reduction of total allotment (discussion re local option and excise policy) ..	130-143
Executive Council, allotment for — (discussion on Nadar representation) ..	322-324
Fish-curing yards ..	769-781
Forest College ..	213
Forest Panchayat Officers ..	213-215
Forests, allotment for —	218-220
Forests, capital outlay on —	217-218, 221-223
Forests Exploitation ..	212-213
Forests, fire protection in —	160
Forests, Regeneration Staff ..	208-211
Forests, Reserved—improvement and extension of —	160-163
Forests, removal of grass and fuel from —	157-160
General Administration—Miscellaneous ..	361-371
General Administration—Secretariat, Pay of establishments ..	324-328
General Administration—Secretariat, reduction of total allotment for —	353-357
Government Arts Colleges ..	520-523
Government Medical Officers ..	611-614
Government Secondary Schools ..	537-538
Government Secondary Schools for boys ..	526-527
Government Secondary Schools for girls ..	527-537
Grants-in-aid, Local Bodies ..	805
Grants-in-aid, Medical ..	624-625
Grant-in-aid—Miscellaneous, Non-recurring —Universities, etc.	469-478
Grants for Public Health ..	640-641
Grants to local bodies for medical relief ..	615-618
Grants to local bodies for secondary education ..	548-556
High Court ..	394-403
Hill Tribes, Nilgiris ..	789-790
Hospitals and dispensaries ..	625-626
Industrial School for Girls, Nellore ..	790
Industrial Schools ..	724-725
Industries, Direction ..	715-724
Industries, Establishments ..	714-715
Investments in Government Commercial undertakings ..	726-729
Irrigation, Civil Officers ..	238-239
Irrigation facilities in the Nellore district ..	239-241
Irrigation—Navigation (Ceded Districts and Cuddapah irrigation) ..	288-291
Irrigation—Public Works Department Officers—re Kattalai scheme ..	275-278
Irrigation works (Ceded Districts irrigation) ..	278-282
Irrigation works (Nellore irrigation) ..	282-284
Jails, allotment for —	427-430
Jails, superintendence ..	423-425
Judges and Registrar, High Court ..	372-389
Labour department, District Staff ..	783-787
Law College ..	524-526
Law College (Honoraria for special lecturers) ..	523
Law Officers ..	403
Legislative Bodies—Travelling allowance ..	297-302
Legislative Council—Reporters ..	302-304
Leper Settlement, Tirumant—Contribution to the United Free Church of Scot-	
land Mission for maintenance of —	604-609
Live stock ..	654-655
Local Fund Audit establishments ..	360-361
Maintenance of dispensaries, allotment for —	614-615
Malabar Special Police ..	456-460
Medical, allotment for —	829-831
Medical Colleges and Schools ..	627-628
Medical establishments ..	557-560
Medical establishment for subdivisional establishments in the Agency ..	118
Medical Schools ..	626-627

B—cont.

Budget motions <i>re</i> —cont.	
Medical—Works	628-629
Mental Hospital	628
Minor irrigation (grievances of lease-holders and peasant labourers)	237
Mufassal hospitals and dispensaries	609-611
Nilgiri Fisheries	781
Non-Government Secondary Schools	539-548
Non-Government Secondary Schools—European, direct grants to —	461-464
Non-recurring grants to local bodies for roads and bridges (discussion <i>re</i> Palar river)	794-804
Panchayat officer, Forests	215-216
Pay of Collectors	78-80
Pay of establishments (Agriculture)	650-651
Pay of establishments (Cinchona)	712-714
Pay of establishments (Civil Veterinary Services)	703-706
Pay of establishments (Land Revenue)	34-37, 74-77
Pay of establishment (Public Health)	631-634
Pay of officers (Co-operative Societies)	706-709
Pay of officers—Excise (discussion on excise policy)	119-123
Pay of officers—Forests	199-203
Pay of officers—Land Revenue (Land Revenue Settlement Bill)	66
Pay of officers—Land Revenue (Posting of Deputy Collectors)	56-58
Pay of officers—Land Revenue (Separation of judicial and executive functions)	113-118
Pay of officers—Police	439-446, 453-454
Pay of permanent establishments—Education (Transferred)	510-511
Penalties and forfeitures (Excise)	129-130
Police Force, allotment for —	446-461
Presidency Police	430-436
Professional survey parties	65-66
Provincial Museums	461
Public exhibition and Fairs	653-654
Public Health—Mufassal—Establishment	635-636
Public Works Secretariat	346-351
Queen Mary's College	513-520
Railway Police	454-456
Rangers, Salary of —	203-206
Registrar-General of Panchayats and Inspector of Municipalities	371-372
Registration, Reduction of commission fee for—	234-237
Registration (Reduction of Registration charges)	230-233
Registration, Superintendence	228-229
Registration, Treatment to depressed classes	229-230
Registration department, Upper Grades of the —	224-228
Regrouping of taluks	41-42
Roads and bridges	793-794
Road grants	807-809
Ryots forests	156-158
School of Indian Medicine	619-623
Schools for fishermen	768-769
Secondary education	558-557
Staff Selection Board	328-329
Stamp duty—Reduction of	144-156
Superintendence—Police	436-439
Supplies and Services, Land Revenue	37-39
Survey and Settlement	71-73
Tanur Fishery station	731-732, 755-756
Temporary establishments, Settlement	54
Touring establishments (Civil Veterinary services)	700-703
Town-Planning (Pay of establishments)	636-639
Training Institute, Calicut	765-768
Travelling allowance—Land Revenue (discussion <i>re</i> transfer of Collectors)	77-78
Veterinary hospitals and dispensaries	698-700
Vital statistics, compilation of —	641-643
Water-supply and drainage	639-640
Buildings—Education (Transferred)—	
Budget motion <i>re</i> —	538-539
Bullock drivers—	
Question <i>re</i> concessions to — regarding darkhast lands	835
Business —	
Discussion <i>re</i> — before the House	603-604

C

Cannanore Jail—	
See Bengali State Prisoners.	
Cannanore municipality—	
Question <i>re</i> notification by the Chairman of the —	415-416
Car festivals—	
Question <i>re</i> alleged accidents during —	837
Cars—	
See Temple cars.	
Cauvery bridge.	
Question <i>re</i> — at Kumbakonam	105
Cauvery-Mettur Reservoir Project—	
Budget motion <i>re</i> —	284-288
Ceded Districts and Cuddapah Irrigation—	
Budget motion <i>re</i> —	288-291
Ceded Districts College—	
Question <i>re</i> extension of the —	678
Ceded Districts Irrigation—	
Budget motion <i>re</i> —	278-282
Ceded Districts Irrigation Committee—	
Demand for supplementary grant for expenditure in connection with —	854
Central Farm and College Establishment, Coimbatore—	
See Budget motions.	
Central Jails—	
Budget motion <i>re</i> —	425-427
'Chakillian' —	
See Mettupalaiyam Union Board.	
Channels and drains—	
Budget motion <i>re</i> — at Godavari	247-251
Charmeda Ghat Road—	
Budget motion <i>re</i> —	802-811
Chettipatti—	
Question <i>re</i> proposed channel at —	341
Chidambara Nadar, Mr. A. —	
Budget motions <i>re</i> —	
Administration charges (Land Revenue)	41, 42
Agriculture — combination of posts of Directors of Industries and Agriculture	686-687, 693, 694-695
and Co-operative Registrar	329, 332
Chief Secretariat—recruitment of Under Secretaries	649, 650
Direction (Agriculture)	129-130
Excise department	323
Executive Council allotment — (discussion <i>re</i> Nadar representation in service),	806
Grants-in-aid to Local Bodies	478
Grants to Universities	728, 728, 729
Investments in Government commercial undertakings	706, 709
Pay of officers (Co-operative Societies)	66
Pay of officers (Land Revenue)	442, 443, 444, 453
Pay of officers—Police	346, 347, 350, 351
Public Works Secretariat	
See Questions and Answers.	
Chief Secretariat—	
Budget motion <i>re</i> —	329-332
Children—	
See Beedi shops	
Chingleput District Board—	
See Conjeevaram municipality.	
Chinnia Pillai—	
See Arbitration cases.	
Christian College, the Madras—	
Demand for supplementary grant for a teaching grant to the —	864-865

C—cont.

PAGES

Cinchona— Demand for grant <i>re</i> — See Papers laid on the table.	712-714
Civil Courts— See Municipal elections.	
City Civil Court— See Budget motions.	
City Police— See Sub-Inspectors of City Police.	
Civil and Sessions Courts— See Mufassal Civil and Sessions Courts.	
Civil Court copyists— Question <i>re</i> pay of —	340
Civil Justice Committee— Question <i>re</i> action taken on the recommendation of —	339-340
Civil Veterinary Services— Demand for grant <i>re</i> —	698-706
Civil Works— See Demand for grants.	
Clerks— Question <i>re</i> — confirmed in the Revenue Department, South Kanara See Acting Clerks; Collector of Malabar.	193
Cocanada Taluk Board— Question <i>re</i> election of Mr. Prakasa Rao to a vacancy in the —	264
Cochin harbour— Question <i>re</i> construction of the —	582-583
Cochin Port Trust— Question <i>re</i> maintenance of launches by the — Question <i>re</i> organization of the —	411-412 343
Collector of Malabar— Question <i>re</i> appointment of clerks by the —	506
Collector of Ramnad— Question <i>re</i> alleged criticism of Government's policy by the —	503-504
Collectors— See Discretionary grants.	
Collectors and Magistrates— Budget motion <i>re</i> — See District Collectors and Magistrates.	78-80
Commissioner of Labour— Question <i>re</i> —	601-602
Communal representation— Budget motion <i>re</i> — among district and sessions judges Question <i>re</i> — in Public Works Department Question <i>re</i> — in the office of the Director of Industries See Inspectress of Girls' schools; Taluk boards; Therukupetti village panchayat.	858-863 420 182-183
Communications to the Council— See Papers laid on the table.	
Commutation— See Retired officers.	
Company's tax— See Co-operative societies.	
Compensation— Question <i>re</i> — for improvements in lands acquired by Government	676-677
Conjeevaram municipality— Question <i>re</i> contribution to Chingleput District Board by the —	589-590
Conservators— Budget motion <i>re</i> number of —	206-208

C—cont.

PAGES

Coolies— See Federated Malay States; Mettur project.	
Coomoor Fruit Preserving Institute— See Fruit Preserving Institute.	
Co-operative credit societies— Question <i>re</i> appointment of honorary organizers of — Question <i>re</i> — for depressed classes	819 267-269
Co-operative Department— Question <i>re</i> administrative inspectors of the — Question <i>re</i> dismissal of officers in the —, North Arcot Question <i>re</i> re-organization of the —	421 818 171
Co-operative societies— Demand for grant <i>re</i> — Question <i>re</i> exemption of — from company's tax See Assistant Registrars; Avarum lease; Budget motions; Honorary Assistant Registrars; Inspecting staff.	706-712 334
Co-operative unions— Question <i>re</i> number of — in each Assistant Registrar's section	100-101
Copyists— See Civil Court copyists.	
Council— Discussion <i>re</i> periodical sittings of the — on budget motion Discussion <i>re</i> unrepresentative character of —	297-299 109
Council meeting— Discussion <i>re</i> — after budget meeting	902-903
Courts of South Kanara— Question <i>re</i> seating arrangements for litigants in —	837
Criminal Investigation Department— Budget motion <i>re</i> —	454
Criminal settlements— Question <i>re</i> women and girls in —	175-176
Criminal tribe(s)— Question <i>re</i> criterion for declaring a tribe as a — Question <i>re</i> exceptions in registering members of castes declared — Question <i>re</i> panchayats in charge of the — Question <i>re</i> treatment of —	829-833 178, 252-255 509 178
Criminal Tribes Act— Question <i>re</i> commission of offences by persons under the — Question <i>re</i> — in Anantapur district Question <i>re</i> exceptions under the — Question <i>re</i> Jutur gang and the — Question <i>re</i> principles <i>re</i> registry under the — Question <i>re</i> procedure to watch under the — Question <i>re</i> registration of persons under the — Question <i>re</i> registration under the — in Anantapur district See Sugalis.	178 89-90, 742-743 178 191-192 177-178 178-179 413-414 172-177
Crop pest— Question <i>re</i> — in South Kanara	170

D

Darkhast lands— Budget motion <i>re</i> grant of — Question <i>re</i> assignment of — to caste ryots See Bullock Drivers.	66-71 839
Das— See State Prisoners.	
Das, portrait of — See Polur Taluk Board.	
Davis, Mr. J. A.— Budget motion <i>re</i> — Pay of officers (Excoise)	121

D—cont.

PAGES

Deaf and Dumb schools— See Schools for deaf and dumb.	
Debate— Withdrawal of certain words used in —	510
Delegation of Powers— See Municipal Chairmen; Local Board Presidents.	
Demands for grants re—	
Administration of Justice	372-404
Agency	812
Agriculture	643-658, 681-698
Cinchona	712-714
Civil Veterinary services	698-706
Civil Works—Grants to local bodies	793-811
Civil Works (Transferred)	812-813
Co-operative societies	706-712
Education (Reserved)	461-468
Education (Transferred)	469-478, 510-557
Excise	119-143
Expenditure in England	912
Fisheries	729-732, 755-781
Forests	199-223
General Administration—Heads of Provinces	296-297
General Administration—Legislative Bodies	297-322
General Administration—Ministers and Civil Secretariats—Transferred	371-372
General Administration—Miscellaneous	357-371
General Administration—Secretariat	322-332, 346-357
Industries	714-729
Irrigation—Civil Officers	237-241
Irrigation—Public Works Officers	241-251, 273-296
Jails	422-430
Labour including Factories	781-792
Land Revenue	33-80, 109-118
Loans and Advances	812
Medical	557-560, 604-631
Pensions	812
Police	430-460
Ports and Pilotage	460
Public health and vital statistics	631-648
Registration	223-237
Scientific departments (other than Hydro-Electric Surveys)	461
Stationery and Printing	812
Stationery (Transferred)	812
Demands for Grants, Further— See Further Demands for Grants.	
Demand for excess grant re— Stationery and printing	865-866
Demands for supplementary grants re—	
Administration of Justice—Mafassal Civil and Sessions Courts	858-863
Administration of Justice—Warder-guard system in Kurnool and Coimbatore	864
Agency—grants to local bodies	863-864
Irrigation—Ceded Districts Irrigation Committee	854
Land Revenue—Survey and Settlement	852-853
Legislative bodies—travelling allowance	854-857
Stationery and printing	863
University grants—grant to Christian College, Madras	864-866
Demonstration (Agriculture)— See Budget motions.	
Depressed class members— Question re nomination of — to local boards in Tanjore district	586-587
Depressed classes— Question re alleged prevention of — from using Neelothoheru tank	417-418
Question re amelioration of —	743
Question re co-operative credit societies for —	287-289
Question re high school for — at Masulipatam	830-831

D—cont.

PAGES

Depressed classes—cont.	
Question re mahajar from Virapandianur —	261-262
Question re representation of — in the District Board, Nellore	15-16
Question re representation of — in Madanapalle Union Board	91-92
Question re schools for — in the Presidency	844-845
Question re water-supply to the — in certain villages in the Nellore district	336-337
See Industrial Institute, Madura; Ponnapuram; Vadikepalayam Village Court.	
Depressed Classes Advisory Committee— Question re personnel and functions of —	831-832
Depressed classes girls— Question re — in the Government Girls' Secondary School, Salem	266
Depressed classes hostel— Budget motion re —	788, 790-792
Depressed classes pupils— Question re scholarships to — in Bellary district	672-673
Deputy Collectors— Question re control over —	18-19
Deputy Examiner of Local Fund Accounts— See Budget motion.	
Deputy Inspector of Schools— Question re appointment of Mr. Kunhalan Kutti as —	489
Deputy President, the hon. the— Budget motions re —	
Chief Secretariat — recruitment of Under Secretaries	329, 331
Elections	311, 313, 314, 318, 321
Grants to Universities	469, 470, 471, 472, 478, 477, 478
Staff Selection Board	329
See Kesava Pillai, Diwan Bahadur P.,	
Devadasi community— See Minor girls.	
Devanga attack— Question re —	84
Devendrudu, Mr. N.— Budget motion re Labour department staff	786
Diplot registers— Question re — in the offices of District Registrars	489-490
Direction (Agriculture)— See Budget motions.	
Direction (Industries)— See Budget motions.	
Director of Agriculture— Question re recommendations of the — on agricultural organization	660-661
Directors of Agriculture and Industries— Budget motion re combination of the posts of —, etc.	683-694
Director of Industries— Question re advertisement of the products of institutions under the —	335
Disafforestation— See Palamadi reserve.	
Discretionary grants by Collectors— Budget motion re —	351-353
District Boards— Question re — without elected presidents	265
See Nominations.	
District Collectors and Magistrates— Budget motion re —	109-113
District Executive Establishments— Budget motion re —	123-122

D--cont.

PAGE

District Labour Officers—	
Budget motion <i>re</i> —	782-783
Question <i>re</i> —	86-87
District Munsifs—	
Further demand for grant <i>re</i> additional — for Ramnad	866-867
District Munsifs' Courts—	
Question <i>re</i> seating arrangements for distinguished visitors in South Kanara — ..	597-598
District Police—	
Budget motion <i>re</i> —	451-453
District Registrars—	
See Diglott registers.	
Dramatic Companies—	
Question <i>re</i> restrictions on licences to —	410-411
Dried leaves—	
Question <i>re</i> use of — from forest reserves by the cultivators of Bindoor	673
Drinking water—	
Question <i>re</i> — for depressed classes Nanjaimakkathavalkai	192
Question <i>re</i> facilities for — in Sindavalam village	261
Ducks—	
Question <i>re</i> export of —, etc., from this province	844

E

East Godavari District Board—	
Question <i>re</i> elected president for the —	495
Education—Reserved—	
Budget motion <i>re</i> reduction of allotment for —	465-468
Demand for grant <i>re</i> —	461-468
Education—Transferred—	
Demand for grant <i>re</i> —	469-478, 510-557
Elections—	
Budget motions <i>re</i> allotment for —	305-322
Further demand for grant for additional staff in the Secretariat on account of — ..	876
Elementary schools—	
Question <i>re</i> pay of permanent teachers of Government — for girls transferred to local bodies	825-826
Empire Exhibition—	
See British Empire Exhibition.	
Encroachments—	
Question <i>re</i> — on channels and pathways	87
Establishment—Mufassal (Public Health)—	
See Budget motions.	
Establishment (Industries)—	
See Budget motions.	
Ethirajulu Nayudu, Diwan Bahadur P. C.—	
Budget motion <i>re</i> travelling allowances (Land Revenue)	77-78
Excess grants—	
See Demand for excess grants.	
Evans, Mr. F. B.—	
Budget motion <i>re</i> Public Works Secretariat	348-351
Exoise—	
Demand for grant <i>re</i> —	119-148
Exoise department—	
Budget motion <i>re</i> —	129-143
Executive Council—	
Budget motion <i>re</i> allotment for — to discuss Nadar representation in the service ..	322-324
Expenditure in England—	
Demand for grant <i>re</i> —	812
Eshava community—	
Question <i>re</i> issue of order on the — under 144, Criminal Procedure Code	20-21

F

PAGE

Famine areas—	
See Agricultural department.	
Federated Malay States—	
Question <i>re</i> embarkation of coolies to — in December 1925	675
Fernandez, Rao Bahadur Cruz—	
See Questions and Answers.	
Finance Committee—	
Motion <i>re</i> constitution of —	196
See Papers laid on the table.	
Fire protection—	
Budget motion <i>re</i> — in forests	180
Fish-curing yards—	
Budget motion <i>re</i> —	769-781
Fisheries—	
Demand for grant <i>re</i> —	729-731
Fisheries department—	
Question <i>re</i> publication of the enterprises of the —	335
Fishing trawler—	
Question <i>re</i> purchase of —	269-270
Forest College—	
Budget motion <i>re</i> —	213
Forest exploitation—	
Budget motion <i>re</i> —	212-213
Forest grievances—	
Budget motion <i>re</i> —	217-218
Question <i>re</i> — in Bindoor division	179-180
Forest lands—	
See Narasinganur village.	
Forest Panchayat Officers—	
Budget motion <i>re</i> —	213-215
Forest Panchayat Staff—	
Question <i>re</i> cost, etc., of —	104, 163
Forest Panchayats—	
Question <i>re</i> institution of — in South Kanara	832
Forest produce—	
Budget motion <i>re</i> —	158-160
Forest Rangers—	
Budget motion <i>re</i> salary of —	203-206
Question <i>re</i> conveyance allowances of —	90
Forest Reserves—	
See Dried leaves.	
Forests—	
Budget motion <i>re</i> —	218-220
Budget motion <i>re</i> fire protection in —	160
Budget motion <i>re</i> organization and improvement of —	180-163
Budget motion <i>re</i> capital outlay on —	221-223
Demand for grant <i>re</i> —	199-223
Question <i>re</i> removal of leaves and dry wood from South Kanara —	180
Fruit Preserving Institute—	
Question <i>re</i> loss in the —	161-162
Question <i>re</i> sale in —	102
Question <i>re</i> sale of jam manufactured at the Government —, Coonoor	270
Further demands for grants—	
Administration of justice—Appointment of additional district munsifs	866-867
Agriculture—Land for paddy-breeding station in Malabar	874-876
Elections—Additional staff for —	876
Public health and vital statistics—Grants to local bodies	871-874
Transfer of amounts from 'non-voted' to 'voted'	876
University grant for language research	867-871

Ganguly— See State Prisoners.	
General administration— Heads of Province— Demand for grant <i>re</i>	296-297
Legislative Bodies— Demand for grant <i>re</i>	297-322
Ministers and Civil Secretariats—Transferred— Demand for grant <i>re</i>	371-372
Miscellaneous— Demand for grant <i>re</i> See Budget motion (General administration).	357-371
Secretariat— Demand for grant <i>re</i> See Budget motions (General administration).	322-332, 346-357
Ghouse Mian Sahib, Mr. Muhammad— Budget motion <i>re</i> General administration—Miscellaneous Grants to universities High Court Jails—allotment for Judges and Registrar, High Court Law officers Local Fund Audit establishments Road grants Secondary education Further demands for grants— Administration of justice—Additional District Munsifs (pressing for Muham- madan representation, University grant for language research	351, 362-363, 366 469, 470, 471-472 401-402 427-428, 429-430 383-384 403 360-361 807, 808, 809 558-557 866-867 868
Girls' Secondary School, Salem— See Salem Government Girls' Secondary School.	
Godavari— See Channels and drains.	
Gopala Menon, Mr. C.— See Questions and Answers.	
Gopalan Nayar, K.— Question <i>re</i> dismissal of	181-182
Gopalan, Rao Sahib P. V.— Budget motion <i>re</i> Assistant Director, Coast, Fisheries Education—Reserved Fish-curing yards Grants to universities Investments in Government commercial undertakings Leper settlement, Tirumani Malabar special police Pay of officers—Police Provincialization of Assistant Engineers Schools for fishermen Tanner experiment station Training Institute, Calicut Vital statistics, compilation of See Questions and Answers.	729-730, 731 465-466 769, 770, 771, 772, 778-779, 780 477 728-729 804, 809 459-460 444-445 808 768, 769 757, 759, 763-764, 765 765-766 612, 643
Government Arts Colleges— Budget motion <i>re</i>	520-523
Government Elementary Schools for girls— See Elementary schools.	
Government grants— Question <i>re</i> — to schools	508
Government House furniture— Budget motion <i>re</i> — and leasing of Government buildings for race clubs	226-27
Government Industrial Institute, Madura— See Industrial Institute, Madura; Scholarships.	

Government Industrial institutes— Question <i>re</i> — in the Presidency	823
Government Medical Officers— See Budget motions.	
G.O. No. 4738, L. & M., dated 23rd December 1925— Question <i>re</i>	664
Government secondary schools— Budget motion <i>re</i> Budget motion <i>re</i> — for boys Budget motion <i>re</i> — for girls	537-538 526-527 527-537
Government Training School for Mistresses, Coimbatore— Question <i>re</i> scholarships for girls in the	827-828
Government Training School Hostel, Calicut— Question <i>re</i> cosmopolitan section of the	419-420
Government Training Schools, Western Circle— See Training students.	
Governor's visit— See Village officers.	
Govindapuram— See Adi-Dravida Night school.	
Graded pay system— See Police department.	
Grants-in-aid, local bodies— Budget motion <i>re</i>	806
Grant-in-aid — Miscellaneous — Non-recurring— Budget motion <i>re</i>	469
Grants-in-aid, Medical— See Budget motions.	
Grants to local bodies— Further demand for grant under Public health and vital statistics for See Budget motions.	871-874
Grants to universities— Budget motion <i>re</i>	429-478
Grazing facilities— Question <i>re</i> increased — for Kudittiri ryots	741
Green manure leaves— Question <i>re</i> — from Palamadi reserves Question <i>re</i> G.O. No. 852 <i>re</i>	192 744
Ground-rents— See Timmancherla.	
Gundal river— Question <i>re</i> proposed reservoir for conservation of water of	677
Gundalakamma stream— Question <i>re</i> bridge over the	668-669
Guns— Question <i>re</i> licences for	88-89
Guruswami, Mr. L. C.— Budget motion <i>re</i> Grant of darkhast lands Labour department staff	89-70 783-784

Haji Abdullah Haji Quasim Sahib Bahadur, Khan Bahadur— See Questions and Answers.	
Hamid Sultan Marakkayar, Khan Bahadur V.— See Questions and Answers.	

H—cont.

PAGES

Hawkins' report, Mr.—	
Question <i>re</i> — on upper and lower Bhavani projects	409-410
Head draughtsman—	
Question <i>re</i> selection of —, etc., in Wal'air Circle	420
Health officers—	
Question <i>re</i> — in South Kanara	846
Hebbala project—	
Question <i>re</i> progress of the —	342
High Court—	
See Budget motions.	
High school—	
See Depressed classes.	
Hill tribes, Nilgiris—	
Budget motion <i>re</i> —	789-790
Hindu Religious Endowments Board—	
Question <i>re</i> contributions to —	14
Hindu Religious Endowments Act—	
Question <i>re</i> definition of 'gross income' under the —	498-499
Question <i>re</i> rules under the Madras —	337-338
Hingston, O.B.E., C.I.E., Lieut.-Col.—	
Oath of office	818
Hirmandalam Police station—	
Question <i>re</i> shifting of — to Gurandi	739
Honorary Assistant Registrars—	
Question <i>re</i> — of co-operative societies	421-422
Question <i>re</i> resignation of —	186
Honorary organizers—	
See Co-operative Credit Societies.	
Hospet—	
Question <i>re</i> extent of cultivation of important crops in —	741
Hospitals and dispensaries—	
See Budget motions.	
House-sites, allotment of—	
Question <i>re</i> — for non depressed classes	182
Hydro-electric project—	
See Pykara Hydro-electric project.	
Hydro-electric schemes—	
Question <i>re</i> proposed — in the next five years	258-259

I

Increments—	
See Unpassed clerks.	
Indian Christian Female candidates—	
Question <i>re</i> stipends for —	748-750
Indian Christians—	
Question <i>re</i> representation of — in the Registration department	633
Question <i>re</i> stipends to — for training as mistresses	824
Indian Civil Service divisional officers—	
Question <i>re</i> alleged distinction below — and Madras civil service officers	504
Indian Companies Act—	
Question <i>re</i> companies registered under the —	596
Indian Institute of Science—	
Announcement <i>re</i> election of a member to the —	32, 109, 273
Indigenous medical practitioners—	
Question <i>re</i> scheme for registration of —	591-592
Indigenous products—	
Question <i>re</i> — for medical stores	98-94

I—cont.

PAGES

Industrial department—	
Question <i>re</i> publication of the enterprises of the —	385
Industrial Institute, Madura—	
Question <i>re</i> concessions to depressed classes in the Government—	822
See Scholarships.	
Industrial institutes—	
Question <i>re</i> Government — in the Presidency	823
Industrial School, Madura—	
Question <i>re</i> qualifications for admission to the —	823-824
Industrial school for girls—	
Budget motion <i>re</i> —, Nellore	790
Industrial schools—	
See Budget motions.	
Industries—	
Adjournment motion <i>re</i> paralysis of —	851-852
Demand for grant <i>re</i> —	714-729
Infectious cases—	
See Lepers Act.	
Inoculation, compulsory—	
Question <i>re</i> — in South Kanara	12
Inspecting staff—	
Question <i>re</i> division of the — for co-operative societies for audit and administration	596
Inspector of Municipalities—	
See Budget motions.	
Inspectors of Co-operative societies—	
Question <i>re</i> —	170-171
Inspectress of Girls' Schools, Coimbatore—	
Question <i>re</i> communal representation in the office of the —	266
Irrigation—	
See Demands for supplementary grants.	
Irrigation—Civil officers—	
Budget motion <i>re</i> —	238-241
Demands for grant <i>re</i> —	237-241
Irrigation—Public Works officers—	
Demand for grant <i>re</i> —	241-261, 273-296
Irrigation facilities—	
See North Arcot district.	
Irrigation projects—	
See Kollegal taluk.	
Irrigation works—	
Question <i>re</i> allotment for — in Anantapur district	194

J

Jails—	
Budget motion <i>re</i> allotment for —	427-430
Budget motion <i>re</i> allotment for superintendence of —	423-425
Demand for grant <i>re</i> —	422-430
Jains—	
Question <i>re</i> representation of — in the Madras Municipal Corporation and Madras District Educational Council	588-589
Jam—	
See Fruit-Preserving Institute.	
Jathithalaivan—	
See Anasthasius Motha.	
Jutur Gang and the Criminal Tribes Act—	
Question <i>re</i> —	191-192

J—cont.

PAGES

Judges and Registrar, High Court—
See Budget motion.Judicial and executive functions—
Question re — 710

K

Kadambadi Arian Tidal burial and cremation ground—
Question re — 104

Kalingarayan channel—

Question re lands irrigated from — 342

Kallars—

Question re alleged atrocities of — on Adi-Dravidas at Settippatti 671-672

Kalpathi agharam—

Question re prohibition of Arya Samajists from entering — 19-20

Kalpathi car festival—

Question re constables stationed for bandobust during — 345

Karkal Taluk Board—

Question re amalgamation of —, Udipi and Kundapur Taluk Boards 601

Kasaragod Taluk Board—

Question re amalgamation of — and Uppinangadi Taluk Board 601

Kattalai scheme—

Budget motion re — 275-278

Kerala Soap Institute—

Questions re — 11-12

See Papers laid on the table.

Kesava Pillai, Diwan Bahadur P.—

Budget motion re — 111-112

District Collectors and Magistrates

Forests, capital outlay on — 222-223

Forest grievances 217, 218

See Deputy President.

Khalif-ul-Jah Sahib, Khan Bahadur P.—

Budget motion re — 389

General Administration—Miscellaneous 475-476

Grants to Universities 275-276, 278

Irrigation—Public Works Department officers—Kattalai scheme 284-286, 288

Irrigation works—Cauvery-Mettur Reservoir project 429

Jails, allotment for 374-376, 387-389

Judges and Registrar, High Court 443

Pay of officers—Police 510-511

Pay of permanent establishments—Education (Transferred) 516

Queen Mary's College 342

Kollegal taluk — 342

Question re Irrigation projects in — 342

Krishna Rao Pantulu, Rao Bahadur A. S.—

See Questions and Answers.

Krishnan Nayar, Diwan Bahadur M.—

Bill — 899, 902

Nurses and Midwives Bill 899, 902

Budget motions re — 40, 41

Administration charges (Land Revenue) 695-696, 697, 698

Agriculture, allotment for — 686, 687-688

Agricultural schools 423

Andaman Administration—Miscellaneous grants to — 612-613

Arts College—Men 208, 207, 208

Conservators, number of — 454

Criminal Investigation department 454

K—cont.

PAGES

Krishnan Nayar, Diwan Bahadur M.—cont.

Budget motions re—cont.

Direction (Agriculture) 719-720, 722-724

Direction (Industries) 852

Discretionary grants by Collectors 808-809, 814, 819, 820, 321-322

Elections 756

Experiment station—Tanur 777, 778

Fish curing yards 221-222

Forests—Capital outlay on 368

General Administration—Miscellaneous 327

General Administration—Secretariat—Pay of establishments 521

Government Arts Colleges 533-534, 536-537

Government secondary schools for girls 470, 477

Grants to Universities 884-886, 387

Judges and Registrar, High Court 525

Law College 298, 302

Legislative bodies—Travelling allowance 458, 460

Malabar special police 541

Non-Government secondary schools 796, 797, 798, 801

Palar bridge 718

Pay of establishments (Cinchona) 632

Pay of establishments (Public Health) 113-114, 118

Pay of officers (Land Revenue) 449-450

Police Force 349

Public Works Secretariat 513-515

Queen Mary's College 205

Rangers' salary 209-210

Regeneration staff 372

Registrar-General of Panchayats 234

Registration fees, reduction of — 302-303, 304

Reporters of the Legislative Council 620

School of Indian Medicine 144, 147

Stamp duty on instruments 641-642

Vital statistics, compilation of — 865

Demand for excess grant re— 858-859

Stationery and printing 603

Demand for supplementary grant re— 198, 199

Administration of justice—Mufassal Civil and Sessions Courts 107

Discussion re business of the House 877, 878-879, 880-888

Discussion re continuance of the Finance Committee 80

Discussion re place of next meeting 886

Discussion re report of the Public Accounts Committee 875-876

Discussion re Swarajists walk out 867-868

Further demands for grants re— 886

Administration of Justice—Additional District Munsifs 875-876

Agriculture—Land for paddy-breeding station in Malabar 867-868

University grant for language research 886

See Questions and Answers.

Krishnaswami Nayudu, Rao Bahadur K.—

Budget motion re— 299

Legislative bodies—Travelling allowance 299

Kudathini Sub-Registrar's office—

Budget motion re — 228-229

Kuditiri ryots—

See Grazing facilities.

Kumbakonam Municipal Council—

Question re cancellation of the increased water-tax imposed by the — 599-600

Kundapur Taluk Board—

See Karkal Taluk Board.

Kunbalan Kutti, Mr.—

See Deputy Inspector of Schools.

	PAGES
L	
Labour (including factories)—	
Demand for grant <i>re</i> —	781-792
Labour department—	
Question <i>re</i> — in the districts	674-675
<i>See</i> Adi-Dravida schools.	
Lalapet—Tiruvalem Road—	
Question <i>re</i> condition of —	138-139
Land revenue—	
Question <i>re</i> — in the North Arcot and other districts	679-680
<i>See</i> Budget motions; Demand for grants; Demands for supplementary grants.	
Land Revenue Bill—	
Question <i>re</i> introduction of the —	413
Law College—	
Budget motions <i>re</i> —	523, 524-526
Law officers—	
Budget motion <i>re</i> —	403
Lease holders and peasant labourers—	
Budget motion <i>re</i> grievances of —	237-238
Legislative bodies—	
Demand for grant <i>re</i> —	297-322
Question <i>re</i> preparation of voters' lists for —	531
<i>See</i> Demands for supplementary grants.	
Legislative Council—	
Demand for supplementary grant for travelling allowance of members of the —	854-857
<i>See</i> Business; Council meeting.	
Lepers Act—	
Question <i>re</i> amendment of the — of 1898 to provide for the segregation of infections cases	416-417
Lepet Settlement, Tirumani—	
<i>See</i> Budget motions	
Licences—	
Question <i>re</i> — for carrying on weaving with maggams	666
Liquor shops—	
Question <i>re</i> closure of — in Madras City	602
Question <i>re</i> — in Anantapur district	829
Live-stock—	
<i>See</i> Budget motions.	
Loans—	
Question <i>re</i> — under the Land Improvement and Agriculturists Loans Acts	834
Loans and advances—	
Demand for grant <i>re</i> —	812
Local board presidents—	
Question <i>re</i> absence of — from headquarters	174-175
Question <i>re</i> delegation of powers of municipal chairmen and —	264
Local boards—	
Question <i>re</i> grants to — for roads and water-supply	190
Question <i>re</i> list of members of — in Ramnad and Tinnevely	24-25
<i>See</i> Depressed class members.	
Local boards and municipal councils—	
Question <i>re</i> Bill to amend the Act <i>re</i> —	188, 600-601
Local bodies (Agency)—	
Demand for supplementary grant <i>re</i> grants to —	863-864
Local bodies—	
<i>See</i> Elementary Schools; Nomination; Teachers.	
Local Fund Audit department—	
Question <i>re</i> transfer of control of the —	499-500
Local Fund Audit establishments—	
<i>See</i> Budget motions.	

	PAGES
L—cont.	
Local unions—	
Question <i>re</i> contributions to — by urban unions	186
Looting—	
Question <i>re</i> — of Chinnammal's house	738
Lower Bhavani Project—	
<i>See</i> Bhavani projects.	
M	
Madanagopal Nayadu, Mr. R.—	
Budget motion <i>re</i> —	
Administration charges (Land Revenue)	47, 48
Buckingham Canal	247
Direction (Industries)	716-717
Elections	310
M.S.M.Ry. Advisory Committee—	
Election of members to the —	32-33, 108-109
Madras City—	
<i>See</i> Liquor shops; Sub-inspectors of police.	
Madras Civil Service officers—	
<i>See</i> Indian Civil Service Divisional officers.	
Madras District Educational Council—	
<i>See</i> Jains.	
Madras Educational Service—	
Question <i>re</i> reorganization of —	751-752
Madras Ink Factory—	
Question <i>re</i> —	102-103
Madras Municipal Corporation—	
<i>See</i> Jains.	
Madras Penitentiary—	
Question <i>re</i> religious preachers in the —	744-745, 813
Madras Town Planning Act—	
<i>See</i> Town Planning Act.	
Madras Trades School—	
<i>See</i> Printing class.	
Madras University—	
<i>See</i> Research for Language Study.	
Madura Deaf and Dumb School—	
Question <i>re</i> aid to the — for purchasing a weaving loom	801
Question <i>re</i> stipend for —	168
Maggams—	
<i>See</i> Licences.	
Mahazar—	
<i>See</i> Depressed classes.	
Malabar—	
<i>See</i> Collector of Malabar; Spinning and weaving industries.	
Malabar special police—	
Budget motions <i>re</i> —	458-460
Mallesappa, Mr. T.—	
Budget motions <i>re</i> —	
Establishment—Mutassal (Public Health)	635
Roads and bridges	793-794
Manjappa Heggade, Mr. D.—	
Budget motions <i>re</i> —	
Forests, capital outlay on —	221
Hospitals and dispensaries	825
Reduction of registration fees	233, 234
Roads and bridges	793
Superintendence—Police	436-437

Manjavya Heggade, Mr. D.—cont.	
Further demands for grants—	
Public Health and Vital Statistics—grants to local bodies	873-874
University grant for language research	870
See Questions and Answers.	
Mappilla Colonization—	
Question <i>re</i> — in Andamans	745
Mappilla prisoners—	
Question <i>re</i> Settlement of — in Andamans	181
Mappilla State prisoners—	
Question <i>re</i> detention of deported —	850
Mappillas—	
Questions <i>re</i> employment of — in the Revenue Department, South Kanara district.	847, 848
Question <i>re</i> number of — employed as Tahsildars, etc.	599
Marjoribanks, the hon. Mr. N. E.—	
Budget motions <i>re</i> —	
Administration charges (Land Revenue)	40, 43, 52-53
Board of Revenue	60-61, 64, 65
Chief Secretariat—recruitment of Under Secretaries	330, 331, 332
Collectors and Magistrates	78, 79, 80, 112-113
Discretionary grants by Collectors	351-353
Executive Council, allotment for — (discussion <i>re</i> Nadar representation, in service)	323-324
Financial Commissioner and establishments, Board of Revenue	73-74
General Administration—Secretariat	354
General Administration—Secretariat, pay of establishments	326, 327
Grievances of lease-holders and peasant labourers	238
Irrigation facilities in Nellore district	240-241
Land Revenue	33
Medical Establishments (Land Revenue)	118
Pay of establishment (Land Revenue)	35, 36, 37, 75-76
Pay of officers (Land Revenue)	57, 58, 66
Professional survey parties	56
Public Works Secretariat	350
Supplies and Services—General (Land Revenue)	37-38, 39
Survey and Settlement	71-72
Temporary establishments (Land Revenue)	54
Travelling allowances (Land Revenue)	78
Demands for grants <i>re</i> —	
General Administration—Secretariat	322
Irrigation—Civil officers	237
Demands for supplementary grants <i>re</i> —	
Agency—Grants to local bodies	862-864
Land Revenue—Survey and Settlement	852-853
Marthandam Pillai, Mr. P. N.—	
Budget motion <i>re</i> —	
Administration charges (Land Revenue)	46-47
Government Arts Colleges	521-522
Government Secondary Schools for girls	531
Law College	524
Council meeting, discussion <i>re</i> — after Budget meeting	502
Match Factories—	
Question <i>re</i> — in this Presidency	486-487
Medical—	
Demand for grant <i>re</i> —	557-560, 604-631
See Budget motions.	
Medical Colleges and Schools—	
See Budget motions.	
Medical establishments—	
Budget motion <i>re</i> —	557-560
Medical schools—	
See Budget motions.	

Medical stores—	
See Indigenous products.	
Medical works—	
See Budget motions.	
Medium of instruction—	
Question <i>re</i> — in Secondary schools	266
Meeting—	
See Council meeting.	
Melathangal—	
See Assignment of lands.	
Mental hospital—	
See Budget motions.	
Mettupalayam Union Board—	
Question <i>re</i> alleged use of 'Chalillian' in a notice issued by the —	590-591
Mettur project—	
Question <i>re</i> help to people whose lands are acquired for the —	409
Question <i>re</i> wages, etc., of coolies to be employed in the —	842
See Canvey—Mettur Reservoir project.	
Mettur Reservoir scheme—	
Question <i>re</i> acquisition of lands submerged under the —	408-409
Mettur scheme—	
Question <i>re</i> levy of water-rate for lands irrigated under the —	408
Millet expert—	
Question <i>re</i> appointment of a — in Bellary district	818
Minister for Local Self-Government, the hon. the —	
Question <i>re</i> tours of —	602
Minor girls—	
Question <i>re</i> adoption of — among Devadasi community	848
Minor irrigation overseers—	
Question <i>re</i> pay and travelling allowance of —	88
Misappropriation of taxes—	
See Therukupatti village panchayat.	
Moidu Sahib, Mr. T. M.—	
Budget motion <i>re</i> —	
Judges and Registrars, High Court	376-377, 380
Malabar special police	458
See Questions and Answers.	
Moir, the hon. Mr. T. E.—	
Adjournment of the House <i>sine die</i> , motion for —	202
Bill—	
Nurses and Midwives Bill	891
Budget motions <i>re</i> —	
Administration charges (Land Revenue)	50, 51, 52
Deputy and Assistant Examiners of Local Fund Accounts	358, 359
Direction (Industries)	720, 722-723
Education—Reserved	467-468
General Administration—Miscellaneous	362, 363-366, 369-370
General Administration—Secretariat	356-357
Grants to Universities	470, 471, 478
High Court	396
Increased expenditure in forests	201
Legislative bodies—Travelling allowance	301-302
Non-Government Secondary schools—European	463
Palar bridge	803-804
Pay of Officers (Exoise)	119, 120
Pay of Officers (Co-operative Societies)	709
Public Works Secretariat	346, 347, 351
Regeneration staff	210-211
Stamp duty on instruments	152-153
Demands for excess grants—Stationery and Printing	865-866
Demand for grant <i>re</i> Education (Reserved)	464

M—cont.

PAGE

Moir, the hon. Mr. T. E.—cont.	
Demand for grant <i>re</i> General Administration—Miscellaneous	357
Further demands for grants—Transfer of grants from 'non-voted' to 'voted'	876
Motion <i>re</i> continuance of the Finance Committee.	196-197, 198
Public Accounts Committee, discussion on the report of the —	877, 879, 881, 882, 884, 888-890
Mooza Sait, Mr. Muhammad—	
See Questions and Answers.	
Motion for adjournment of the House <i>sine die</i>	291-296
Motor accidents—	
Question <i>re</i> — in the City	21-22
Motor cycle allowances—	
See Sub-Inspectors of Police.	
Motor vehicles—	
Question <i>re</i> exemption of — from tolls	591
Mufassal Civil and Sessions Courts—	
Demand for supplementary grant for —	858-863
Mufassal hospitals and dispensaries—	
See Budget motions.	
Mullavadi and Arambakkam villages—	
Question <i>re</i> assignment of lands in —	192-193
Municipal Chairmen—	
Question <i>re</i> delegation of powers of — and local board presidents	264
Question <i>re</i> removal of —	189
Question <i>re</i> supersession of municipalities and — by Government	264
Municipal Councils—	
Question <i>re</i> nominations to —	490-492
Municipal elections—	
Question <i>re</i> jurisdiction of Civil Courts in regard to—	92-93
Municipal High School, Anantapur—	
See Anantapur Municipal High School.	
Municipalities—	
Question <i>re</i> supersession of — and Municipal Chairman by Government	264
Municipalities and local boards—	
Question <i>re</i> administration reports of —	600
See Taxes.	
Muslims—	
Question <i>re</i> applications from — for District Munsifs' posts	509
Mussalman school—	
Question <i>re</i> —, Nellore	13-14
Mussalman Wakf Act—	
Question <i>re</i> extension of the — to this Presidency	601
Muttayya Mudaliyar, Mr. C.—	
Budget motion <i>re</i> —	
Buckingham canal	244
Muthia Mudaliyar, Mr. S.—	
See Questions and Answers.	

N

Nadar representation—	
Budget motion to discuss — in service	322-323
Narasimhaachari, Rai Bahadur T. M.—	
Budget motions <i>re</i> —	
Andaman administration, miscellaneous grants to —	423
City Civil Court	403-404
District Collectors and Magistrates	109-110, 113
Elections	307, 310-311
Excise department	180-182, 140-142

N—cont.

PAGE

Narasimhaachari, Rai Bahadur T. M.—cont.	
Budget motions <i>re</i> —cont.	
Forest	219-220
General Administration—Secretariat	353-354
High Court	401
Irrigation—Navigation (Ceded Districts and Cuddapah irrigation).	288, 289-290, 291
Judges and Registrar, High Court	381-382, 384
Legislative bodies—Travelling allowance	298, 300
Pay of Officers—Police	439-440, 441-442
Pay of permanent establishments (Land Revenue)	34, 36
Police force	446-447, 450
Presidency Police	434-435
Registration charges	230-231, 232-233
Registration fees, reduction of —	236-237
Stamp duty on instruments	150-151
Supplies and Services—General (Land Revenue)	37, 38, 39
Temporary Establishments (Land Revenue)	54
Discussion <i>re</i> place of next meeting	108
Discussion <i>re</i> Swarajists' walk out	29, 31-32, 194
Narasimha Raju, Rao Bahadur C. V. S.—	
Statement <i>re</i> Swarajists' walk out	35-37
Narasainanur village—	
Question <i>re</i> auction sale of forest lands in —	338-339
Narayana Menon, M. P.—	
Questions <i>re</i> release of —	184-185, 412, 684
Narayanawami Pillai, Mr. T. M.—	
Bill—	
Nurses and Midwives Bill	899-900
Further demand for grants—	
Public Health and Vital Statistics—Grants to local bodies..	874
Nataraja Mudaliyar, Mr. P. V.—	
Question <i>re</i> appointment of — as Member, Religious Endowments Board	95-96
Natesa Mudaliyar, Rao Bahadur C.—	
Budget motions <i>re</i> —	
Administration charges (Land Revenue)	42, 48, 49, 50
Administration of Justice, omission of allotment for —	889-890, 892-893
Buckingham canal	244-245
Depressed classes hostel	790-791, 793
Judges and Registrar, High Court	382
Medicinal establishments	557-558, 559-560
Presidency Police	480, 481, 482, 486
Provincial Museums	461
Survey and settlement	71, 72-73
Demands for supplementary grants <i>re</i> —	
Administration of Justice—Mufassal Civil and Sessions Courts (discussion <i>re</i> communal representation)	858, 859, 860, 861, 863
See Questions and Answers.	
Neelothohera tank—	
See Depressed classes.	
Nellore district—	
See Depressed classes.	
Nidamangalam Union Board—	
Questions <i>re</i> nominations to —	14-15, 18-17
Nilgiri Fisheries—	
Budget motion <i>re</i> —	781
Nominations—	
Question <i>re</i> — to district boards	355
Question <i>re</i> — to Pollachi Taluk Board	604-606
Question <i>re</i> — to the local bodies in Tanjore district	845
See Municipal Councils.	
Non-gazetted officers—	
Question <i>re</i> committee to inquire into the grievances of —	417, 418

N—cont.

PAGES

Non-Government Secondary schools— Budget motion <i>re</i> —	539-548
Non-Government Secondary schools—European— Budget motion <i>re</i> direct grants to —	461-464
Non-official business— Discussion <i>re</i> —	812-813
North Arcot district— Question <i>re</i> improvement of irrigation facilities in — See Co-operative department.	677-678
Noyce, Mr. F.— Bill— Nurses and Midwives Bill Budget motions <i>re</i> — Depressed classes hostel Leper Settlement, Tirumani	891, 892, 893, 895, 896, 897, 901 788 608
Nurses and Midwives Bill, the Madras — See Bill.	

O

Oath of office— Hingston, O.B.E., C.I.E., Lieut.-Col.	818
Obalesappa, Mr. B.— Budget motion <i>re</i> Buildings—Education (Transferred)	538-539
Oduvathur valley— Question <i>re</i> memorial from the ryots of —	410

P

Paddy-breeding station in Malabar— Further demand for grant for acquisition of land for the —	874-876
Palamadi reserve— Question <i>re</i> disafforestation of the —	599
Palar bridge— Budget motion <i>re</i> —	794-805
Palmyra trees— Question <i>re</i> taxes on —	84-86
Panchayat Courts— Question <i>re</i> — in the district of South Kanara	343-344
Panchayats— See Criminal tribes.	
Pandurang Row, Mr. V.— Budget motions <i>re</i> — Agriculture—Combination of the posts of Directors of Industries and Agri- culture and Co-operative Registrar Co-operative Societies, allotment for — Demonstration (Agriculture) Direction (Agriculture) Direction (Industries) Investments in Government Commercial undertakings Fish-curing yards Forest exploitation Pay of establishments (Civil Veterinary services) Pay of Officers (Co-operative Societies) Regeneration staff Tanur experiment station Training Institute, Calicut	690-692 712 653 650 718, 717, 718, 724 726, 727, 728, 729 789, 774, 777, 779, 780 212 705, 706 707, 708 208, 209 755, 756, 757, 758, 759, 760, 762, 763, 764 767
Panruti— Question <i>re</i> location of market and slaughter house in	94
Pantulu Ayyar, Mr. V.— See Questions and Answers.	

P—cont.

PAGES

Papanasam forests— Question <i>re</i> timber exploitation in —	415, 479
Papers laid on the table— British Empire Exhibition, G.O. No. 228a, Development, dated 17th February 1926, passing orders on the report on the audit of the accounts of the — Cinchona—G.O. No. 194, Development, dated 8th February 1926, <i>re</i> audit report on — for 1924-25 Finance Committee, Proceedings of the 18th meeting of the — Kerala Soap Institute, G.O. No. 165, Development, dated 2nd February 1926, recording accounts of the — for quarter ending 30th June 1925 Posts, list of — on and over 500 Public Accounts Committee, Report of the — on the Audit and Appropriation Reports Retrenchment Committee, G.O. No. 225, Finance, dated 17th March 1926, showing action taken by Government on the recommendation of the Madras — Russellkonda Saw Mill, G.O. No. 215, Development, dated 15th February 1926, recording Audit Report of — for quarter ending 30th September 1925 Survey and Boundaries Act, G.O. No. 3825, Revenue, dated 5th March 1926, publishing amendment of rules under the Madras — Train accident near Pattukkottai, Report of the Collector and District Magistrate of Tanjore on his enquiry into the —	852 846 422, 479-483 510, 560-571 164-167 755 681 510, 571-578 852 404-406
Patro, the hon. Rao Bahadur Sir A. P.— Budget motions <i>re</i> — Arts College—Men Buildings—Education (Transferred) Depressed classes, treatment to — District Executive establishments (Excise) Excise department Government Arts Colleges Government Secondary schools Government Secondary schools for girls Grants-in-aid—Miscellaneous Grants to local bodies for secondary education Grants to Universities Kudatbini Sub-Registrar's office Law College Non-Government secondary schools Non-Government secondary schools—European Palar bridge Pay of Officers (Excise) Pay of permanent establishments—Education (Transferred) Provincial museums Registration department, upper grades in the — Registration fees, reduction of — Queen Mary's College Registration charges	513 539 230 124-125, 126, 128-129 130, 132-135, 142-143 520-523 537-538 528-530, 533, 535-536 469 549-553, 554, 555-556 470, 473-475, 477, 478 229 525-526 539-541, 544, 545-548 464 801 120-121, 122 511 461 225-226, 227, 228 234 514, 515, 516, 518-520 231-232
Demands for grants <i>re</i> — Civil works—Transferred Education—Transferred Registration Scientific department's	812 469 223 461
Demands for supplemental grants <i>re</i> — Stationery and Printing University grants—Grant to Christian College, Madras	863 864-865
Further demands for grants <i>re</i> — Public Accounts Committee, Discussion on the report of the — University grant for language research	884 867, 868, 871
Pattukkottai— Question <i>re</i> train accident near — See Papers laid on the table.	345-346, 404-406
Pay of establishments (Agriculture)— See Budget motions.	
Pay of establishments (Cinchona)— See Budget motions.	

P—cont.

Pay of establishments (Civil Veterinary Services)— See Budget motions.	
Pay of establishments (Land Revenue)— Budget motion <i>re</i> —	74-77
Pay of establishments (Public Health)— See Budget motions.	
Pay of officers (Co-operative Societies)— See Budget motions.	
Pay of officers (Excise)— Budget motion <i>re</i> —	119-123
Pay of officers (Land Revenue)— Budget motion <i>re</i> —	58-58, 66, 113-118
Pay of officers (Police)— Budget motion <i>re</i> —	439-446, 453-454
Pay of permanent establishments (Education—Transferred)— Budget motion <i>re</i> —	510-511
Pearl and Chank Fisheries — Question <i>re</i> — on the south-east coast	843
Peddiraju, Mr. P.— See Questions and Answers.	
Pensions— Demand for grant for — See Retired officers.	812
Plague— Question <i>re</i> outbreak of — in Ramnad and Paramagudi	688
Police— Demand for grant <i>re</i> —	430-460
Police department— Question <i>re</i> graded pay system in the —	412-413
Police Force— Budget motion <i>re</i> allotment for —	446-451
Police Sub-Inspectors— Question <i>re</i> selection of —	683
Pollachi Taluk Board— See Nominations.	
Pollachi Vannanthorai road— Question <i>re</i> opening of a sub-gate on the —	752-753
Polar Taluk Board— Question <i>re</i> portrait of Mr. Das for—	92
Ponnani Taluk Board— Question <i>re</i> election case <i>re</i> — See Board's schools.	745-747
Ponnappuram— Question <i>re</i> improvement of water-supply for the depressed classes of —	417
Ports and pilotage— Demand for grant <i>re</i> —	480
Prabhakaran Tampan, Mr. K.— Budget motions <i>re</i> — Administration charges (Land Revenue)	39-40, 41
Arts College—Men	511-512, 513
Fire-protection in forests	160
Forest College	213
General Administration—Miscellaneous	368
Government Arts Colleges	520, 522, 523
Government secondary schools for girls	536
Grants to local bodies for medical relief	618
Legislative bodies—Travelling allowance	297, 299
Jails, allotment for—	429
Law College	524, 525, 526

P—cont.

Prabhakaran Tampan, Mr. K.—cont. Budget motions <i>re</i> —cont. Malabar Special Police	456, 480
Non-Government secondary schools	539, 541-542
Pay of officers—Police	444
Regeneration staff	209
School of Indian medicine	623
Stamp duty on instruments	144, 154, 155
Discussion <i>re</i> — Place of next meeting	107-108
Prakasā Rao, Mr.— See Cocanada Taluk Board.	
Presidency Police— Budget motion <i>re</i> —	480-486
President, the hon. the— Adjournment motion <i>re</i> — Paralysis of industries	851-852
Adjournment of the House <i>sine die</i> , motion for	281-292, 293, 295
Announcement <i>re</i> — Budget motions	33
Indian Institute of Science, election of a member to the —	273
Madras and Southern Mahratta Railway Advisory Committee, election of members to the —	273
Election of members to Madras and Southern Mahratta Railway Advisory Committee and the Indian Institute of Science	108-109
Bill— Nurses and Midwives Bill	897, 900
Budget motions <i>re</i> — Administration of Justice, omission of allotment for —	392, 893
Agriculture—Amalgamation of the posts of Directors of Agriculture and Industries	631, 635, 636, 638, 692, 693
Central Jails	427
Elections	305, 308
General Administration—Miscellaneous	361, 367
Government secondary schools for girls	534
High Court	401, 402
Irrigation—Public Works Department officers—Kattalai scheme	275
Judges and Registrars, High Court	387
Law College (Honoraria for special lecturers)	523
Non-Government secondary schools	543, 546
Presidency Police	431, 432-433
Railway Police	455
Stamp duty on instruments	155
Demands for supplementary grants <i>re</i> — Administration of Justice—Mutassal Civil and Sessions Courts	858, 860, 861
Legislative bodies—Travelling allowance	864, 865, 866, 867
Further demands for grants <i>re</i> — Administration of Justice—Additional District Munsifs	867
Public Health and Vital Statistics—Grants to local bodies	874
University grant for language research	868, 869, 870, 871
Discussion <i>re</i> — Business of the House	603
Moving motions on behalf of absentee members	195, 198
Public Accounts Committee, report of	877, 878, 879, 880, 881, 882
Election of a member to the Court of the Indian Institute of Science	32
Election of members to the Madras and Southern Mahratta Railway Advisory Committee	33
Swarajists' walk out	29, 30, 32
Unparliamentary expressions used by a member, withdrawal of — See Rulings.	272
Primary Societies— Question <i>re</i> extension for overdues to the rural —	334
Printing class— Question <i>re</i> — in Madras Trades school	103-104

P—cont.	PAGES
Professional Survey Parties—	
Budget motion re —	55-56
Provincial Medical Service—	
Question re Muhammadan representation in —	189
Provincial Museums—	
Budget motion re —	461
Provincialization of Assistant Engineers—	
Budget motion re —	806-807
Public Accounts Committee—	
Discussion on the report of the —	877-890
See Papers laid on the table.	
Public Exhibition and fairs—	
See Budget motions.	
Public Health and Vital Statistics—	
Demand for grant re —	681-643
Further demand for grant under — for grants to local bodies	871-874
Public Roads—	
Question re publication of G.O. No. 2680 L. & M., dated 25th September 1924, about the use of —	816
Public Service—	
Question re prohibition of applicants from approaching Government members for recommendation to posts in the —	836
Public Works Department—	
See Communal representation.	
Public Works Secretariat—	
Budget motion re —	346-351
Punitive Police—	
Question re — in the Presidency	842-843
Pykara Hydro-electric project—	
Question re —	838-840
Queen Mary's College—	
Budget motions re —	513-520
Question re concessions to pupils in —	828
Questions and Answers—	
Abbas Ali Khan, Mr.—	
Question re Mappillas, employment of — in the Revenue department of South Kanara district	848
Adinarayana Chettivar, Mr. T.—	
Question re Administrative Inspectors of the Co-operative department	421
Question re assignment of lands in Melathangal	835-836
Question re assignment of lands in Mullavadi and Arumbakam	192-193
Question re Assistant Registrars, number of Co-operative Societies inspected by —	661
Question re Cauvery bridge at Kumbakonam	105
Question re Co-operative department, North Arcot, dismissal of officers in the —	818
Question re Co-operative department reorganization of the —	171
Question re Co-operative unions in each Assistant Registrar's section	100-101
Question re Forest Rangers, conveyance allowance of —	90
Question re Forest Rangers and Sub-Inspectors, conveyance allowances of —	91
Question re Green manure leaves, G.O. No. 652 of 1925 re supply of —	744
Question re Honorary Assistant Registrars, resignation of —	186
Question re Honorary Assistant Registrars of Co-operative Societies	421-422
Question re Inspecting staff of Co-operative Societies, division of the — for audit and administration	596
Question re Kumbakonam Municipal Council, cancellation of the increased water-tax imposed by the —	599-600
Question re liquor shops, closure of — in Madras City	602
Question re Local unions, contributions by urban banks to —	186
Question re Minister for Local Self-Government, tours of the hon. the —	602

Q

Q—cont.	PAGES
Questions and Answers—cont.	
Adinarayana Chettivar, Mr. T.—cont.	
Question re minor irrigation overseers, pay and allowance of —	88
Question re Palamadi reserve, disafforestation of the —	599
Question re Palamadi reserves, green manure leaves from —	192
Question re Panruti, location of market in —	94-95
Question re Primary societies, extension for overdues to the rural —	334
Question re religious preachers permitted into the Penitentiary	744-745
Question re Rural Credit Societies, reference of arbitration cases of —	23
Question re Salem Urban Co-operative Society, reference of cases filed by — for arbitration	818
Question re Village officers, prefix of courtesy in communications to —	183
Question re Village officers, travelling allowances to — in connexion with His Excellency the Governor's visit to Vellore	876
Question re Village officers in Gudiyattam taluk, dismissal of —	836
Question re village panchayats, constitution of — till 31st December 1926	670-671
Anjaneyulu, Mr. P.—	
Question re Gundalakamma stream, bridge over the —	668-669
Question re Lard Revenue Bill, introduction of the —	418
Question re pay of teachers of Government Girls' schools	751
Question re romperu drains, improvements to the —	341
Ankineedu Prasad Bahadur, S. R. Y.—	
Question re car festivals, alleged accidents during —	837
Question re temple cars, damages by collapse of —	837
Question re temple cars, examination of — before festivals	836-837
Arumuga Nadar, Mr. P. K. S. A.—	
Question re Aided secondary schools, special teaching grant to —	507-508
Chidambara Nadar, Mr. A.—	
Question re grants to village panchayats	17-18
Question re toll-gates between Srivilliputtur and Sattur	172-174
Question re village panchayats, honorary organizers of —	669-670
Question re village panchayats, powers of —	100
Question re Village Panchayats' Conference of Sattur taluk	593-594
Question re Viswakarma community, non-representation of — in the newly formed taluk boards of Nilakottai, Palni and Dindigul	587-588
Fernandez, Rao Bahadur Cruz—	
Question re Anasthasius Motha, alleged protest against the appointment of Mr. — as Jathithalaivan	488
Question re Anasthasius Motha, recognition of one Mr. — as Jathithalaivan	487
Question re list of members of the local boards in Tinnevely and Ramnad districts	24-25
Question re Tuticorin Pearl Fishery, establishment, etc., of —	821
Question re Tuticorin Pearl Fishery, grant of privileges to Mr. Anasthasius Motha in —	819-821
Gopala Menon, Mr. C.—	
Question re Indian Companies Act, companies registered under the —	596
Question re indigenous medical practitioners, scheme for registration of —	591-592
Gopalan, Rao Sahib P. V.—	
Question re fish-curing yards, issue of salt to	10-11
Guruswami, Mr. L. C.—	
Question re depressed classes, schools for — in the Presidency	844-845
Haji Abdulla Haji Qasim Sahib Bahadur, Khan Bahadur—	
Question re clerks confirmed in the Revenue department, South Kanara	193
Question re Mappillas, employment of — in the Revenue department, South Kanara district	847
Question re Mussalman Wakf Act, extension of the — to this Presidency	601
Hamid Sultan Marakkayar, Khan Bahadur V.—	
Question re Tanjore District Board, grant to — for village roads and water-supply	496-497

Questions and Answers—cont.

Krishna Rao Pantulu, Rao Bahadur A. S.—	
Question re assistant and sub-assistant surgeons	190
Question re grants to local boards, for road and water supply	190
Question re Local Boards Bill, introduction of the Madras —	600-601
Question re Municipal Chairmen, removal of —	189
Question re Revenue officers for municipalities, appointment of —	189
Question re village panchayats, organization of — in rural parts	191
Krishnan Nayar, Diwan Bahadur M.—	
Question re Gopalan Nayar, dismissal of —	181-182
Question re issue of order under section 144, Criminal Procedure Code, on the Ezhuva community	20-21
Question re Narayana Menon, release of M. P. —	412
Question re Rameswaram temple, entrance fee in —	97-99
Manjeyya Heggade, Mr. D.—	
Question re areca-nuts, production of — in the Presidency	334
Question re Courts of South Kanara, seating arrangements for litigants in the —	337
Question re crop pest in South Kanara	170
Question re Health Officers in South Kanara	346
Question re inoculation in South Kanara	12
Question re Karkal, Udipi and Coondapoor Taluk Boards, and Kasaragode and Uppinangadi Taluk Boards, amalgamation of —	601
Question re Panchayat Courts in the district of South Kanara	343-344
Question re South Kanara, removal of leaves and dry wood from —	180
Question re South Kanara District Advancement Association, working of —	678
Question re union boards in South Kanara, institution of —	679
Question re Uppinangadi taluk, grievances of the landholders of —	680
Moidu Sahib, Mr. T. M.—	
Question re acting clerks, number of Mappillas among the — in South Kanara	754
Question re Mappillas, employment of — in the Revenue department, South Kanara district	848
Question re Mappillas, number of — employed as Tahsildars, etc.	599
Moosa Sait, Mr. Muhammad—	
Question re — Muslims, application from — for District Muncifs' posts	609
Muttayya Mudaliyar, Mr. S.—	
Question re Cannanore municipality—Notification by the Chairman of the —	415-416
Question re Devanga attack in Chennur village	84
Question re encroachments on channels and pathways	87
Question re tax on backyard trees	19
Natesa Mudaliyar, Rao Bahadur C.—	
Question re Government grant to schools	508
Question re Madura Deaf and Dumb School	188
Question re Madura Deaf and Dumb School aid to the — for purchasing a weaving loom	601
Question re schools for deaf and dumb	754-755
Question re training school for deaf and dumb	187
Pantulu Ayyar, Mr. V.—	
Question re traffic regulation during His Excellency's tour in Tuticorin	22
Peddiraju, Mr. P.—	
Question re elementary schools, pay of permanent teachers of Government — for girls transferred to local bodies	508
Raghuchandra Ballal, Mr. K.—	
Question re Bindoor division, strength and occupation of villagers in —	585
Question re concessions re Bindoor forest reserves	743-744
Question re diplot registers in the offices of District Registrars	489-490
Question re dried leaves, use of — from forest reserves by the cultivators of Bindoor	673
Question re forest grievances in Bindoor division	179-180
Question re forest panchayats in South Kanara, institution of —	832
Question re Hindu Religious Endowments Act, rules under the Madras —	837-838
Question re issue of licences for guns, etc.	88-89
Question re Jains, representation of — in the Madras Municipal Corporation and Madras District Educational Council	588-589
Question re Local Board Presidents, absence of — from headquarters	174-175

Questions and Answers—cont.

Raghuchandra Ballal, Mr. K.—cont.	
Question re motor accidents in the City	21-22
Question re reserved forests in South Kanara, control of —	179
Question re Sariahtadars, Mangalore, transfer of —	184
Question re South Kanara district, resettlement in —	584-585
Raja, Rao Bahadur M. C.—	
Question re Printing classes in Madras Trades School	103-104
Raja of Ramnad, the—	
Question re Collector of Ramnad, alleged criticism of Government's policy by the —	503-504
Question re control over Deputy Collectors	18-19
Question re plague, outbreak of — in Ramnad and Paramakudi	688
Rajappa, Mr. P. S.—	
Question re nominations to local bodies in Tanjore district	845
Question re Tanjore District Board, nominations to —	600
Ramachandra Reddi, Mr. B.—	
Question re land revenue in North Arcot and other districts	679-680
Ramalinga Reddi, Mr. C.—	
Question re non-gazetted officers, committee to inquire into the grievances of —	413
Rameswara Rao, Mr. G.—	
Question re Anantapur district, registration of persons under the Criminal Tribes Act in —	414
Question re Anantapur Municipal High school, construction of a new building for the —	678-679
Question re Avaram lease to Co-operative Societies	186-187
Question re Bills to amend the District Municipalities Act, Local Boards Act and Village Panchayat Act	188
Question re Ceded Districts College, extension of the —	678
Question re Commission of offence by persons under the Criminal Tribes Act	178
Question re 'Criminal tribe', criterion for declaring a tribe as a —	829-830
Question re Criminal tribes, panchayats in charge of —	509
Question re Criminal tribes, treatment of —	176-177
Question re Criminal Tribes Act, exceptions under the —	178
Question re Criminal Tribes Act—Registration of persons under the —	413-414
Question re Criminal Tribes Act in Anantapur district	89-90, 742-743
Question re Criminal Tribes Act in Anantapur district, registration under the —	176-177
Question re Endowment Commissioner as trustee	105
Question re Forest Panchayat staff, cost, etc., of —	104
Question re Fruit Preserving Institute, loss in the	101-102
Question re Fruit Preserving Institute, sale in —	102
Question re ground rents in Timmancherla	754
Question re irrigation works in Anantapur district, allotment for —	194
Question re Jutur gang and the Criminal Tribes Act	181-192
Question re Legislative bodies, preparation of voters' lists for —	581
Question re liquor shops in Anantapur district	829
Question re Police department, graded pay system in the —	412-413
Question re principles, re registry under the Criminal Tribes Act	177-178
Question re Punitive Police in the Presidency	842-843
Question re survey stones in Anantapur district, planting and removal of —	834-835
Question re Tadpatri municipality, imposition of enhanced taxes by the —	601
Question re taxes, enhancement of — by municipalities and local boards	679
Question re trijunction survey stones, retention of —	741-742
Ranganatha Mudaliyar, Mr. A.—	
Question re acting officers, special pay to —	586
Question re agricultural school in Bellary district, establishment of an —	817
Question re agricultural staff in Bellary district	681
Question re Basavanna channel extension, lands irrigated by the proposed —	841
Question re Bellary town, scheme for water supply to —	592-593
Question re Bellary West Canal project, estimates for the —	259-260
Question re bone-crushing installations, promotion of —	271
Question re communal representation in taluk boards	747
Question re Co-operative Societies, exemption of — from Company's tax	334

Q—cont.

Questions and Answers—cont.

Ranganatha Mudaliyar, Mr. A.—cont.

Question re Director of Agriculture, recommendations of — about agricultural organization	660-661
Question re drinking water in Sindavalem village, facilities for —	261
Question re executive posts, additions to superior —	740-741
Question re famine areas, agricultural experiments in —	753-754
Question re Fruit-Preserving Institute, Oonoor, sale of jam manufactured at the —	270
Question re grazing facilities	741
Question re Hospet, extent of cultivation of important crops in —	741
Question re Indian Civil Service Divisional Officers and Madras Civil Service Officers, alleged distinction between the —	504
Question re judicial and executive functions	740
Question re loans under the Land Improvement and Agriculturists Loans Acts.	834
Question re medium of instruction in secondary schools	266
Question re millet export, appointment of — in Bellary district	818
Question re motor vehicles, exemption of — from tolls	591
Question re retired officers, commutation of pensions of —	415
Question re Sugalis of the Tanda near Appayyanaballi, registration of —	671
Question re sugarcane farm, establishment of a — for the western taluks of Bellary	817
Question re teachers, pay of — transferred from Government Elementary Girls' schools to local bodies	825-826
Question re Upper and Lower Bhavani projects, Mr. Hawkins' report re —	409-410
Question re Veterinary dispensaries in the province	271-272
Question re Village Panchayat Courts, membership of —	344-345
Sagaram, Mr. P.—	
Question re minor girls, adoption of — among Devadasi community	848
Saldanha, Mr. J. A.—	
Question re aeroplanes, study of the technique of —	844
Question re Agricultural, Industrial and Fisheries departments, enterprises of —	835
Question re Civil Justice Committee's recommendations, action taken on the —	339-340
Question re Cochin harbour, construction of the —	582-583
Question re Cochin Port Trust, maintenance of launches by the —	411-412
Question re Cochin Port Trust, organization of the —	333
Question re Director of Industries, advertisement of the products of institutions under the —	335
Question re District Munsif's Courts, seating arrangements for distinguished visitors in South Kanara	597-598
Question re fishing trawler, purchase of —	269-270
Question re Indian Christian representation in the Registration department	662
Question re Indian Christians, stipends for — for training as mistresses	824
Question re Lepers Act, amendment of the — 1898, to provide for the segregation of infectious cases	416-417
Question re Mappilla prisoners, settlement of — in Andamans	181
Question re Mappilla State prisoners, detention of deported —	850-185
Question re Medical Stores, indigenous products in —	93-94
Question re meetings of local bodies in South Kanara	25
Question re municipalities and local boards, administration reports of —	600
Question re nominations to district boards	265
Question re pearl and shark fisheries on the south-east coast	843
Question re price of salt in fish-curing yards	23-24
Question re public service, prohibition of applicants to posts in the — from approaching Government members for recommendations	636
Question re Pykara Hydro-Electric project	838-840
Question re quinine, sale of —	94
Question re reconstruction of bridges	24-25
Question re sisters of charity, etc., employment of — as nurses	829
Question re spinning and weaving industries in South Kanara and Malabar	488
Question re steam launch at Mangalore, sale of the —	260
Question re stipends for trained Indian Christian Female candidates	748-750
Question re Sub-Inspectors of City Police, memorials from —	848-849
Question re Sub-Inspectors of City Police, scale of pay of —	849-850
Question re Sub-Inspectors of Police, motor-vehicle allowances for —	598-599
Question re Sub-Inspectors of Police in the Madras City, quarters for —	598
Question re Sukkur Barrage	739
Question re Town-Planning Act, schemes under the Madras —	846-847

Q—cont.

Questions and Answers—cont.

Saldanha, Mr. J. A.—cont.

Question re training students (women's branch), stipends for — in Government Training schools, Western circle	661-662
Question re unpassed clerks, refund of increments drawn by —	505-506
Question re Veterinary department, pay and prospects of subordinates of the —	596-597
Sasibhushan Rath Mahasavo, Sriman—	
Question re communal representation in Public Works department	420
Question re Criminal Tribes Act, procedure to watch men under the —	178-179
Question re district boards without elected presidents	265
Question re East Godavari District Board, elected president for the —	496
Question re Head draughtsman, etc., selection of — in Waltair circle	420-421
Question re Hiramandalam Police station	739
Question re Narayana Menon, release of Mr. M. P.—	184-185
Question re Pattukkottai, train accident near —	345-346, 404-406
Question re saltpetre in the Presidency, output of —	500
Question re Surja Arrack shop	752
Question re State prisoners, Das, Ganguly, etc., treatment of —	833
Question re Sundaranarayan Leo and others, transfer of — from Vizagapatam to Berhampur	502-503
Satvamurti, Mr. S.—	
Question re Agriculture, Royal Commission on —	816
Question re Beedi shops, employment of children in —	502
Question re Bengali State prisoners, transfer of — to Cannanore jail	833
Question re Bucket shops in the city	580
Question re Civil Courts, jurisdiction of — over municipal elections	92-93
Question re Cocanada Taluk Board, election of Mr. Prakasa Rao to a vacancy in the —	264
Question re Conjeevaram municipality, contribution to Chingleput District Board by the —	589-590
Question re Endowments Board Commissioners, salary, etc., of —	95
Question re G.O. No. 4738, L. & M., dated 23rd December 1925	664
Question re Hindu Religious Endowments Board, contributions to —	14
Question re Madras Ink factory	102-103
Question re Mappilla colonization in the Andamans	180
Question re municipal chairmen and local board presidents, delegation of powers of —	264
Question re municipalities and municipal chairmen, supersession of — by Government	264
Question re Mussalman school, Nellore	13-14
Question re Natvaraja Mudaliyar, appointment of Mr. — as Commissioner, Endowments Board	95-96
Question re portrait of Mr. C. R. Das for Polur Taluk Board	92
Question re Red Hills, system of purifying the water from the —	498
Question re Rock Fort temple, Lady Goschen's recent visit to —	583
Question re Trichinopoly District Board, appointment of a Brahman to the —	492-495
Sitarams Reddiyar, Mr. K.—	
Question re shorthand writers of District and Sessions Courts, allowances to —	681
Question re trunk roads, addition to —	105-106
Srinivasan, Rao Sahib R.—	
Question re bee keeping, progress of — in this province	843-844
Question re ducks, etc., export of — from this province	844
Question re depressed classes, supply of drinking water to —	192
Question re Kadambadi Arian Tidal burial and cremation ground	104
Question re public roads, publication of G.O. No. 2860, L. & M., dated 25th September 1924, about the use of —	846
Subrahmanya Pillai, Mr. Chavadi K.—	
Question re Tambaraparni-Papanasam Hydro-Electric project	840-841
Question re Therkupatti village panchayat, taxes of —	17
Question re Therkupatti village panchayat, alleged illegal collection and misappropriation by the president of —	262-263
Question re Therkupatti village panchayat, inspection of —	99-100
Question re Therkupatti village panchayat, representation of various communities on the —	263
Uppi Sahib, Mr. K.—	
Question re Andamans committee	181

Q—cont.

PAGES

Questions and Answers—cont.

Uppi Sahib, Mr. K.—cont.

Question re Federated Malay States, embarkation of coolies to — in December 1925	675
Question re Kerala Soap Institute	11-12
Veerian, Mr. R.—	
Question re Adi-Dravida Night school, Govindapuram	832
Question re Adi-Dravida pupils, admission of — into Singanallur Elementary school	826-827
Question re Adi-Dravida schools, management of — by the Labour department.	675
Question re Adi-Dravidas in Vellakinar school	12-13
Question re Adi-Dravida students in the Adi-Dravida hostel, Madras	418-419
Question re Beedi factories in Madras	834
Question re bullock drivers, concessions to — regarding darkhast lands	834
Question re Commissioner of Labour	501-502
Question re communal representation in the office of the Inspector of Girls' schools, Coimbatore	266
Question re Co-operative Credit Societies, appointment of honorary organizers of —	819
Question re criminal settlements, women and girls in —	175-176
Question re darkhast lands, assignment of — to caste ryots	339
Question re depressed class members, nomination of — to local boards in the Tanjore district	588-587
Question re depressed classes, Co-operative Credit Societies for —	267-269
Question re depressed classes, disabilities of — in the Vadikpalayam Village Court	837-838
Question re Depressed Classes Advisory Committee	831-832
Question re depressed classes in Madanapalle Union Board	91-92
Question re depressed classes girls' in the Government Girls' Secondary school, Salem	266
Question re depressed classes, high school for — at Masulipatam	830-831
Question re depressed classes, mabazar from Virapandiyanur	261-262
Question re non depressed classes, allotment of house-sites for —	182
Question re depressed classes pupils in Bellary district, scholarships to —	672-673
Question re depressed classes, water-supply to the — in certain villages in the Nellore district	316-337
Question re Director of Industries, communal representation in the office of the —	182-183
Question re District Labour officers	86-87
Question re dramatic companies, restrictions on licences to —	410-411
Question re entry in Kalpathi Agraharam	19-20
Question re Government Girls' Secondary school, Salem, appointment of a peon in the —	265-266
Question re Government Industrial Institutes in the Presidency	823
Question re Government Training School hostel, Calicut, cosmopolitan section of the —	419-420
Question re Industrial Institute, Madura, concessions to depressed classes in the Government —	822
Question re Industrial School, Madura, qualifications for admission into the —	823-824
Question re Inspectors of Co-operative Societies	170-171
Question re Kallars, alleged atrocities of — on Adi-Dravidas at Settipatti	671-672
Question re Kalpathi car festival, constables stationed for bundobust during —	315
Question re Kunhalan Kutti, appointment of Mr. — as Deputy Inspector of Schools	489
Question re Labour departments in the districts	674-675
Question re looting in Chinnammal's house	738
Question re Mettupallaiyan Union Board, alleged use of 'chakillan' in notice issued by the —	590-591
Question re Mettur project, wages, etc., of coolies to be employed in the —	842
Question re municipal councils, nominations to —	490-492
Question re Narasinganur village, auction sale of forest lands in —	338-339
Question re Neelothochera tank, alleged prevention of depressed classes using —	417-418
Question re nomination to Needamangalam Union Board	14-15, 16-17
Question re nomination to Pollachi Taluk Board	664-666
Question re Police Sub-Inspectors, selection of —	583
Question re Ponnani Taluk Board, election case conducted by the —	745-747
Question re Ponnapuram, improvement of water-supply for the depressed classes of —	417

Q—cont.

PAGES

Questions and Answers—cont.

Veerian, Mr. R.—cont.

Question re Queen Mary's College, concessions to pupils in —	828
Question re Rasipuram Agraharam road, sweepers of —	265
Question re representation of depressed classes in the Nellore District Board	15-16
Question re representation of depressed classes in the Government Training School for	827-828
Question re scholarships for girls in the Government Training School for	826
Question re scholarships to girls in Board schools, Ponnani taluk	823
Question re scholarships to students in the Government Industrial Institute, Madura	590
Question re school play-ground, acquisition of site for —	267
Question re Singanallur Board Elementary Girls' school	260-261
Question re Staff Selection Board, G.O. No. 498, dated 18th May 1925, relating to —	335-336
Question re Tanjore District Educational Council, nominations to the —	84-86
Question re taxes on palmyra trees	594-595
Question re untrained teachers, proposal for treating — of 15 years' service as trained	17
Question re vaccination of Ambattur Adi-Dravida children	667
Question re water-supply in rural parts	343
Question re Village Panchayat Courts in the Presidency, constitution of —	594
Question re village panchayats in the Presidency, constitution of —	594
Venkatapati Raja, Mr. P. O.—	
Question re Retrenchment Committee's recommendation, action taken on the Madras —	850
Venkataramana Ayyangar, Mr. C. V.—	
Question re Amaravati river, repair of breaches in channels from —	342-343
Question re Adi-Andhras, High school for — at Masulipatam	747-748
Question re Chettipatti, proposed channel at —	341
Question re Civil Court copyists, pay of —	340
Question re closure and sale of toddy shops	171
Question re compensation for improvements in lands acquired by the Government	676-677
Question re Gundal river water, proposed reservoir for the conservation of —	677
Question re Hebbala project, progress of the —	312
Question re Hindu Religious Endowments Act, definition of 'gross income' under the —	498-499
Question re hydro-electric schemes, proposed — in the next five years	258-259
Question re irrigation facilities in North Arcot district, improvement of —	677-678
Question re Kalingarayan channel, lands irrigated from —	342
Question re Kollegal taluk, irrigation project in —	342
Question re licences for carrying on weaving with maggams	668
Question re Local Fund Audit department, transfer of control of the —	499-500
Question re Madras Educational Service, reorganization of —	751-752
Question re Mappilla colonization of the Andamans	745
Question re Match factories in the Presidency	486-487
Question re Mettur project, help to people whose lands are acquired for the —	409
Question re Mettur reservoir scheme, acquisition of land not merged under the —	408-409
Question re Mettur scheme, levy of water-rate for lands irrigated under the —	408
Question re Narayana Menon, release of Mr. —	584
Question re Odugathur valley, memorial from the ryots of —	410
Question re Papanasam forests, timber exploitation in —	415, 479
Question re Pollachi-Vannanthorai Road, sub-gate on the —	752-753
Question re Pollachi-Vannanthorai Road, sub-gate on the —	506-507
Question re Srirangam temple, repairs to —	267
Question re toddy and arrack shops, location of —	341
Question re Upper Bhavani and Lower Bhavani projects	593
Question re Village Panchayats' Conference, Sivakasi taluk	676
Question re water-supply for raising double crops on single crop wet lands	676

Quinine—

Question re sale of —	94
-----------------------	----

R

Race clubs—

Budget motion re leasing out of Government buildings to —	296-297
---	---------

Raghunandra Ballal, Mr. K.—

Budget motion re reduction of registration fees	233-234
---	---------

See Questions and Answers.

R—cont.

Railway Police—	
Budget motion <i>re</i> —	454-456
Raja, Rao Bahadur M. C.—	
Budget motion <i>re</i> —	
District Police	451, 453
Government Secondary schools for girls	530-531
See Questions and Answers.	
Raja of Panagal, the hon. the —	
Budget motion <i>re</i> —	
Charmada Ghat road	810, 811
Deputy and Assistant Examiner of Local Fund Accounts	359, 360
Establishment—Mufassal (Public Health)	635-636
General Administration—Miscellaneous	371
Government Medical officers	614
Grants for Public Health	641
Grants-in-aid—Local bodies	805
Grants-in-aid—Medical	624, 625
Grants to local bodies for medical relief	616-618
Hospitals and dispensaries	625-626
Leper Settlement, Tirumani	607, 608, 610, 611
Medical, allotment for —	630
Medical Colleges and schools	627-628
Medical establishments	558-559
Medical schools	627
Medical—Works	629
Mental hospitals	628
Palar bridge	796, 800, 802, 803
Pay of establishments (Public Health)	632-633, 634
Provincialization of Assistant Engineers	806, 807
Registrar-General of Panchayats	372
Registration department, upper grades in the —	227
Roads and bridges	704
Road grants	808, 809
School of Indian Medicine	622-623
Town-planning (Pay of establishments)	638
Vital statistics, compilation of —	642
Water-supply and drainage	639-640
Demand for grant <i>re</i> Civil Works—Grants to local bodies	793
Demand for grant <i>re</i> General Administration—Ministers and Civil Secretariats	
—Transferred	371
Demand for grant <i>re</i> Medical	557
Demand for grant <i>re</i> Public Health and vital statistics	631
Discussion <i>re</i> business of the House	603
Discussion <i>re</i> non-official business	813
Further demand for grant <i>re</i> Public Health and vital statistics—Grants to local bodies	871-872, 874
Unparliamentary expressions, withdrawal of certain —	272
Raja of Ramnad—	
Budget motions <i>re</i> —	
Agriculture—Combination of posts of Directors of Industries and Agriculture	684, 691
Charmada Ghat road	809, 810
District Collectors and Magistrates	110-111, 112
Government Medical officers	613-614
Grants to Universities	473
High Court	397, 399, 403
Leper Settlement, Tirumani	606, 607-608, 609
Palar bridge	800-801
Public Works Secretariat	347
Road grants	807-808
Demand for supplementary grant to Legislative bodies—Travelling allowance	856
Discussion <i>re</i> moving motions on behalf of absent members	195, 196
Motion <i>re</i> continuance of the Finance Committee	197, 198
See Questions and Answers	

R—cont.

Rajan, Mr. P. T.—	
Budget motion <i>re</i> —	
Government Medical officers	611, 613, 614
Grants to Universities	475
Queen Mary's College	516, 520
Demand for supplementary grant—	
Legislative bodies—Travelling allowance	854
Rajappa, Mr. P. S.—	
See Questions and Answers.	
Ramachandra Reddi, Mr. B.—	
Budget motion <i>re</i> —	
Irrigation facilities in Nellore district	239-240
Irrigation works (Nellore)	282, 283, 284
Pay of establishments (Civil Veterinary Services)	705
Pennar bridge	796, 797, 802, 804-805
School of Indigenous Medicine	619-620, 621
Touring establishments (Civil Veterinary Services)	699-700
Water-supply and drainage	639, 640
Discussion <i>re</i> business of the House	603
See Questions and Answers.	
Ramalinga Reddi, Mr. C.—	
See Questions and Answers.	
Raman, Rao Bahadur P.—	
Budget motion <i>re</i> —	
Pay of officers—Police	443
Ramaswami Ayyar, the hon. Sir. C. P.—	
Adjournment motion <i>re</i> Paralysis of industries	851
Adjournment of the House <i>sine die</i> , motion for —	292, 293, 294, 295
Bill—	
Nurses and Midwives Bill	898
Budget motion <i>re</i> —	
Administration of justice, omission of allotment for —	390-391, 392, 393-394
Buckingham canal	246-247
City Civil Court	404
Criminal Investigation department	454
District Police	452-453
Elections, allotment for —	305-306, 307, 309, 311, 313-316, 317, 318, 319-321
High Court	394, 396, 397-399, 400, 401
Irrigation works—Cauvery-Mettur Reservoir project	286-287
Irrigation works (Ceded Districts Irrigation)	279-281, 282
Irrigation works (Nellore)	282, 283, 284
Irrigation—Navigation (Ceded Districts and Cuddapah irrigation)	288, 289, 290, 291
Irrigation—Public Works Department officers (certain irrigation and drainage channels in Godavari)	273-274
Irrigation—Public Works Department officers—Kattalai scheme	276-278
Jails, allotment for —	428
Judges and Registrar, High Court	373, 374, 375, 376, 381, 386-387, 388, 389
Law officers	403
Legislative bodies—Travelling allowance	297, 298, 299-301, 302
Legislative Council—Reporters	303-304
Malabar Special Police	456-457, 459, 460
Pay of officers (Land Revenue)	115-116, 117, 118
Pay of officers—Police	440-441, 442-443, 445, 446, 453-454
Police Force	447-449, 450
Presidency Police	430-431, 432, 433-434, 435, 436
Public Works Secretariat	347, 348
Railway Police	455-456
Registration fees—Reduction of	233
Staff Selection Board	325-329
Stamp duty on instruments	144, 146, 149, 150, 154-155
Superintendence—Police	438-439
Council meeting, discussion <i>re</i> — after budget meeting	902
Debate—withdrawal of an expression used in	510

PAGES

R-cont.

Ramaswami Ayyar, the hon. Sir C. P.—cont.

Demand for grant re—	
Administration of justice	372
General administration—Legislative bodies	297
Irrigation—Public Works officers	241
Police	430
Ports and pilotage	460
Demands for supplementary grants—	
Administration of justice—Mufassal Civil and Sessions Courts	858, 861-862
Administration of justice—warder guard system	861
Irrigation—Ceded Districts Irrigation Committee	851
Legislative bodies—Travelling allowance	854-855, 858, 857
Discussion re business of the House	603
Discussion re moving motions on behalf of absentee members	195-196
Discussion re non-official business	813
Discussion re place of next meeting	107-108
Discussion re unrepresentative character of the House	109
Election of members to the Madras and Southern Mahratta Railway Advisory Committee	32
Further demands for grants—	
Administration of justice—Additional District Munsifs	888
Elections—Additional staff for	876
Motion re continuance of the Finance Committee	197, 199
Ramaswami Mudaliyar, Mr. A.—	
Adjournment of the House <i>sine die</i> , motion for —	292
Bill—	
Nurses and Midwives Bill	897, 898-899
Budget motion re—	
Administration charges (Land Revenue)	43, 44-46, 52
Administration of justice, omission of allotment for —	391-392
Board of Revenue	62, 63, 64
Buckingham canal	242-244
Co-operative societies, allotment for —	710
Elections	306-308, 318-317
Excise department	135-137, 139
Fish curing yards	774, 775, 776
Forests	219
Forests, improvement and organization of —	161-162
General Administration—Miscellaneous	366-368, 371
General Administration—Secretariat	354-356
Government Medical officers	612
High Court	394, 395-397, 398, 399, 400, 401
Irrigation — Public Works Department officers — Kattalai scheme	278, 278
Judges and Registrar, High Court	377-379
Maintenance of dispensaries	614-615
Palar bridge	794-795, 796, 804
Pay of officers—Land Revenue	116, 117
Pay of officers—Police	445, 446
Presidency Police	431
Public Works Secretariat	318-350
Queen Mary's College	517
Ranger's salary	205-206
Council meeting, discussion re — after budget meeting	903
Leave to move a motion in the absence of the member who gave notice	223
Swarajists walk-out	28-28
Rameswara Rao, Mr. G.—	
See Questions and Answers.	
Rameswaram Temple—	
Question re entrance fee in —	97-99
Ramnad—	
See District Munsifs.	
Ranganatha Mudaliyar, Mr. A.—	
Adjournment of the House <i>sine die</i> , motion for —	292, 293, 295
Bill—	
Nurses and Midwives Bill	892, 893, 897, 900

R-cont.

Ranganatha Mudaliyar, Mr. A.—cont.

Budget motions—	
Agriculture—Combination of the posts of Directors of Industries and Agriculture and Co-operative Registrar	690, 692
Board of Revenue	62, 68
Collectors and Magistrates	78-79
Demonstration (Agriculture)	651-653
Direction (Agriculture)	643-645, 646, 647-648, 649, 650
Direction (Industries)	715, 716, 718
Elections, allotment for —	306, 311-318, 319
Excise department	157-159
Financial Commissioner and establishments, Board of Revenue	73-74
Forest produce	158-159, 160
Forests, organization and improvement of —	160-161, 162-163
General Administration—Secretariat—Pay of establishments	328
Government House furniture (leasing Government buildings for race clubs)	298, 297
Government secondary schools for girls	534
Grants to local bodies for secondary education	548-549, 551, 553-554, 555
Grants to Universities	471
Irrigation Works (Ceded Districts Irrigation)	278-279, 280, 281-282
Jails, allotment for superintendence of —	423-425
Judges and Registrar, High Court	372-373, 374
Kudathini sub-registrar's office	228-229
Labour department staff	785-786, 787
Legislative bodies—Travelling allowance	299, 301
Mental hospitals	628
Mufassal hospitals and dispensaries	609, 610
Palar bridge	799, 800
Pay of establishments (Agriculture)	650, 651
Pay of establishments (Land Revenue)	34-35, 36, 37
Pay of officers (Land Revenue)	156, 157-158
Pay of officers—Police	441
Presidency Police	431
Registration department, upper grades in the —	225
Registration fees, reduction of —	234-235
Ryots' forests	156-157, 158
Salary of rangers	204-205, 206
School of Indian Medicine	621-622
Stamp duty on instruments	153-154
Veterinary hospitals and dispensaries	700-701, 702-703
Discussion re—	
Admissibility of questions	602
Continuance of the Finance Committee	198
Place of next meeting	107
Further demands for grants—	
Agriculture—Land for paddy-breeding station in Malabar	875, 876
Swarajists walk out	29-30, 31
See Questions and Answers.	
Rangers—	
See Forest Rangers.	
Rasipuram Agraharam Road—	
Question re sweepers of —	265
Rasipuram Rural Credit Societies—	
See Arbitration cases.	
Red Hills—	
Question re system of purifying the water from the —	198
Regeneration staff—	
Budget motion re forests	208-211
Registrar-General of Panchayats—	
See Budget motions.	
Registration—	
Demand for grant re —	223-237
Registration charges—	
Budget motion re —	230-238

	R—cont.	PAGES
Registration department—		
Budget motion <i>re</i> upper grades in —		224-226
See Indian Christians.		
Religious Endowments Commissioner—		
Question <i>re</i> — as trustee		106
Question <i>re</i> salary, etc., of —		96
Remission—		
See Bellary taluk.		
Renoontre, Mr. A. E.—		
Budget motion <i>re</i> Education—Reserved		465, 468
Reporters—		
Budget motion <i>re</i> — of the Legislative Council		302-304
Research for language study—		
Further demand for grant <i>re</i> — to the Madras University		867-871
Reserved forests—		
Question <i>re</i> control of — in South Kanara		179
Resettlement—		
See South Kanara district.		
Retired officers—		
Question <i>re</i> commutation of pensions of —		416
Retrenchment Committee—		
Question <i>re</i> action taken on the recommendations of —		850
See Papers laid on the table.		
Revenue officers—		
Question <i>re</i> appointment of — for municipalities		189
Road grants—		
Budget motion <i>re</i> —		807-809
Roads and bridges—		
Budget motion <i>re</i> —		793-794
Roads—		
See Public roads.		
Rock Fort temple—		
Question <i>re</i> Lady Goschen's recent visit to —		683
Romperu drain—		
Question <i>re</i> improvements to the —		341
Ross, Mr. T. M.—		
Budget motion <i>re</i> —		
Pay of officers—Excise		119
Royal Commission on Agriculture—		
See Agriculture.		
Rulings—		
Budget motions—		
— given notice of by one member may be moved by another member as the latter's own at the discretion of the President		470-471
— cannot be moved on behalf of absentee members		39, 196
— on behalf of absentee members can be made only in case of illness or other unavoidable cause		228
Motions for reduction must be relevant to the items indicated by Government		800
Permission to move — is given only to those members who have given notice of them		306
Business—		
Business of the House should be conducted as long as there is a quorum irrespective of the unrepresentative character of the House		109
Debate—		
Conversations in private between hon. Members and Members of Government cannot be referred to in —		469
Expressions of gratitude on behalf of outside public to hon. Members of Government are not in order		461
Members of the House are not responsible for comments made outside the Council on the speeches of hon. Members		801

	R—cont.	PAGES
Rulings—cont.		
Debate—cont.		
Members should avoid personal references		228
No hon. Member can suggest to Government to post particular officers (district munsifs) to particular districts		867
Reference to any officer on the Secretaries Bench is not in order		222
House, reference to the — as a Rump is objectionable		292
Members must not use words like 'caprice' with reference to an ally of Government		282
Members must not use contemptuous words with reference to other hon. Members of the House		214
Motions—		
Placing of — on the agenda does not at all mean that they are in order		626
Seconding of resolutions merely to make a discussion possible is entirely foreign to the whole principle governing the seconding of resolutions		296
When a member who has given notice of a motion is present in the House no one else can move it		233
Public Accounts Committee report—		
Any speech on the — ought to confine itself to the remarks of the Committee in regard to the audit and appropriation, but not refer to the general finances of the Presidency		877-878
Questions—		
Points regarding admissibility of — should be raised by communicating with the office		602
Russalkonda Saw Mill—		
See Papers laid on the table.		
Ryots' forests—		
Budget motion <i>re</i> —		216-217
S		
Sagaram, Mr. P.—		
See Questions and Answers.		
Saldanha, Mr. J. A.—		
Adjournment motion <i>re</i> —		
Paralysis of industries		851, 852
Adjournment of the House <i>sine die</i> , motion for —		291, 292, 293
Bill—		
Nurses and Midwives Bill		894, 902
Budget motions <i>re</i> —		
Administration charges (Land Revenue)		47, 48, 49, 52
Agricultural schools		656-658
Agriculture (amalgamation of posts of Directors of Industries and Agriculture)		688-689, 688, 692, 693
Board of Revenue		61-62, 64
Channeda Ghat road		809, 810, 811
Chief Secretariat—Recruitment of Under Secretaries		331-332
Deputy and Assistant Examiners of Local Fund Accounts		357-358, 359
Direction (Industries)		717-718
Education—Reserved		466-467
Elections		317, 318-319, 320
Excise department		189-140
Fish-curing yards		773, 774, 775
Forest exploitation		212-213
Forests, capital outlay on —		221
General Administration—Secretariat—Pay of establishments		324-326
Government secondary schools for girls		531-532, 534-535
Grants-in-aid, Medical		624-625
Increase in forest expenditure		199-200, 201, 202
Industrial schools		724, 725
Investments in Government commercial undertakings		726-727, 728, 729
Judges and Registrar, High Court		381, 382-383
Law College		526
Law College (Honoraria for special lecturers)		523
Leper Settlement, Tirumani		604-605, 606-607

S—cont.

Saldanha, Mr. J. A.—cont.	
Budget motions <i>re</i> —cont.	
Medical—Works	628-629
Non-Government secondary schools	542-543, 544-545, 547-548
Non-Government secondary schools—European	461-463, 464
Pay of establishments (Cinchona)	712-713, 714
Pay of establishments (Civil Veterinary Services)	703-704, 705-706
Pay of establishments (Land Revenue)	74-75, 76-77
Pay of establishments (Public Health)	631-632, 634
Pay of officers (Excise)	119-120, 121, 122, 123
Pay of officers (Co-operative societies)	707-709
Pay of officers—Police	446
Professional survey parties	55-56
Regeneration staff	208-209, 210-211
Ryots' forests	215-216
Salary of Rangers	203-204
Stamp duty on instruments	144-145, 146-147, 155
Superintendence—Police	437-438
Tanur experiment station	753-757, 758-759, 763
Town-Planning (Pay of establishments)	636-639
Training Institute, Calicut	766-767
Upper grades in the Registration department	224-225, 227, 228
Demands for supplementary grants—	
Legislative bodies—Travelling allowance	855-856, 857
Stationery and printing	863
Discussion <i>re</i> —	
Business of the House	603-604
Council meeting after budget meeting	902-903
Place of next meeting	108
Report of the Public Accounts Committee	887-888
Unrepresentative character of the House	109
Further demands for grants—	
Public Health and Vital Statistics—Grants to local bodies	871-874
University grant for language research	867-870, 871
<i>See</i> Questions and Answers.	
Salem Government Girls' Secondary School—	
Question <i>re</i> appointment of a peon in the —	265-266
<i>See</i> Depressed classes girls.	
Salem Urban Co-operative Society—	
Question <i>re</i> reference of cases filed by the — for arbitration	818
Salt—	
Question <i>re</i> issue of — to fish-curing yards	10-11
Question <i>re</i> price of — sold in fish-curing yards	23-24
Saltpetre—	
Question <i>re</i> output of — in the Presidency	500
Sasibhushan Rath Mahasayo, Sriman—	
<i>See</i> Questions and Answers.	
Sattur taluk—	
<i>See</i> Village Panchayats' Conference.	
Satyamurti, Mr. S.—	
<i>See</i> Questions and Answers.	
Scholarships—	
Question <i>re</i> — for girls in Government Training School for Mistresses, Coimbatore.	827-828
Question <i>re</i> — to girls in board schools, Ponnani taluk	828
Question <i>re</i> — to students in the Government Industrial Institute, Madura	823
<i>See</i> Depressed classes pupils.	
School of Indian Medicine—	
<i>See</i> Budget motions.	
Schools—	
Question <i>re</i> acquisition of site for —	590
Schools—	
<i>See</i> Government grants.	

S—cont.

Schools for deaf and dumb, etc.—	
Question <i>re</i> —	187, 754-755
Schools for depressed classes —	
<i>See</i> Depressed classes.	
Schools for fishermen—	
Budget motion <i>re</i> —	768-769
Scientific departments—	
Demand for grant <i>re</i> —	461
Secondary education—	
Budget motion <i>re</i> —	556-557
Secondary schools—	
<i>See</i> Aided Secondary Schools; Government Secondary Schools; Medium of instruction.	
Secretariat—	
Demand for grant <i>re</i> General Administration —	322-332
Sessions Courts—	
Demand for supplementary grant <i>re</i> —	868-863
<i>See</i> Mufassal Civil and Sessions Courts; Shorthand works.	
Settipatti—	
<i>See</i> Kallars.	
Sheristadar—	
Question <i>re</i> transfer of — at Mangalore	184
Shorthand Writers—	
Question <i>re</i> allowances to — in District and Sessions Courts	681
Sindavulam village—	
<i>See</i> Drinking water.	
Singanallur Board Elementary Girls' School—	
Question <i>re</i> —	267
Singanallur Elementary School—	
<i>See</i> Adi-Dravida pupils.	
Single crop wet lands—	
<i>See</i> Water-supply.	
Sisters of charity—	
Question <i>re</i> employment of — as nurses	829
Sitarama Reddi, Mr. K.—	
Bill—	
Nurses and Midwives Bill	894
Budget motion <i>re</i> —	
Discretionary grants by Collectors	361
Grants for Public Health	640-641
Grants to local bodies for medical relief	615-616
Grants to local bodies for secondary education	554-555
Irrigation—Civil officers	238-239
Live-stock	654
Medical establishments	118
Mufassal hospitals and dispensaries	610-611
Palur bridge	798
Pay of establishments (Public Health)	633-634
Registrar-General of Panchayats	371-372
Stamp duty on instruments	149-150
Touring establishments (Civil Veterinary Services)	698-699
<i>See</i> Questions and Answers.	
Sivagnanam Pillai, the hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir T. N.—	
Budget motion <i>re</i> —	
Agricultural schools	658, 681-682
Agriculture—Combination of posts of Directors of Agriculture and Industries and Co-operative Registrar	687-690, 694
Agriculture, larger allotment for —	696, 697, 698
Assistant Director, Coast, Fisheries	720-721
Central Farm and College Estate, Coimbatore	655
Co-operative societies, allotment for —	711-712
Demonstration (Agriculture)	652, 653

	S—cont.	PAGES
Siyaganam Pillai, the hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir T. N.—cont.		
Budget motion <i>re</i> —cont.		
Direction (Agriculture)	645-646, 647, 648-650	
Direction (Industries)	721, 724	
Establishments (Industries)	715	
Fish-curing yards	772-773, 774, 775, 776, 777, 778, 780-781	
Industrial schools	724, 725	
Live-stock	655	
Nilgiri Fisheries	781	
Pay of establishments (Agriculture)	650-651	
Pay of establishments (Civil Veterinary Services)	704-705	
Pay of officers (Co-operative Societies)	706-707, 709	
Public exhibition and fairs	653-654	
Schools for fishermen	768-769	
Tanur fishery station	767-768	
Touring establishments (Civil Veterinary Services)	701-702	
Veterinary hospitals and dispensaries	702	
Demand for grant <i>re</i> —		
Agriculture	643-658, 681-698	
Civil Veterinary Services	698-706	
Co-operative societies	706-712	
Fisheries	729-732	
Industries	714-729	
Further demand for grant—		
Agriculture—Land for paddy-breeding station in Malabar	874-875, 876	
Sivakasi taluk—		
See Village Panchayats' Conference.		
South Kanara district—		
Question <i>re</i> Resettlement in —	584-585	
See Acting clerks; Courts; Crop pest; District Munsifs Courts; Forest Panchayats; Forests; Health Officers; Panchayat Courts; Spinning and weaving industries; Union Boards.		
South Kanara district Advancement Association—		
Question <i>re</i> working of —	678	
South Kanara District Board—		
Question <i>re</i> meetings of — and taluk boards	25	
Special pay—		
See Acting officers.		
Special teaching grant—		
See Aided Secondary schools.		
Spinning and weaving industries—		
Question <i>re</i> — in South Kanara and Malabar	488	
Srinivasan, Rao Bahib R.—		
Budget motion <i>re</i> —		
Assistant Commissioner of Labour	781-782	
Depressed classes hostel	788	
Depressed classes teachers of Hindu faith	787-788	
District Executive Establishments (Exoise)	127-128, 129	
District Labour officers	782-783	
Establishment—Mufassal (Public Health)	636	
Government secondary schools for girls	532-533	
Grant of darkhast lands	68-69	
Grievances of lease-holders and peasant labourers	237-238	
Nilgiri Fisheries	781	
Non-Government secondary schools	543	
Public exhibition and fairs	653, 654	
Railway Police	454, 455	
Ryots' forests	217	
Staff, Labour department	786	
See Questions and Answers.		
Srirangam temple—		
Question <i>re</i> repairs to —	506-507	

	S—cont.	PAGES
Staff, Labour department—		
Budget motion <i>re</i> —	783-787	
Staff Selection Board—		
Budget motion <i>re</i> —	328-329	
Question <i>re</i> G.O. No. 493, dated 18th May 1925, relating to the —	260-261	
State Prisoners—		
Question <i>re</i> treatment of — Das, Ganguly, etc.	833	
See Bengali State prisoners; Mappilla State prisoners.		
Stationery and Printing—		
Demand for excess grant <i>re</i> —	865-866	
Demand for grant <i>re</i> —	812	
Demand for supplementary grant <i>re</i> —	868	
Stationery (Transferred)—		
Demand for grant <i>re</i> —	812	
Steam Launch—		
Question <i>re</i> sale of the — at Mangalore	260	
Stipends—		
See Indian Christians; Scholarships.		
Sub Assistant Surgeons—		
See Assistant and Sub-Assistant Surgeons.		
Subbarayan, Dr. P.—		
Budget motions—		
Chief Secretariat (recruitment of Under Secretaries)	329	
Elections	309-310	
Grants in-aid—Miscellaneous	469	
Grants to universities	469, 476, 477	
Irrigation works—Canvey-Mattur Reservoir project	287-288	
Judges and Registrar, High Court	379-380	
Legislative bodies—Travelling allowance	298	
Sub-Inspectors of City Police—		
Question <i>re</i> memorials from —	848-849	
Question <i>re</i> scale of pay of —	849-850	
Sub-Inspector's of Police—		
Question <i>re</i> conveyance allowance of —	9	
Question <i>re</i> motor-cycle allowances of —	598-599	
Question <i>re</i> quarters for — in the Madras City	598	
Subrahmanya Pillai, Mr. Chavadi K.		
Budget motion <i>re</i> —		
Direction (Industries)	721-722	
Grants to universities	472-473	
School of Indian Medicine	620-621	
Stamp duty on instruments	152	
Further demand for grant—		
Public Health and Vital Statistics—Grants to local bodies	872-873	
See Questions and Answers.		
Sugalis—		
Question <i>re</i> —, registration of the — of the Tanda near Appayanahalli under the Criminal Tribes Act	671	
Sugarcane farm—		
Question <i>re</i> establishment of a — for the western taluks of Bellary	817	
Sukkur barrage—		
Question <i>re</i> —	739	
Sundarnarayan Deo—		
Question <i>re</i> transfer of — and others from Vizagapatam to Berhampur	502-503	
Superintendence, Police—		
Budget motion <i>re</i> allotment for —	436-439	
Superior executive posts—		
Question <i>re</i> additions to —	740-741	
Supersession—		
See Municipalities.		

S—cont.

PAGES

Supplementary grants— See Demands for supplementary grants.	
Sarla arrack shop— Question re —	752
Survey and Boundaries Act— G.O. No. 382, Revenue, dated 5th March 1926, re amendment of rules under the	852, 918-919
Survey and Settlement— Budget motion re —	71-73
Demand for supplementary grant re —	852-853
Survey stones— Question re removal and planting of — in Anantapur district	834-835
Suryanarayana Murthi Nayudu, Diwan Bahadur K.— Budget motion re —	537
Government Secondary schools	
Swarajist walk out	25-82
Sweepers— See Rasipuram Agraharam Road.	

T

Tadpatri municipality— Question re imposition of enhanced taxes by the —	601
Taluk boards— Question re communal representation in nominations to —	747
Tambataparni-Papanasam Hydro-Electric Project— Question re —	840-841
Tanjore district— See Depressed class members; Nominations.	
Tanjore District Board— Question re grant to — for village roads and water-supply	496-497
Question re nominations to —	600
Tanjore District Educational Council— Question re nominations to the —	335-336
Tanur experimental station— Budget motion re —	731-732, 755-765
Tanur Fishery station. See Budget motions.	
Taxes— Question re enhancement of — by municipalities and local boards	679
Teachers— Question re pay of — of Government girls' schools	751
Question re pay of — transferred from Government elementary 'girls' schools to local bodies	825-86
See Elementary schools.	
Teaching grant— See Christian College; Special teaching grant.	
Temple cars— Question re damages by collapse of —	837
Question re examination of — before festivals	830-837
Therkupatti Village Panchayat— Question re —	99-100
Question re alleged illegal collection and misappropriation of taxes by the president of the —	262-263
Question re representations of various communities in —	262
Question re taxes of —	17
Timber exploitation— See Papanasam forests.	
Timmancherla— Question re ground rents in —	784

T—cont.

PAGES

Toddy shops— Question re closure and sale of —	171
Toddy and Arrack shops— Question re location of —	267
Question re selection of sites for — near Ambur	828
Toll-gates— Question re — between Srivilliputtur and Sattur	172-174
Tolls— See Motor vehicles.	
Touring establishments (Civil Veterinary Services)— See Budget motions.	
Town-Planning Act— Question re schemes under the Madras—	846-847
Town-Planning (Pay of establishments)— See Budget motions.	
Traffic regulation— Question re — during His Excellency's tour in Tuticorin	22
Train accident— See Pattukkottai.	
Training Institute, Calicut— Budget motion re —	765-768
Training schools, Western circle — See Training students.	
Training students— Question re stipends for—(Women's branch) in Government Training schools, Western circle	661-662
Transfer of grants— Further demand for grant re — from 'non-voted' to 'voted'	876
Travelling allowance— Budget motion re — (Land Revenue)	77-78
Budget motion re — Legislative Council	299-302
Demand for supplementary grant re — to Members of the Legislative Council	854-857
See Village officers.	
Trees in backyards— Question re tax on —	19
Trichinopoly District Board— Question re appointment of a Brahman to the —	492-495
Trifunction survey stones— Question re retention of —	741-742
Trunk Roads— Question re addition to —	105-106
Tuticorin Pearl Fishery— Question re establishment, etc., of the —	821
Question re grant of privileges to Mr. Anasthasius Motha in —	819-821

U

Udipi Taluk Board— See Karkal Taluk Board.	
Union Boards— Question re institution of — in South Kanara	679
United Free Church of Scotland Mission— See Budget motion re Leper Settlement, Tirumani.	
University grants— See Demands for supplementary grants.	
Unparliamentary expressions— Withdrawal of certain — used by a Member	272
Unpassed clerks— Question re refund of increments drawn by —	505-506

U—cont.

Untrained teachers—	
Question <i>re</i> proposal for treating — of 16 years' service as trained ..	594-595
Upper and Lower Bhavani projects—	
Question <i>re</i> Mr. Hawkins' report on ..	409-410
Question <i>re</i> — ..	341
Uppi Sahib, Mr. K.—	
See Questions and Answers.	
Uppinangudi taluk—	
Question <i>re</i> grievances of the landholders of — ..	680
Uppinangudi Taluk Board—	
See Kasaragod Taluk Board.	
Usman Sahib Bahadur, the hon. Khan Bahadur Muhammad—	
Bill—	
Nurses and Midwives Bill ..	890-891, 894-895, 897, 898, 900-901
Budget motion <i>re</i> —	
Andaman Administration, Miscellaneous grants to — ..	423
Assistant Commissioner of Labour ..	781-782
Central Jails ..	426, 427
Depressed classes, betterment of the — ..	789
Depressed classes hostel ..	791-792
Depressed classes teachers of Hindu faith ..	788
District Labour Officers ..	783
Fire protection in forests ..	160
Forest College ..	213
Forest exploitation ..	213
Forest grievances ..	218
Forest Panchayat officers ..	214, 215
Forest produce ..	159, 160
Forests ..	219-220
Forests, capital outlay on — ..	221, 223
Forests, increased expenditure in — ..	200, 201-202
Forests, organization and improvement of — ..	161
Government House furniture (leasing out Government buildings to race clubs.) ..	297
Hill Tribes, Nilgiris ..	790
Jails, allotment for — ..	428-429
Jails, allotment for superintendence of — ..	424-425
Pay of establishments (Cinchona) ..	713-714
Rangers, salary of — ..	203-204, 205, 206
Regeneration staff ..	209
Ryots' forests ..	157-158, 216-217
Stamp duty on instruments ..	149
Staff—Labour department ..	784, 786, 787
Demand for grant <i>re</i> —	
Cinchona ..	712
General Administration—Heads of Provinces ..	296
Forests ..	156
Jails ..	422
Labour including factories ..	781
Stamps ..	143
Discussion <i>re</i> report of the Public Accounts Committee ..	877
Election of members to Madras and Southern Mahratta Railway Advisory Committee ..	33-34, 108-109

V

Vaccination—	
Question <i>re</i> — of Adi-Dravida children in Ambattur ..	17
Vadikapaliyan Village Court—	
Question <i>re</i> disabilities of the depressed classes in the — ..	837
Veerian, Mr. R.—	
Budget motions <i>re</i> —	
Administration charges (Land Revenue) ..	48, 52
Betterment of the depressed classes ..	789
Central Jails ..	425-426, 427
Co-operative societies, allotment for — ..	710-711, 712

V—cont.

Veerian, Mr. R.—cont.

Budget motions <i>re</i> —cont.	
District Executive Establishments (Excise) ..	123-124, 126-127
District Police ..	452
Electricity, allotment for — ..	305
Establishment (Industries) ..	714-715
Establishment—Mufassal (Public Health) ..	635
Forest Panchayat officers ..	214-215
Government secondary schools for boys ..	526-527
Government secondary schools for girls ..	527-528, 531, 533
Grant of darkhast lands ..	66-68, 72
Grants to local bodies for medical relief ..	617
Grants to local bodies for secondary education ..	555-556
Hill Tribes, Nilgiris ..	789-790
Industrial School for girls, Nellore ..	790
Medical Colleges and Schools ..	627
Medical schools ..	626-627
Non-Government secondary schools ..	542
Staff—Labour department ..	784
Staff Selection Board ..	328-329
See Questions and Answers.	
Vellakinar Elementary School—	
See Adi-Dravidas.	
Vellingiri Gounder, Mr. V. C.—	
Walk-out of — ..	106
Venkatapati Raja, Mr. P. C.—	
See Questions and Answers.	
Venkatarama Sastriyar, Mr. T. R.—	
Bill—	
Nurses and Midwives Bill ..	891, 892, 893, 895, 896, 897, 900, 901
Venkataramana Ayyangar, Mr. O. V.—	
See Questions and Answers.	
Venkatareddi Nayudu, Rai Bahadur Sir K. V.—	
Budget motions <i>re</i> —	
Certain channels and drains at Godavari ..	247-251
Chief Secretariat—Recruitment of Under Secretaries ..	330-331
Elections ..	321
General Administration—Secretariat—Pay of establishments ..	326-328
Queen Mary's College ..	517-518, 519
Registration fees, reduction of — ..	235-236, 237
Demands for supplementary grants—	
Administration of justice—Mufassal Civil and Sessions Courts (discussion <i>re</i> communal representation) ..	858, 859, 860
Land Revenue—Survey and Settlement ..	853
Legislative bodies—Travelling allowance ..	857
Discussion <i>re</i> Swarajists walk-out ..	30, 31
Veterinary department—	
Question <i>re</i> pay and prospects of subordinates of the — ..	596-597
Veterinary dispensaries—	
Question <i>re</i> — in the province ..	271-272
Veterinary hospitals and dispensaries—	
See Budget motions.	
Veterinary Services—	
See Civil Veterinary Services.	
Village Officers—	
Question <i>re</i> travelling allowances to — in connexion with His Excellency the Governor's visit to Vellore ..	876
Question <i>re</i> dismissal of — in Gudiyattam taluk ..	836
Question <i>re</i> omission of the usual courtesy prefix in communications to — ..	188
Village Panchayat Courts—	
Question <i>re</i> constitution of — in this Presidency ..	343
Question <i>re</i> membership of — ..	344-345

V—cont.

Village Panchayats—	594
Question <i>re</i> constitution of — in this Presidency	670-671
Question <i>re</i> constitution of — till 31st December 1925	669-670
Question <i>re</i> honorary organizers of —	17-18
Question <i>re</i> grant to —	190-191
Questions <i>re</i> organization of —	191
Question <i>re</i> organization of — in rural parts	100
Question <i>re</i> powers of —	
Village Panchayats' Conference—	593-594
Question <i>re</i> — of Sattur taluk	593
Question <i>re</i> — of Sivakasi taluk	
Village roads—	
See Tanjore District Board.	
Virapandianur—	
See Depressed classes.	
Viswakarma Community—	
Question <i>re</i> non-representation of — in the newly-formed taluk boards of Nilakottai, Palni and Dindigul	587-588
Vital statistics, compilation of—	
See Budget motions.	
Voters' list—	
See Legislative bodies.	

W

Walk-out—	106
— of Mr. V. C. Vellingiri Gounder	194-196
Discussion <i>re</i> consequences of —	
Waltair circle—	
See Head draughtsmen.	
Warder guard system—	
Demand for supplementary grant for the continuance of the — in Kurnool and Coimbatore	864
Water-rate—	
See Mettur scheme.	
Water-supply—	
Question <i>re</i> — in rural parts	667
Question <i>re</i> — for raising double crops on single crop wet lands	676
See Bellary town; Depressed classes.	
Water-supply and drainage—	
See Budget motions.	
Water-tax—	
See Kumbakonam Municipal Council.	
Weaving loom—	
See Madura Deaf and Dumb School.	
Weaving with Maggams—	
See Licences.	
Women Training students—	
See Training students.	
Wood, Mr. C. E.—	
Budget motions <i>re</i> —	
Direction (Industries)	720-721, 724
Tanur experiment station	764-765

PERSONNEL OF THE GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

Governor of Madras.

His Excellency the Rt. Hon. the Viscount GOSCHEN OF HAWKHURST, G.C.I.E., C.B.E. Took his seat on 14th April 1924.

Members of the Executive Council.

1. The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR, K.C.I.E., Law Member. Took his seat on 12th February 1923 and is in charge of the following portfolios:—

Civil Justice.
Criminal Justice (including petitions for mercy).
Elections.
Electricity (including hydro-electric schemes).
Foreigners.
Fortnightly report.
Irrigation.
Landlord and tenant.
Legislative.
Magistracy.

Marine (Central subject).
Miscellaneous Judicial heads.
Passports.
Police including Criminal Investigation Department.
Press and registration of books.
Publicity including Editors' Table.
Railways.
Report on matters of political and administrative importance.
State prisoners.
Translators to Government.

2. The hon. Mr. N. E. MARJORIBANKS, C.S.I., C.I.E., I.C.S., Member in charge of Revenue. Took his seat on 27th December 1924 and is in charge of the following portfolios:—

Agency.
Constitution of districts, divisions and taluks.
Court of Wards.
Economic condition (including prices and wages).
Escheats.
Famine.
General (i.e., questions of a general nature which cannot be allocated to any particular department).
Government Servants' Conduct Rules.
Indian Civil Service—Questions other than leave and appoint-

Land Revenue, Survey and Settlement.
Mines.
Office procedure.
Petition rules—General questions.
Pounds and special funds.
Public Services Commission and service questions including examinations and special tests and land returns.
Reforms—not being legislative.
Treasure trove.
Warrant of precedence.
Wild animals.
Yeomias, inams and hereditary pensions.

3. The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur, Home Member. Took his seat on the 30th March 1925 and is in charge of the following portfolios:—

Administration report.
Air-craft.
Arms and explosives.
Boilers.
Census.
Certificate of age and qualification.
Criminal Tribes.
Depressed classes.
Emigration.
Forests (including cinchona).
Government Houses.
Jails.
Labour (including factories).

Laccadives.
Pilgrims to the Hedjaz.
Reformatories.
Regulation of medical and other professional qualifications and standards.
Rewards for saving life and property.
Staff and household of His Excellency the Governor.
Stamps.
Stationery and Government Presses.

4. The hon. Mr. T. E. MOIR, C.S.I., C.I.E., I.C.S., Finance Member. Took his seat on 27th April 1925 and is in charge of the following portfolios:—

Central Subjects—
Archæology and Epigraphy.
Customs (including trade).
Ecclesiastical.
Income-tax.
Meteorology.
Opium.
Political (other than matters relating to Indian States).

Central Subjects—*cont.*
Post Office.
Salt.
Telegraphs and telephones.
European education.
Finance.
Military.
Move of Government to the Hills.
Pensions.

Ministers.

1. The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL, Minister for Local Self-Government. Took his seat on 19th November 1923 and is in charge of the following portfolios:—

Adulteration of foodstuffs.
Local.
Medical.
Municipal.

Light-feeder Railways and Tramways within municipal areas.
Public Health.
Religious and Charitable Endowments.

2. The hon. Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. PATRO, *Kt.*, Minister for Education and Public Works. Took his seat on 19th November 1923 and is in charge of the following portfolios:—

Education.
Excise.

Public Works.
Registration.

3. The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir T. N. SIVAGNANAM PILLAI, *Kt.*, Minister for Development. Took his seat on 19th November 1923 and is in charge of the following portfolios:—

Agriculture.
Co-operative Societies.
Fisheries.

Industries.
Veterinary.

PRINCIPAL OFFICERS OF THE MADRAS LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

President.

The hon. Mr. M. RUTHNASWAMY, M.A., Bar-at-Law.

Deputy President.

M.R.Ry. Diwan Bahadur P. KESAVA PILLAI Avargal, C.I.E.

Panel of Chairmen.

M.R.Ry. A. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR Avargal.

Sriman SASIBHUSHAN RATH Mahasayo.

Khan Bahadur HAJI ABDULLA HAJI QASIM SAHIB Bahadur.

M.R.Ry. Rai Bahadur T. M. NARASIMHACHARLU Garu.

Secretary to the Council.

M.R.Ry. Rao Bahadur R. V. KRISHNA AYYAR Avargal, B.A., M.L.

Assistant Secretary to the Council.

M.R.Ry. C. SATAGOPA ACHARIYAR Avargal, B.A.

ALPHABETICAL LIST OF MEMBERS OF THE MADRAS LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

Name of member.	Name and class of constituency.
1. Abbas Ali Khan Bahadur ...	Madura and Trichinopoly cum Srirangam, M. Urban.
2. Abdul Hye Sahib Bahadur ...	Ceded Districts, M. Rural.
3. Abdul Wahab Sahib Bahadur, Munshi.	Northern Circars, M. Rural.
4. Abdulla Ghatala Sahib Bahadur (Council Secretary).	North Arcot cum Chingleput, M. Rural.
5. Adinarayana Chettiyar, T. ...	North Arcot, N.-M. Rural.
6. Anjaneyulu, P. ...	Guntur, N.-M. Rural.
7. Ankinedu Prasad Bahadur, S. R. Y.	Northern Landholders II, Landholders.
8. Appavu Chettiyar, D. ...	Salem, N.-M. Rural.
9. Ari Gowder, H. B. ...	Nilgiris, N.-M. Rural.
10. Arpudaswami Udayar, S. (Council Secretary).	Tanjore and Trichinopoly cum Madura, Indian Christian.
11. Arumuga Nadar, P. K. S. A. ...	NOMINATED for Nadars.
12. Bhanoji Rao, A. V. ...	Vizagapatam, N.-M. Urban.
13. Biswanath Das Mahasayo, Sriman	Ganjam, N.-M. Rural.
14. Boag, I.C.S., G. T. ...	NOMINATED. (Secretary to Government, Finance Department.)
15. Chidambara Nadar, A. ...	Madura, N.-M. Rural.
16. Cruz Fernandez, Rao Bahadur.	Ramnad cum Tinnevelly (Christian), Indian Christian.
17. Davis, J. A. ...	NOMINATED for Anglo-Indians.
18. Devendrudu, N. ...	NOMINATED for Adi-Andhras.
19. Ellappa Chettiyar, Rao Sahib S.	Salem, N.-M. Rural.
20. Ethirajulu Nayudu, Diwan Bahadur P. C.	Guntur, N.-M. Rural.
21. Evans, c.s.i., I.C.S., F. B. ...	NOMINATED. (Secretary to Government, Public Works Department.)
22. Gangaraju, M. ...	Kistna, N.-M. Rural.
23. Ghouse Mian Sahib Bahadur, Muhammad.	Central Districts, M. Rural.
24. Gopala Menon, C. ...	Southern India Chamber of Commerce, Commerce and Industry.
25. Gopalan, Rao Sahib P. V. ...	NOMINATED for Mukkuvans or Fishermen.
26. Guruswami, L. C. ...	NOMINATED for Arundhatayas.
27. Haji Qasim Sahib Bahadur, Khan Bahadur Haji Abdulla (Chairman).	South Kanara, M. Rural.
28. Hegde, J. Naganna ...	South Kanara, N.-M. Rural.
29. Heggade, D. Manjappa ...	Do.

Name of member.	Name and class of constituency.
30. Kesava Pillai, c.i.e., Diwan Bahadur P. (Deputy President).	Anantapur, N.-M. Rural.
31. Khadir Mohiddin Elyas Khan Sahib Bahadur.	East Coast Muhammadan.
32. Khalif-ul-lah Sahib Bahadur, Khan Bahadur P.	Madura cum Trichinopoly, M. Rural.
33. Koti Reddi, K. ...	Cuddapah, N.-M. Rural.
34. Krishnan Nayar, Diwan Bahadur M.	Malabar cum Anjengo, N.-M. Rural.
35. Krishna Rao Pantulu, Rao Bahadur A. S.	Nellore, N.-M. Rural.
36. Krishnaswami Nayudu, Rao Bahadur K.	North Arcot, N.-M. Rural.
37. Kuppuswami, J. ...	Guntur, N.-M. Rural.
38. MacDougall, Kt., Sir Alexander.	European.
39. Madanagopal Nayudu, R. ...	Madras City, N.-M. Urban.
40. Madhava Raja, V. ...	Malabar cum Anjengo, N.-M. Rural.
41. Madurai, Hony. Lt. ...	NOMINATED for Adi-Dravidas.
42. Mallesappa, T. ...	NOMINATED for Lingayats.
43. Marakkayar Sahib Bahadur, Khan Bahadur V. Hamid Sultan.	Tanjore, M. Rural.
44. Marjoribanks, c.s.i., c.i.e., I.C.S., The hon. Mr. N. E.	EX-OFFICIO.
45. Marthandam Pillai, P. N. ...	Tinnevelly, N.-M. Rural.
46. Maruthavanam Pillai, C. ...	Tanjore, N.-M. Rural.
47. Moidu Sahib Bahadur, T. M. ...	Malabar cum Anjengo, M. Rural.
48. Moir, c.s.i., c.i.e., I.C.S., The hon. Mr. T. E.	EX-OFFICIO.
49. Moosa Sait Sahib Bahadur, Muhammad.	Madras, M. Urban.
50. Muhammad Sahib Bahadur, T. N.	Ramnad cum Tinnevelly, M. Rural.
51. Muniswami Nayudu, Rao Bahadur B.	Chittoor N.-M. Rural.
52. Murugappa Chettiyar, Diwan Bahadur A. M.	Nattukottai Nagarathars' Association, Commerce and Industry.
53. Muttayya Mudaliyar, C. ...	Chingleput, N.-M. Rural.
54. Muttayya Mudaliyar, S. ...	Tanjore, N.-M. Rural.
55. Muttu Chettiyar, P. C. ...	Ramnad, N.-M. Rural.
56. Narasimbacharlu, Rai Bahadur T. M. (Chairman).	Cuddapah, N.-M. Rural.
57. Narasimha Raju, Rao Bahadur C. V. S.	Vizagapatam, N.-M. Rural.
58. Narayanan Nambudiripad, Rao Bahadur O. M.	NOMINATED for Nambudiris.
59. Narayanaswami Pillai, T. M. ...	Trichinopoly, N.-M. Rural.
60. Natesa Mudaliyar, Rao Bahadur O.	Madras, N.-M. Urban.

Name of member.	Name and class of constituency.
61. Nicholson, L. C.	Madras Trades' Association, Commerce and Industry.
62. Noyce, C.S.I., C.B.E., I.C.S., F. ...	NOMINATED. (Secretary to Government, Local Self-Government Department.)
63. Obalesappa, B.	NOMINATED for Maruthuvakulars (Barbers).
64. Pandrang Rao, I.C.S., V. ...	NOMINATED. (Secretary to Government, Development Department.)
65. Patro, <i>Kt.</i> , The hon. Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. (Minister).	Ganjam, N.-M. Rural.
66. Peddiraju, P.	Kistna, N.-M. Rural.
67. Ponnuswami Nayudu, C. ...	Madura, N.-M. Rural.
68. Ponnuswami Pillai, K. S. ...	NOMINATED for Protestant Christians.
69. Prabhakaran Tampan, K. ...	West Coast Landholders, Landholders.
70. Premayya, G.	NOMINATED for Adi-Andhras.
71. Raghuchandra Ballal, K. ...	NOMINATED for Jains.
72. Raja, Rao Bahadur M. C. ...	NOMINATED for Depressed Classes.
73. Raja of Panagal, The hon. the (Minister).	North Central Landholders, Landholders.
74. Raja of Ramnad	Southern Landholders, Landholders.
75. Rajan, P. T.	Madura, N.-M. Rural.
76. Rajappa Tevar, P. S.	NOMINATED for Kallars.
77. Ramachandra Reddi, B. ...	Nellore, N.-M. Rural.
78. Raman, Rao Bahadur P. ...	NOMINATED for Tiyyas.
79. Ramachari, Rao Sahib K. V. ...	Madura, N.-M. Urban.
80. Ramalinga Chettiyar, Rao Bahadur T. A. ...	Coimbatore, N.-M. Rural.
81. Ramalinga Reddi, C.	Chittoor, N.-M. Rural.
82. Ramaswami Ayyar, K.C.I.E., The hon. Sir C. P. ...	EX-OFFICIO.
83. Ramaswami Mudaliyar, A. (Chairman).	Chingleput, N.-M. Rural.
84. Rameswara Rao, G.	Anantapur, N.-M. Rural.
85. Ranganatha Mudaliyar, A. ...	Bellary, N.-M. Rural.
86. Rencontre, A. E.	Anglo-Indian.
87. Ross, T. M.	Madras Chamber of Commerce.
88. Ruthnaswamy, The hon. Mr. M. (President).	Central Districts (Christian) Indian Christian.
89. Sagaram, P.	NOMINATED for Setti-Baliyas.
90. Saldanha, J. A.	West Coast (Christian) Indian Christian.
91. Samuel, J. D.	Northern Districts Indian Christian.
92. Sarabha Reddi, K.	Kurnool, N.-M. Rural.

Name of member.	Name and class of constituency.
93. Sarvarayudu, K.	Kistna, N.-M. Rural.
94. Sasibhushan Rath Mahasayo, Sriman (Chairman).	Ganjam, N.-M. Rural.
95. Satyamurti, S.	Madras University, University.
96. Sesha Reddi, B. P.	Kurnool, N.-M. Rural.
97. Seturatnam Ayyar, M. R. ...	Trichinopoly, N.-M. Rural.
98. Sitarama Reddi, K.	South Arcot, N.-M. Rural.
99. Sitayya, M.	Kistna, N.-M. Rural.
100. Sivagnanam Pillai, <i>Kt.</i> , The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir T. N. (Minister).	Tinnevely, N.-M. Rural.
101. Siva Rao, P.	Bellary, N.-M. Rural.
102. Srinivasa Ayyangar, R. ...	South Arcot, N.-M. Rural.
103. Srinivasan, Rao Sahib R. ...	NOMINATED for Adi-Dravidas.
104. Subbarayan, Dr. P.	South Central Landholders, Landholders.
105. Subrahmanya Pillai, K. Chavadi.	Tinnevely cum Palamcottah, N.-M. Urban.
106. Sundaramurti, Rao Sahib P. V. S.	NOMINATED for Adi-Dravidas.
107. Suryanarayanamurti Nayudu, Diwan Bahadur K.	Cocanada City, N.-M. Urban.
108. Tangavelu Pillai, Rao Sahib T. C. (Council Secretary).	Trichinopoly cum Srirangam, N.-M. Urban.
109. Tanikachala Chettiyar, Rao Bahadur O.	Madras, N.-M. Urban.
110. Uppi Sahib Bahadur, K. ...	Malabar cum Anjengo, M. Rural.
111. Usman Sahib Bahadur, The hon. Khan Bahadur Muhammad.	EX-OFFICIO.
112. Veerian, R.	NOMINATED for Adi-Dravidas.
113. Vellingiri Gounder, V. C. ...	Coimbatore, N.-M. Rural.
114. Venkatachalam Chetti, Sami ...	Madras, N.-M. Urban.
115. Venkatachala Padayachi, K. ...	South Arcot, N.-M. Rural.
116. Venkatapati Razu, P. C. ...	Vizagapatam, N.-M. Rural.
117. Venkatarama Ayyar <i>alias</i> V. Pantulu Ayyar.	Tanjore, N.-M. Rural.
118. Venkataramana Ayyangar, C. V.	Coimbatore, N.-M. Rural.
119. Venkatarama Sastriyar, T. R. (Advocate-General).	NOMINATED.
120. Venkatarangam Nayudu, C. ...	North Arcot, N.-M. Rural.
121. Venkataratnam, B.	Godavari, N.-M. Rural.
122. Venkatarreddi Nayudu, <i>Kt.</i> , Rao Bahadur Sir K.	Do.
123. Virappa Chettiyar, Rao Bahadur P. K. A. Ct.	Ramnad, N.-M. Rural.
124. Windle, Capt. E. G.	Madras Planters.
125. Wood, C. E.	Madras Chamber of Commerce.
126. Zamindar of Kallikota and Atagada Estates.	NOMINATED for backward tracts
127. Zamindar of Kurupam ...	Northern Landholders I, Landholders.

SPECIAL MEMBERS.

Name of member.	Purpose for which nominated.
128. Gopalaswami Ayyangar, Rai Bahadur N.	NOMINATED for the Madras District Municipalities Act Amendment Bills and the Madras Village Panchayats Act Amendment Bill.
129. Ramachandra Ayyar, Diwan Bahadur T. R.	NOMINATED for the Malabar Tenancy Bill.
130. Raman Menon, K. P. ...	Do.
131. Symons, Maj.-Genl. T. H.* ...	NOMINATED for the Registration of Nurses and Midwives Bill. (Surgeon-General to the Government of Madras.)
132. Lient.-Col. Hingston, O.B.E., C.I.E., I.M.S.†	Do.

* Resigned his seat with effect from 20th March 1926.

† Took his seat on 29th March 1926.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE MADRAS LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

OFFICIAL REPORT.

Fourth Session of the Second Legislative Council under the Government of India Act.

VOLUME XXIX.

Tuesday, the 16th March 1926.

The House met at 11 o'clock, Mr. President (the hon. Mr. M. RUTHNASWAMY, M.A., Bar.-at-Law) in the chair.

PRESENT:

Ramaswami Ayyar, K.C.I.E., The hon. Sir C. F.	Noyce, C.S.I., C.B.E., I.C.S., Mr. F.
Marjoribanks, C.S.I., C.I.E., The hon. Mr. N. E.	Pandrang Row, Mr. V.
Uman Sabib Bahadur, The hon. Khan Bahadur Muhammad.	Pantulu Ayyar, Mr. V.
Moir, C.S.I., C.I.E., The hon. Mr. T. E.	Peddiraju, Mr. P.
Raja of Panagal, The hon. the.	Prabhakaran Tampar, Mr. K.
Patro, Kt., The hon. Rao Bahadur Sir A. P.	Premayya, Mr. G.
Sivagnanam Pillai, Kt., The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir T. N.	Raghuchandra Ballal, Mr. K.
Abbas Ali Khau, Mr.	Raja, Rao Bahadur M. C.
Abdulla Ghatala Sahib, Mr.	Raja of Ramnad.
Adinarayana Chettiyar, Mr. T.	Rajan, Mr. P. T.
Anjaneyulu, Mr. P.	Rajappa, Mr. P. S.
Ari Gowder, Mr. H. B.	Ramachandra Reddi, Mr. B.
Arpudaswami Udayar, Mr. S.	Raman, Rao Bahadur P.
Arumuga Nadar, Mr. P. K. S. A.	Ramalinga Chettiyar, Rao Bahadur T. A.
Boag, Mr. G. T.	Ramaswami Mudaliyar, Mr. A.
Chidambara Nadar, Mr. A.	Rameswara Rao, Mr. G.
Davis, Mr. J. A.	Ranganatha Mudaliyar, Mr. A.
Devendrudu, Mr. N.	Ross, Mr. T. M.
Ellappa Chettiyar, Rao Sahib S.	Sagaram, Mr. P.
Ethirajulu Nayudu, Diwan Bahadur P. C.	Saldanha, Mr. J. A.
Evans, C.S.I., Mr. F. B.	Sami Venkatachalam Chetti, Mr.
Gopala Menon, Mr. C.	Sasibhushan Rath Mahasayo, Sriman.
Gopalan, Rao Sahib P. V.	Satyamurti, Mr. S.
Guruswami, Mr. L. C.	Sesha Reddi, Mr. B. P.
Haji Qasim Sahib Bahadur, Khan Bahadur Haji Abd-ul-Jah	Seturatnam Ayyar, Mr. M. R.
Hegde, Mr. Naganna.	Sitayya, Mr. M.
Heggade, Mr. D. Manjappa	Siva Rao, Mr. P.
Kesava Pillai, C.I.E., Diwan Bahadur P.	Srinivasa Ayyangar, Mr. R.
Khadir Mohiddin Elyas Khan Sahib, Mr.	Srinivasan, Rao Sahib R.
Koti Reddi, Mr. K.	Subbarayan, Dr. P.
Krishnan Nayar, Diwan Bahadur M.	Subramania Pillai, Mr. Chavadi K.
Krishna Rao Pantulu, Rao Bahadur A. S.	Sundaramurti, Rao Sahib P. V. S.
MacDougall, Kt., Sir Alexander.	Suryanarayana-murti Nayudu, Diwan Bahadur K.
Madanagopal Nayudu, Mr. R.	Tangavelu Pillai, Rao Sahib T. C.
Madurai, Hony. Lieut.	Tanikachala Chettiyar, Rao Bahadur O.
Marthandam Pillai, Mr. P. N.	Veerian, Mr. R.
Maruthavanam Pillai, Mr. C.	Venkatachala Padayachi, Mr. K.
Moidu Sahib, Mr. T. M.	Venkatapati Razu, Mr. P. C.
Muttayya Mudaliyar, Mr. C.	Venkataramana Ayyangar, Mr. C. V.
Muttayya Mudaliyar, Mr. S.	Venkatarama Sastri, Mr. T. R.
Narasimha-charlu, Rai Bahadur T. M.	Venkataramam Nayudu, Mr. C.
Narasimha Raju, Rao Bahadur C. V. S.	Venkataramam, Mr. B.
Natesa Mudaliyar, Rao Bahadur C.	Venkatareddi Nayudu, Rai Bahadur Sir K.
	Windle, Capt. E. G.
	Wood, Mr. C. E.

[16th March 1926]

I

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

[Order made by the President of the Madras Legislative Council under Standing Order No. 15 on the 4th December 1924.]

1. Starred questions to be put at a meeting of the Council with their answers shall be printed and placed on the Council table an hour before the President takes his seat.

The Secretary shall call out the name of each interpellator in the order in which the names are printed, specify the serial number of his question and make a sufficient pause to give him or any other member a reasonable opportunity of rising in his place and putting a supplementary question. Supplementary questions must be put immediately after the principal questions to which they relate.

2. If a member responsible for a starred question happens to be absent when it is called, it will be open either to him or to any other member to put supplemental questions thereon after the other starred questions for the day have been answered, provided question-time is not thereby exceeded.

3. Questions, not starred, will not be called in Council, but they will be printed with their answers and placed on the table of the House along with the list of starred questions. Oral supplementary questions will not be allowed in regard to unstarred questions.]

STARRED QUESTIONS.

Fisheries.

Issue of salt to the fish-curing yards on the West Coast.

* 1553 Q.—Rao Sahib P. V. GOPALAN: Will the hon. the Minister for Development be pleased to state—

(a) what was the quantity of salt issued to curers in the several fish-curing yards in the West Coast in the year 1924-25;

(b) what was the cost to the Government for the salt issued and the establishment charges of the fish-curing yards on the West Coast for the above period; and

(c) what was the profit or loss to the Government in this transaction for the above period?

A.—(a) 169,585 maunds.

(b) The cost to Government was Rs. 1,48,796. The establishment charges including pensionary charges amounted to Rs. 62,791.

(c) There was a profit of Rs. 394.

Rao Sahib P. V. GOPALAN:—"May I ask the hon. the Minister for Development whether he is going to continue this system of selling the salt at Rs. 2-8-0 per bag?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir T. N. SIVAGNANAM PILLAI:—"Certainly not."

Rao Sahib P. V. GOPALAN:—"May I know whether it is the intention of the hon. Minister to meet the cost of fisheries establishment from the profit obtained from the sales of salt? May I know whether it is not the object of the Government to ameliorate the condition of the fishermen community rather than to make profits out of the transaction of salt?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir T. N. SIVAGNANAM PILLAI:—"Exactly so."

[16th March 1926]

Rao Sahib P. V. GOPALAN:—"May I know whether it is not a fact that when the fish-curing yards were in the Salt department all the charges were debited to the Salt revenues whereas they are now debited to the curers and the Government are actually making a profit out of the transaction?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir T. N. SIVAGNANAM PILLAI:—"I want notice of the question."

Industries.

The Kerala Soap Institute.

* 1554 Q.—Mr. K. UPPI SAHIB: Will the hon. the Minister for Development be pleased to state—

(a) the reasons for changing the 'Government Calicut Soap Factory' into 'Kerala Soap Institute';

(b) whether it is now a factory or a technological institute;

(c) if it is the latter, whether any student or students have ever been trained in that institute;

(d) if not, why not;

(e) whether there is a laboratory attached to the institute; and

(f) if so, what was the object of it and what is the cost of the same?

A.—(a) The change was made with a view to emphasize the fact that the main object of the venture was not merely to demonstrate that soaps could be manufactured at a profit but also to help in the development of the soap industry in the Presidency by training a number of men in the art of soap manufacture.

(b), (c) & (d) It is now run principally as a commercial concern, pure and simple; owing to lack of accommodation until 1923 and the uncertainty of its future thereafter it has not been found possible hitherto to admit and train apprentices on any regular system though short courses have been given to a few students now and then. The Government have now under consideration a proposal that the institute should be continued for a term of three years with a view to admit and train apprentices.

(e) & (f) The institute has a small laboratory in which analyses are being made of samples of various oils received in the factory for manufacturing purposes and soaps manufactured at the institute are being tested for quality. Samples of soaps, oils and other products received from private firms are also examined and reports furnished. The apparatus in the laboratory have been valued at Rs. 5,776 on the 31st March 1925.

Alleged protest against the continuance of Kerala Soap Institute.

* 1555 Q.—Mr. K. UPPI SAHIB: Will the hon. the Minister for Development be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government received any complaint or protest against the continuance of the Kerala Soap Institute from the European Chamber of Commerce of Calicut or of any other place or from any European firm;

[16th March 1926]

- (b) whether any European firm or individual ever made any offer to purchase the Kerala Soap Institute ;
 (c) whether any Indian gentleman made any offer to purchase the same ;
 (d) whether the Government propose to continue to keep it or part with it ; and
 (e) if they propose to keep it, whether it is as a commercial institute or as a technological institute ?

- A.—(a) The Government received a copy of the proceedings of the meeting of the Associated Chambers of Commerce of India and Ceylon held on 5th December 1923 at which the continuance of the institute was put forward as an instance of Government competition with private enterprise.
 (b) The Government have had no definite offer for purchase.
 (c) Yes ; but the offer was conditional on the 75 per cent of the purchase money being treated as a loan under the State Aid to Industries Act and therefore the individual was asked to apply to the Director of Industries in the first instance as required by the Act.
 (d) & (e) The question is under consideration.

Veterinary.

Compulsory inoculation in South Kanara.

* 1556 Q.—Mr. D. MANJAYYA HEGGADE : Will the hon. the Minister for Development be pleased to state—

- (a) whether it is a fact that compulsory inoculation has been enforced in some taluks of South Kanara against rinderpest and if so, in how many taluks ;
 (b) how many veterinary assistant surgeons are working in the affected areas ; and
 (c) whether any extra hands have been sanctioned to cope with the work of compulsory inoculation and if not, why not ?

- A.—(a) Yes, in four taluks.
 (b) Five.
 (c) Of the five employed on the work, three have been deputed from the reserve staff.

Education.

Adi-Dravidas and the Vellakinar Board Higher Elementary School.

* 1557 Q.—Mr. R. VEERIAN : Will the hon. the Minister for Education be pleased to state—

- (a) whether the Government are aware that after the examination of an Adi-Dravida boy on 1st October 1925 by one of the teachers employed in the Vellakinar Board Higher Elementary School, Vellakinar, Coimbatore taluk, the Headmaster said that the Adi-Dravida boy by name Mahalingam would be admitted into the higher standard (who was reading in another school before) on consultation with the caste villagers and then the boy was asked to go away without admission ;

[16th March 1926]

- (b) whether they are aware that about 154 pupils, male and female, belonging to the other castes are reading in the school and that there has not been even a single pupil belonging to the depressed classes admitted in the school from the very commencement ;
 (c) whether the Government are aware that this school is located in the taluk board building along the public road quite apart from the quarters of the caste villagers ;
 (d) whether the Government are aware that four Brahman teachers were appointed in the school but not a single Adi-Dravida teacher has been appointed ;
 (e) for how long the school has been going on in the village ; and
 (f) if the Government have no information, with reference to clauses (a), (b), (c), (d) and (e), whether they will be pleased to call for the information ?

- A.—(a) The Adi-Dravida boy in question was admitted into the school on 9th December 1925.
 (b) One hundred and seventy-three pupils are studying in the school. There is at present one Adi-Dravida pupil in the school.
 (c) Yes.
 (d) Yes. It is reported that no Adi-Dravida teacher employed in other schools under the board is willing to serve in Vellakinar.
 (e) Since 1893.

Mr. R. VEERIAN :—“ May I know, Sir, whether it is the same Mahalingam Adi-Dravida boy or some other boy reading in the school ? ”

The hon. Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. PATRO :—“ I should like to have notice of the question.”

Mr. R. VEERIAN :—“ May I know, Sir, whether the Government have issued any Government Order to the effect that the Adi-Dravida boys must be admitted in all public schools and that those institutions which disregard this rule will be severely dealt with ? ”

The hon. Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. PATRO :—“ Circulars were issued by the Government drawing the attention of the managers of the public schools to the fact that there should be unrestricted admission of all classes of pupils to the schools.”

Mr. R. VEERIAN :—“ With reference to the answer to clause (d), may I know whether it is due to the boycott of other teachers or for any other reason that no Adi-Dravida teacher employed in other schools under the Board is willing to serve in the Vellakinar Elementary school ? ”

The hon. Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. PATRO :—“ I learn that no Adi-Dravida teacher was available to serve in Vellakinar.”

Mussalman School, Nellore.

* 1558 Q.—Mr. S. SATYAMURTI : Will the hon. the Minister for Education be pleased to state—

- (a) whether representations have been made to him by the Muslim public of Nellore to raise the Mussalman Muhammadan school there to a high school ;

[16th March 1926]

(b) the reasons why the Government have not raised the middle school to a high school; and

(c) whether they have any intention to do so in the near future?

A.—(a) The answer is in the affirmative.

(b) The Government were not convinced of the necessity of raising the institution to the status of a high school.

(c) The answer is in the negative.

Hindu Religious Endowments Board.

Demands for contributions from institutions under the control of the Hindu Religious Endowments Board.

* 1559 Q.—Mr. S. SATYAMURTI: Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) the demands issued by the Hindu Religious Endowments Board on the institutions under their control for payment of contributions under the Act;

(b) the date or dates when the demands were issued and the amounts of the several demands; and

(c) the collections up to date and the arrears due?

A.—(a) & (b) The Government understand that between May 1, 1925, and January 31, 1926, the Board issued a circular memorandum to the trustees of about 10,000 institutions requesting them to furnish figures of the income of the last three fasli years and to remit the contributions, leaving them to calculate the amount due on the annual average of their own figures as a provisional measure.

(c) The collections up to 31st January 1926 amounted to Rs. 31,800. As the total amount due has not been determined, it is not possible to calculate the amount in arrears.

Local Boards and Municipal Councils.

Nomination to the Nidamangalam Union Board.

* 1560 Q.—Mr. R. VEERIAN: Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether a memorial was received addressed to the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government signed by several Muhammadan gentlemen and other non-Muhammadan gentlemen during the month of April last making complaints with reference to ignoring altogether the claims of Muhammadans and depressed classes by the president of the taluk board as regards nomination to Nidamangalam union board, Tanjore district;

(b) whether it is a fact that out of two nominated seats one was given to one Pillai who was a defeated candidate at an election and another was given to a member of the Ahamudaiya community though five Ahamudaiya gentlemen had got through election to that union board;

(c) whether it is a fact that the president of the Nidamangalam union board recommended one member of the depressed classes and another Muhammadan gentleman for the two seats for nomination to the president of the taluk board; and

[16th March 1926]

(d) whether a list containing the names of the elected and nominated members to this union board together with their caste or community to which they belong will be called for and placed on the Council table?

A.—(a) The answer is in the affirmative.

(b) A Pillai (Ahamudaiya) was appointed to one of the nominated seats. It is reported that he had not been defeated in an election. Only four of the elected members belonged to the Ahamudaiya community and not five as stated by the hon. Member. The second nominated seat on the union board was filled by a member of the Melagara (drummer) community.

(c) The answer is in the affirmative.

(d) A list ^a is laid on the table.

Mr. R. VEERIAN:—"With reference to the answer to clause (c), may I know the reasons for the refusal of the President to nominate these gentlemen belonging to the minority communities?"

The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL:—"The power of nomination is vested in the president and he must have used his discretion in exercising that power."

Mr. R. VEERIAN:—"May I know whether the Government have cancelled any such illegal nominations before?"

The hon. the PRESIDENT:—"Illegal nominations?"

Mr. R. VEERIAN:—"Nominations made contrary to the spirit of the law."

The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL:—"The question whether the Government can interfere in such cases is not free from doubt."

Mr. R. VEERIAN:—"Sir, in spite of the fact that there are four members of the Ahamudaiya community one more has been nominated. May I know the reason why the spirit of the law has been violated by the appointing authority?"

The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL:—"I have already said that the power of nomination is vested in the president and it is expected that he exercises his power reasonably."

Mr. R. VEERIAN:—"May I know, Sir, whether in nominating these members the total population of each community is taken into consideration and may I know what is the population of the Muhammadan, Depressed classes and the Ahamudaiya communities respectively?"

The hon. the PRESIDENT:—"That is a subject for another separate question."

Representation of the depressed classes in the District Board, Nellore, and in the taluk and union boards under its jurisdiction.

* 1561 Q.—Mr. R. VEERIAN: Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) the name of the member of the depressed classes nominated to represent the said classes in each of the taluk boards of the Nellore district;

[16th March 1926]

(b) the name of the member of the depressed classes nominated to represent the said classes in each of the union boards;

(c) the name of the member of the depressed classes nominated to represent the said classes in the Nellore District Board; and

(d) if the Government have no information with reference to all clauses, whether they will be pleased to call for the information?

Name of member of the depressed classes.

A.—(a)—

(1) Atmakur Taluk Board	..	..	M.R.Ry. D. Narasayya Garu.
(2) Gudur	..	..	Navuluru Penchalu Garu.
(3) Kandukur	..	..	Dasari Adivayya Garu.
(4) Kanigiri	..	..	Koilkuntla Narasayya Garu.
(5) Kavalu	..	..	Chilli Obayya Garu.
(6) Nellore	..	..	V. Penchalu Garu.
(7) Venkatagiri	..	..	Velturi Viraswami Garu.

(b)—

(1) Atmakur Union Board	..	..	Nil.
(2) Kaluvoy	..	..	M.R.Ry. D. Narasayya Garu.
(3) Vinjamur	..	..	Nil.
(4) Gudur	..	..	M.R.Ry. P. Venkata Subbayya Garu.
(5) Kandukur	..	..	Nil.
(6) Kanigiri	..	..	M.R.Ry. T. Guravayya Garu.
(7) Kavalu	..	..	Nil.
(8) Allur	..	..	Mr. E. Peter.
(9) Buchireddipalem Union Board	..	..	Nil.
(10) Kovur	..	..	Nil.
(11) Venkatagiri	..	..	Nil.
(12) Nayudupet	..	..	Nil.
(13) Sulurpet	..	..	Nil.

The Reverend P. Abraham has been nominated to represent the depressed classes on the Kandukur Union Board.

(c)—

Nellore District Board M.R.Ry. Dasari Adivayya Garu.

Mr. R. VEERIAN:—"With reference to the answer to clause (b) I find that there are no members of the depressed classes on several of the union boards. May I know whether the Government have taken any steps in the matter?"

The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL:—"Sir, the Government have issued circulars to the presidents of the district boards and of the taluk boards to see that due regard is paid to the representation of the unrepresented communities when they nominate members of the taluk boards and the union boards."

Mr. R. VEERIAN:—"May I know, Sir, whether the Government cannot do anything effectively in this matter unless the Act is suitably amended?"

The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL:—"That question is under consideration."

Nominations to the Nidamangalam Union Board.

* 1562 Q.—Mr. R. VEERIAN: Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state why no member of the depressed classes or of the Muhammadan community has been nominated to the Nidamangalam Union Board, Tanjore district?

[16th March 1926]

A.—No member of the depressed classes was nominated to the union board as in the opinion of the President, Taluk Board, there was no one suitable for nomination. As the Muhammadans in the village are divided into factions from which the union board itself is not free, the President, Taluk Board, decided to defer the nomination of a Muhammadan, until the next vacancy occurs which will be in June 1st, 1926.

Public Health.

Vaccination of Adi-Dravida children in Ambattur.

* 1563 Q.—Mr. R. VEERIAN: Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) why a few months back a vaccinator asked the teacher in charge of the Adi-Dravida school, numbering about sixty pupils in Ambattur cheri, Saidapet taluk, Chingleput district, to send to one of the pandals of the house in the caste quarter at Ambattur, where there are only about fifteen castemen houses, for vaccination instead of vaccinating the Adi-Dravida children in the Adi-Dravida school premises itself; and

(b) whether there is any rule relating to vaccination to the effect that children should go to the places fixed by the vaccinator?

A.—(a) The Government have no information on the subject.

(b) Under the instructions issued by the Government for the working of vaccination in non-municipal areas, the place at which vaccination is to be done is fixed by the vaccinator. It is usually the village chavadi or some other public building in the village. Children of one village should not be required to be taken to another for the purpose of vaccination.

Village Panchayats.

Sanctioning of the taxes of Therkupatti Village Panchayat by the Registrar of Village Panchayats.

* 1564 Q.—Mr. Chavadi K. SUBRAHMANYA PILLAI: Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state whether it is a fact that certain taxes proposed by the President of the Therkupatti Village Panchayat, Tinnevely taluk, and not recommended by the President of the Taluk Board, Tinnevely, have been sanctioned by the Registrar of Village Panchayats?

A.—The answer is in the negative.

Grant to village panchayats.

* 1565 Q.—Mr. A. CHIDAMBARA NADAR: Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether any circular has been sent by the Registrar-General that a grant of Rs. 150 will be given to each panchayat; and

(b) how many panchayats have received the grant?

[16th March 1926]

A.—(a) A circular was sent by the Registrar-General of Panchayats to all village panchayats to the effect that a grant not exceeding Rs. 200 for starting a new library and a grant not exceeding Rs. 100 for the improvement of an existing library would be made to any village panchayat willing to provide an equal amount from its own funds. No other circular has been issued.

(b) Library grants have so far been distributed to 96 village panchayats.

Constitution of Districts.

Selection of capital for West Godavari district.

* 1566 Q.—MR. P. SAGARAM : Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government have received the views of the members of the Legislative Council belonging to the West Godavari district on the selection of its capital and if so, what they are ; and

(b) whether they have received a monster petition praying that Nidadavole may be fixed as the capital ?

A.—(a) One member belonging to the West Godavari district has communicated his views in writing to Government on the question of the location of the headquarters. His opinion is that Nidadavole should be selected as the headquarters of the West Godavari district. At the meeting of the Legislative Council held on 25th August 1925 two members urged that Ellore should be made the headquarters of the district.

(b) A petition signed by certain inhabitants of West Godavari has been received by Government.

Deputy Collectors.

Control over Deputy Collectors.

* 1567 Q.—THE RAJA OF RAMNAD : Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that the control over the Deputy Collectors hitherto exercised by the Revenue Secretary in the Secretariat has been transferred to the Board of Revenue ;

(b) whether this question of transferring the control was considered previously by the Government on more than one occasion and rejected ; and

(c) what are the reasons for rejection on earlier occasions and adoption now ?

A.—(a) Control over Deputy Collectors has at no time vested in the Revenue Secretary nor does it now vest in the Board of Revenue to any greater extent than it always has done.

(b) & (c) Please see answer to clause (a).

THE RAJA OF RAMNAD :—" Sir, presumably the hon. the Revenue Member has given a different meaning to the word, 'control' from the one that I intended. May I now ask him whether it is not a fact that there was a transfer of powers regarding appointment, postings and so forth from the Secretariat to the Board of Revenue ? "

[16th March 1926]

THE hon. MR. N. E. MARJORIBANKS :—" I have already answered that question in this House on a previous occasion."

THE RAJA OF RAMNAD :—" May I ask him whether in that answer he has given the reasons ? "

THE hon. MR. N. E. MARJORIBANKS :—" I shall refer him to that answer, Sir."

Land Revenue.

Levy of tax on trees in backyards in Nannilam taluk.

* 1568 Q.—MR. S. MUTTAYYA MUDALIYAR : Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that in the Nannilam taluk, Tanjore district, tax on bamboo clusters and other trees in backyards have been levied at one rupee a cluster in fasli 1334, contrary to the provisions of Standing Order 18 ; and

(b) whether the Government will lay on the table of the House all Government Orders and Proceedings of the Board of Revenue connected with the cultivation of backyards and levy of assessment thereon ?

A.—(a) The Government are not aware that a charge for each bamboo cluster has been levied in Nannilam taluk. All cultivation of backyards except by flowers, vegetables and fruit is liable to assessment, at the highest dry rate of the village, subject to a minimum charge of one rupee.

(b) The hon. Member is referred to paragraph 4 of Board's Standing Order No. 21 which embodies the Government Orders and Proceedings of the Board of Revenue on the subject.

Criminal Justice.

Prohibition of the Arya Samajists from entering the Kalpathi Agraharam during the Car festival.

* 1569 Q.—MR. R. VEERIAN : Will the hon. the Law Member and the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that the Government have cancelled the order of Mr J. A. Thorne, I.C.S., Collector of Malabar district, and thus prevented the Arya Samajists from entering into the Kalpathi Agraharam during the three days of the recent Car festival ;

(b) the names of the persons belonging to the depressed classes against whom the prohibitory order was issued under section 144, with a view to prevent them from passing through the Kalpathi Agraharam ;

(c) whether any prohibitory order was issued against any of the Brahman leaders remaining in the Kalpathi Agraharam ;

(d) who assaulted or caused provocation to the Ezhuvu Arya Samajists when they were first passing through the Kalpathi Agraharam at the beginning of this month in a lawful manner ;

(e) whether the Brahmins of Kalpathi have already established their rights, or proved in the court of law that the Kalpathi Agraharam road or pathway is intended for their use only, and that the Depressed classes cannot establish any right of entry ; and

[16th March 1926]

(f) whether the Government will be pleased to lay on the Council table all the correspondence that took place between the Subdivisional Magistrate and the Pandit Rishi Ram and Swami Sraddhanandji?

4.—(a) No.

(b) The order was not directed against individual persons, but against Ezhuvans, Thiyyans, Panans, Cherumas, Parayas, Nayadis, and converts to the Arya Samajam from these classes.

(c) No.

(d) The Stationary Sub-Magistrate, Palghat, convicted six persons under section 160, Indian Penal Code, on a charge of committing affray on 31st October 1925 in the Kalpathi Agraharam and sentenced each of the accused to pay a fine of Rs. 5. Three of the accused were Brahmans and three Arya-samajists. The opinion of the Sub-Magistrate was that the parties elected to fight, though, either of them, had they wished, could have avoided a collision. The decision of the Sub-Magistrate was upheld on appeal by the Subdivisional Magistrate.

(e) So far as the Government are aware neither party has established its claims in a civil court. The situation in this respect has not changed since the issue of G.O. No. 37, Public, dated the 9th January 1925.

(f) The correspondence * between Pandit Rishi Ram and the Subdivisional Magistrate is placed on the table. There was no correspondence between Swami Shraddhananda and the Subdivisional Magistrate.

Mr. R. VEERIAN :—"With reference to the answer to clause (b) may I know whether this prohibitory order under section 144 applies in the case of all the depressed class members serving under Government?"

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—"It is a matter of construction of the order, Sir. It seems to me that if the question is to be raised definitely, I should like to ask for notice of the question."

Mr. R. VEERIAN :—"May I know whether any constable or inspector belonging to the depressed classes was on duty in connexion with the Kalpathi car festival last year?"

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—"Not that I am aware of."

Issue of order under section 144, Criminal Procedure Code, on the Ezhuv community.

* 1570 Q.—Diwan Bahadur M. KRISHNAN NAYAR: Will the hon. the Law Member and the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) why the order under section 144, Criminal Procedure Code, was issued by the Subdivisional Magistrate of Palghat, warning and enjoining members of the Ezhuv community and some others not to enter the streets of the Brahman Agraharams of, in and around Kalpathi in Palghat during the car festival from the 13th to 16th November 1925, both days inclusive;

[16th March 1926]

(b) whether there was any and, if so, what communication between the district authorities of Malabar and the Government regarding this matter before the order under section 144 was issued;

(c) whether the district authorities reported to the Government that there would be a breach of the peace if the order under section 144 was not issued;

(d) whether the Government directed the local authorities to issue the order under section 144;

(e) what the reasons were which induced the Government to direct the local authorities to issue the order under section 144; and

(f) whether the Government have any intention of departing from the policy laid down in G.O. No. 2660, L. & M., dated 25th September 1924?

4.—(a) The order issued by the Subdivisional Magistrate * is placed on the table. It contains the Magistrate's reasons for issuing it.

(b) The attention of the hon. Member is invited to the answer given to clause (b) of question No. 1170 asked at the meeting of the Legislative Council on the 18th December 1925.

(c) No; it was not necessary for the district authorities to do so.

(d) No.

(e) The question does not arise.

(f) No.

Diwan Bahadur M. KRISHNAN NAYAR :—"Sir, with reference to the time taken to answer this question, may I again draw the attention of the hon. the Law Member and other Members of the Government to the undue delay taken in answering this question? The question was sent by your office to the Government department concerned on the 12th December 1925 and the answer was received in your office only on the 27th February 1926, i.e., after a period of nearly 2½ months. The Kalpathi affair has now become so notorious that not much of investigation is necessary for giving the answer. The answer is given now when the matter has become very stale. I would request the hon. Members of the Government to be good enough to answer the questions without undue delay."

Mr. R. VEERIAN :—"Sir, with reference to the answer to clause (b), may I know whether there is any likelihood of a prohibitory order being passed every year when there is a car festival?"

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—"That is a hypothetical question."

Motor Vehicles Act.

Motor accidents in the City of Madras.

* 1571 Q.—Mr. K. RAOCHANDRA BALLAL: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(a) what is the number of accidents caused by motor vehicles in the City of Madras for the last three years extending up to date;

[16th March 1926]

- (b) how many of such accidents have proved fatal ;
 (c) how the persons that caused the accidents have been dealt with ;
 (d) what is the sanctioned speed for taxi-cars in the Madras City ; and
 (e) whether the Government propose to order a reduction in the speed with a view to avoiding accidents as far as possible ?

A.—(a), (b) & (c) The statistics are subjoined—

Year.	Total number of accidents caused by motor vehicles.	Of the number shown in column (2) number that proved fatal.	Number of cases treated as mere accidents.	Number of cases dropped for want of evidence.	Number of cases ending in conviction.	Number of cases acquitted.	Number of cases withdrawn.	Number of cases pending trial.
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)
1924 ..	258	12	84	64	96	12	2	..
1925 ..	409	23	136	114	84	21	23	31

There were 21 *fatal* accidents caused by motor vehicles in 1923. Statistics regarding the *total* number of accidents during that year are not available.

- (d) There is no speed limit prescribed for *taxi-cabs*. As regards motor buses a speed limit of 20 miles per hour has been prescribed.

(e) No.

Mr. D. MANJAYYA HEGGADE:—"With reference to the answer to clause (e), may I know whether the Government are going to put a stop to these accidents ?"

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR:—"The whole question of traffic regulation is being reviewed."

Police.

Regulation of traffic in Tuticorin during His Excellency the Governor's visit.

* 1572 Q.—Mr. V. PANTULU AYYAR: With reference to the answer given to my question No. 1175 put at the meeting of the Council held on 18th December 1925 regarding 'Regulation of traffic in Tuticorin on the day of the visit of His Excellency the Governor', will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state whether the necessity to 'issue definite instructions about the regulation of traffic on such occasions' has been finally considered and if so, with what result ?

A.—The Government do not consider it necessary to issue any such general instructions.

[16th March 1926]

UNSTARRED QUESTIONS.

Co-operative Societies.

Referring some arbitration cases of rural Credit Societies in Rasipuram taluk to one Mr. Chinniah Pillai.

1573 Q.—Mr. T. ADINARAYANA CHETTIYAR: Will the hon. the Minister for Development be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that the Deputy Registrar of Co-operative Societies, Vellore, has referred certain arbitration cases of certain rural credit societies in Rasipuram taluk of the Salem district to Mr. T. M. Chinniah Pillai, Vakil, Salem, for disposal ;

(b) whether the usual practice in such cases is to refer them to one of the members of the governing body of the local Co-operative Union for disposal or to the Honorary Assistant Registrar of that area ;

(c) what the special reasons were which made the Deputy Registrar, Vellore, to transfer the arbitration references of one Co-operative Union to a resident of another and distant union area ;

(d) whether it is a fact that such conduct on the part of the Deputy Registrar involves the Rural Co-operative Society in unnecessary and heavy travelling expenses ;

(e) whether it is a fact that as a result of referring such cases being referred to a distant place for inquiry the defendants oftentimes are too poor to travel to those distant places and thus allow the claims against themselves to be decided *ex parte* ; and

(f) whether Government propose to allow this practice to continue ?

A.—(a) No.

(b) to (f) Do not arise.

Fisheries.

Price of salt sold in fish-curing yards.

1574 Q.—Mr. J. A. SALDANHA: Will the hon. the Minister for Development be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government have received any petitions from the fisher-folk protesting against the enhancement of the price of salt sold in the fish-curing yards from 10 annas to one rupee and four annas per maund ; and if so what action has been taken to reduce the price to the old rate ;

(b) what is the net average expenditure per annum incurred by Government on account of the maintenance of these yards (i) when they were under the control of the Salt department, and (ii) after they were transferred to the Fisheries department ;

(c) whether it is a fact that the Government were obliged to open the fish-curing yards to save the fish-curing industry from utter ruin on account of the prohibitive price of salt as a result of the imposition of the salt tax ;

(d) whether it is a fact that till recently all the charges of maintaining these yards have been borne by the Salt department ; and

(e) as the salt revenue goes to the treasury of the Imperial Government, whether the Local Government have to bear all charges that are incidental to the imposition of the salt tax ?

A.—(a) Yes. The Government do not propose to reduce the price until after further experience has been gained of the working of the yards. The financial results of the working in 1924-25 do not justify any reduction.

[16th March 1926]

- (b) (i) The net average expenditure per year during the three years preceding the date on which the yards were transferred to the control of the Director of Fisheries, viz., 31st March 1924, was Rs. 1.39 lakhs.
- (ii) During the year 1924-25 the working of the yards by the Fisheries department resulted in a loss of Rs. 6,765-11-5.
- (c) Fish-curing yards were first opened with a view to supply salt for curing operations at a reduced price and thus relieve the curers of the burden of the salt tax.
- (d) No; a portion was met from the provincial revenues.
- (e) The question is not clear. No duty is levied on salt issued to curers.

Public Works.

Reconstruction of bridges washed away in 1924.

1575 Q.—Mr. J. A. SALDANHA: Will the hon. the Minister for Education be pleased to state—

(a) whether during the heavy rains of 1924 two of the bridges on the only road connecting Coorg with the important towns of Tellicherry and Cannanore were washed away;

(b) whether it is a fact that for only about four months in a year the rivers covered by these bridges can be crossed over by means of temporary causeways and that during the rest of the year passengers and goods have to be transhipped across the rivers;

(c) whether the bridges which have been washed away had been built by the Madras Government;

(d) what the reasons are for the delay in replacing the bridges; and

(e) what steps Government have taken or propose to take for replacing the bridges?

A.—(a) Yes.

(b) It depends on the rain but the hon. Member's suggestion is more or less correct.

(c) The Kuttupuzha bridge was constructed by the Malabar District Board. The Government are not sure whether the District Board or the Public Works Department constructed the Iritti bridge in the first instance.

(d) The preparation of plans and estimates and the provision of funds.

(e) Approximate estimates have been prepared and it is proposed to provide money to enable the reconstruction of the bridges to be begun next year.

Local Boards and Municipal Councils.

List of members of the local boards in Tinnevely and Ramnad districts.

1576 Q.—Rao Bahadur CRUZ FERNANDEZ: Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to call for and place on the Council table a list of elected and nominated members of the various union boards taluk boards and district boards in the districts of Tinnevely and Ramnad castewar?

[16th March 1926]

A.—The required lists have been prepared and have been placed in the Council Library.

Meetings of District and Taluk Boards in South Kanara.

1577 Q.—Mr. J. A. SALDANHA: Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) what the language used at the meetings of the District and Taluk Boards in South Kanara is;

(b) whether the proceedings are recorded in the official vernacular of the district;

(c) whether the proceedings are published in the official vernacular of the district in the District Official Gazette; and

(d) what the practice is as to points in (a), (b) and (c) in the neighbouring districts of Malabar and Coimbatore?

A.—(a) to (d) The Government have no information.

II

[Note.—An asterisk (*) at the commencement of a speech indicates revision by the Member.]

WALK-OUT OF THE SWARAJISTS, ETC.

* Rao Bahadur C. V. S. NARASIMHA RAJU:—"Sir, I am obliged to you for allowing me an opportunity to make a statement on behalf of the Congress Party on whose behalf I have the honour to speak here to-day. The House must be aware of the resolutions passed by the Indian National Congress at Cawnpore in December last and of the instructions issued by the All-India Congress Committee in pursuance thereof from Delhi on the 7th instant. It is now my duty, Sir, to state on behalf of not merely the Swarajists to whom the said instructions constitute a mandate but also on behalf of the rest of us, Congressmen, who have wholly accepted the policy and the programme laid down by the Congress in this behalf that we do not propose any longer to remain and work in the present legislatures as heretofore. The reasons that have induced all of us to take this step have been explained in clear and unambiguous terms by Pandit Motilal Nehru in his speech in the Legislative Assembly and it is not my purpose to weary the House by attempting to reproduce that historic announcement.

"It is, however, necessary for me on this occasion to say a few words on the attitude of the Madras Government in particular, that has abundantly justified this step. The policy adopted by this Government in both its halves towards not merely the National demand but also towards every attempt made by us to take a step forward in the realization of responsible Government must be well within the recollection of all. The Government has managed to impose additional taxation over and above the heavy taxes of the Central Government in the province to the tune of many lakhs and has moreover during the past two years obtained about 183 lakhs of remission in provincial contributions, and the only result to the people out of all this money squeezed from the tax-payers is an increase in the already bloated establishments of the services and increased opportunities of patronage which have been grossly abused. This Government has steadily resisted every attempt made by the representatives of the people

[Mr. C. V. S. Narasimha Raju] [16th March 1926]

to have legislation introduced in order to place the land revenue policy of the Government on the just and equitable basis of a permanent settlement or to give control to this Council over land revenue settlement and resettlements. I need not mention the manner and the method adopted by the Government regarding the Irrigation Bill and the Malabar Tenancy Bill. This Government has steadily refused to take steps to carry out the notoriously overdue reform of the separation of the executive from the judicial functions in this province, notwithstanding the repeated resolutions passed in this House. This Government has also defeated by dilatory and obstructive methods the proposals repeatedly made in this House for getting rid of the immoral excise revenue of this province and to introduce a policy of total prohibition and this Government has also steadily resisted and frustrated every attempt made to place Local Self-Government and its administration of this province on a pure, sound and truly self-governing basis. The working of the provisions of the Reforms Act and of the rules made thereunder have been no less reactionary. I believe, Sir, that this province will claim the first place among all the provincial Governments in India in the number of grants restored under the certifying powers of the Act. (Mr. S. Satyamurti: hear, hear.) Sir, the country knows that when the Indian Government launched its policy of unparalleled repression in 1921 and put the best of our patriots and political leaders into jails, the Madras Government was not only not behind the other Governments, but it had the unique satisfaction of having a Ministry that was whole heartedly seconding its acts of ruthless repression and constituted indeed an integral part of the very happy family. The leaders of the Ministerial Party then openly gloried in the ill-treatment of political offenders and vied with each other in their support of the bureaucracy. The unity and co-operation of the two diarchic halves have always expressed themselves in measures calculated to injure the ryots or the labourers and the Ministerialists took political revenge on the Tanjore district by opposing and defeating the efforts of its representatives to obtain even a small amelioration in the ruinous enhancements of the land assessments imposed on the unfortunate agriculturists of that district. If this, Sir, is the way that diarchy has succeeded, is it to be wondered at, Sir, that we, as Congressmen, are determined that we shall no longer help to perpetuate such a state of things and that we shall use every legitimate means in our power to carry the programme of the Congress?

"I do not want to multiply instances, but I have referred to a few to show how we have fared under the so-called Reform-regime. The Madras Government have claimed that diarchy was worked very successfully in this province, but even this, Lord Birkenhead was not prepared to accept at its face value because in his oft-quoted statement in the House of Lords last year he used very cautious words indeed. He said, 'the Madras Government say that they have worked diarchy successfully.' It is for the Madras Government to judge how far this left-handed compliment will help them.

"One word, Sir, as to the position of those of us who are not Swarajists and who have now decided to abide by the Congress mandate and programme. We are convinced and we sincerely believe that the Indian National Congress continues to represent the National will and is the truest representative of our National demands and our aspirations. It has been

16th March 1926] [Mr. C. V. S. Narasimha Raju]

said, Sir, that in taking the step we are about to take to-day we are acting against the wishes of the constituencies that have sent us here. We feel, Sir, on the other hand, that far from acting against the wishes or instructions of our constituencies we would be failing in our duty to the constituencies if we did not on their behalf carry out in this House the mandates of the Congress. Ever since the Congress took upon itself last year to guide and direct the work in connexion with the Central and Provincial Legislatures, there has been abundant evidence in this province in particular that the electorates stand firmly and loyally by the Congress. The two recent by-elections which have taken place since the Cawnpore programme was laid down, in the South Kanara and North Arcot districts, tell a tale which it is impossible for any true lover of the country to ignore or overlook. We demand, Sir, in the circumstances that the verdict of the country should be obtained in this respect by a general election in this province at as early a date as possible, and we have therefore decided that until such a general election takes place we shall not be justified in being here and carrying on any work contrary to the instructions of the Congress. We do not now vacate our seats. In the event of any special or unforeseen circumstances, we will come to the Council and take part in the proceedings with the permission of the special committee of the Congress. We are convinced that in this we represent and carry out the wishes of our constituencies in every respect.

"With these words, Sir, I desire to state that I propose to withdraw from the House and I call upon my Friends on this side of the House to follow me."

As the Leader of the Opposition left the Council Chamber, the under-mentioned Members belonging to the Nationalist and Swarajya Parties followed him:—

1. Rao Bahadur T. A. Ramalinga Chettiyar.
2. Mr. P. Siva Rao.
3. " C. Gopala Menon.
4. " K. Koti Reddi.
5. " S. Muttayya Mudaliyar.
6. " P. Peddiraju.
7. " M. R. Seturatham Ayyar.
8. " M. Sitayya.
9. " P. C. Venkatapati Razu.
10. " S. Satyamurti.
11. " T. Adinarayana Chettiyar.
12. " P. Anjaneyulu.
13. " C. Maruthavanam Pillai.
14. " V. Pantulu Ayyar.
15. " G. Rameswara Rao.
16. Rao Bahadur A. S. Krishna Rao Pantulu.
17. Sriman Sasibhushan Rath Mahasayo.
18. Mr. Sami Venkatachalam Chettiyar.
19. " R. Srinivasa Ayyangar.
20. " C. V. Venkataramana Ayyangar.
21. " C. Venkatarangam Nayudu.
22. " Naganna Hegde.
23. " B. Venkataratnam.

[16th March 1926]

* **MR. A. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR** :—"With your permission, Sir, I wish to make a statement, on behalf of those who are on this side of the House, to justify our remaining in the Council and to also explain our position with regard to the statement that has been so laboriously read out by the hon. the Leader of the Opposition. I had thought that we were not going to have this morning, controversial politics of any kind introduced with reference to the walk-out motion which, we know, was contemplated by my Friends opposite. But I regret to notice, contrary to what took place elsewhere, instead of limiting the statement to the exigencies and circumstances of the case and instead of limiting it to the mandate which is now going to be observed by some Members of the Opposition, the hon. the Leader of the Opposition has gone far out of the way to make statements which cannot be justified by the facts of the case by any one who has followed the proceedings of the Legislative Council. We, Sir, on this side of the House, are no wit behind any other section of the House or any one outside, in the country, in our desire to see that in the provinces full provincial autonomy is attained at as early a time as possible. In fact, our position has been for the last three years, and is that at least Madras is ripe for full provincial autonomy. We think that such a reform is overdue for this province. If, in spite of that, we have decided not to adopt those methods which have been recently advocated—and I see unfortunately followed by some Members of the Opposition to-day—it is because we are convinced that our attitude, our line of programme, our methods of work will bring in and usher in that era of reform to which all of us are so keenly turning our attention. We feel on behalf of the constituencies which we represent as much as some of the hon. Members opposite. Those who have studied the working of constitutions elsewhere will feel that in that line of work or that attitude lies the salvation of the country. It lies in trying to work the reform scheme, to give battle to those who are in privileged position at every stage possible and to try and wrest more and more power from them in the best methods and ways possible and by legitimate and constitutional means. It is to enforce that mandate of our constituencies which we consider as a higher mandate than the mandate of any ad hoc body which may be praised by the powers that be and it is with reference to that mandate that we have decided to stay on in this Council and continue our rather difficult task. Mr. President, the hon. the Leader of the Opposition has quoted a list of acts of commission and omission by the Ministry. I have defended, if defence was indeed necessary; and I have justified, if justification was indeed called for, the acts and measures of the Ministry during the last six years; and my hon. Friends—abler, more eloquent and more capable of defending these things—have done so. I do not want to go into those details except to say on behalf of every one who is on this side of the House, that there is no vestige of truth—I use the mildest parliamentary word I can think of—and that the hon. the Leader of the Opposition has been guilty of terminological inexactitudes in the statement that he has so laboriously made with reference to the actions of my party or of the Ministry. Nothing can be farther from the truth than the statement, for instance, that this province has been more reactionary than other provinces, that this province has put a larger number of political prisoners in jail and that the Ministry has accepted that policy. Any one who witnessed the events of the year 1921-22 and any one who knew

[16th March 1926] [Mr. A. Ramaswami Mudaliyar]

that the Criminal Law Amendment Act was not extended to this province will see that those are statements made not indeed on facts but on the dire necessity to justify the attitude that has been taken at present. Mr. President, Sir, I have only one word more to say. I do not believe in secession; those who sit on this side of the House do not believe in secession. They have the look of being dictated by a policy of hopelessness; I do not join in that attitude or frame of mind. They have the appearance of being dictated by a loss of temper. I will not, representing the constituencies and representing the vast electorate, lose my temper on the floor of the House however provocative the occasion may be. I rather believe in that silent reserve of dignity, in that patience that is the outcome of wisdom. It is in that spirit that we, on this side of the House, shall continue to work the constitutional reforms believing that in that way lies the salvation of the country. Hitherto, Mr. President, our work has been made a little difficult. Part of the time—in fact the greater part of the time—we have been engaged in defending the innumerable attacks that have been levelled only on the Transferred half. There is a silver lining in every cloud and without meaning anything disrespectful or provocative to my hon. Friends opposite, I do venture to think that hereafter during the term of the Legislative Council that is open to us, on this side of the House, we shall have the opportunity, the occasion and the freedom to take greater interest and to partake more in discussion of those subjects which we feel are hampering the progress of the country.

"I do not wish to say more, except that we feel keenly on behalf of our constituencies, on behalf of those to whom we have made electoral promises by which we feel we are bound indeed till the next general election comes and we have consulted the interests of the country and the interests of progress and of political constitutionalism. We stay on in spite of the temptation to join those who have walked out. In conclusion, I wish to say that we have decided to stay on in the firm belief that our attitude and our action will be marked as the action of those who have the interests of the country at heart and of those who sincerely wish for the cause of progress of this country."

Sir K. Venkataraddi Nayudu rose to speak.

The hon. the **PRESIDENT** :—"I do not think we will have a debate on this question. The Leader of the Opposition made a statement while he and his party were leaving the Council and on behalf of those who are staying to take part in the business of the House, a statement has been made. I think we should be satisfied with those two statements. I do not suppose the Members of the Treasury Bench have to say anything."

Rai Badadur T. M. **NARASIMHACHARLU** :—"I wish to say a few words on behalf of the Independent Members of the House."

* **MR. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR** :—"Sir, I had already asked for your permission to make a statement as to why I did not intend to go out with my hon. Friends who were for leaving the Council. Sir, the hon. the Leader of the Opposition has explained in detail the reasons for the grave dissatisfaction that exists in the country at the policy pursued by the Government. I do not want to go over the same ground once again. With those sentiments, I and those who continue to be with me here entirely agree. But, Sir, I am one of those who belong to the school of thought which does not believe in

[Mr. A. Ranganatha Mudaliyar] [16th March 1926]

imposing on ourselves self-denying ordinances of the sort described by the hon. the Leader of the Opposition. I do intend to stick on to my position here and to give all the fight I can to the benches on the opposite side and perhaps at times more to the one than to the other. My hon. Friend, Mr. Ramaswami Mudaliyar, wanted to prescribe wholesome advice for the hon. the Leader of the Opposition, but he has himself departed from it and gone into party matters. One statement he made which I think is not quite fair. He said that the discussion in this House was always to attack the Transferred side rather than the Reserved side." If he and his party did not hitherto attack the Reserved side, they have only themselves to thank for it."

* Diwan Bahadur M. KRISHNAN NAYAR :—" I am afraid the hon. Member is just drifting to what is prohibited by you "

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" I am glad that Mr. Krishnan Nayar has intervened. If there is any special reason which Mr. Ranganatha Mudaliyar wishes to adduce for staying here, he may do so. But if he is going to deal with the controversial points raised by the hon. Member, Mr. Ramaswami Mudaliyar, the proceedings will degenerate into a debate."

* Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—" I have already told you, Sir, that I entirely shared the dissatisfaction which the hon. the Leader of the Opposition gave expression to in regard to the policy of the Government and by my sitting here it should not be understood that I endorse in any way the view that what has taken place hitherto in the country and has been done by the Government is satisfactory."

Rai Bahadur Sir K. VENKATAREDDI NAYUDU :—" May I say one word? It is not my desire to enter into any debate. But it has occurred to me that the performance which we have witnessed just now is not merely due to what has been apparent in the paper that has been read to you. There is something perhaps behind it, something connected with the electorates and the constituencies, and if you think, Sir, there is any such thing involved in that it would not be right "

* Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—" A point of order, Sir. The hon. Member, Sir Venkatareddi Nayudu, is pursuing the course of action which has been ruled out of order by you."

Rai Bahadur Sir K. VENKATAREDDI NAYUDU :—" He is judging before time. I do not mean to say that they have not got really at heart what they said but I think there is behind it another purpose."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" I do not think the hon. Member is justified in going into the reasons behind the statement made by the Leader of the Opposition. If he wants to adduce any reason why he is continuing to sit in the Council, I shall be glad to hear him, provided he adduces any new points not raised by Mr. Ramaswami Mudaliyar."

Rai Bahadur Sir K. VENKATAREDDI NAYUDU :—" We have learnt in Courts, Sir, that Judges will be very angry if we raise points already raised; and being a lawyer of about 25 years' standing, you may take it that I won't repeat arguments already advanced. I only wanted to say one thing, and that was with reference to the coming elections. I only say this that this performance of to-day was meant really as an election tactics."

h March 1926]

* Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—" Question."

Rai Bahadur Sir K. VENKATAREDDI NAYUDU :—" They are not doing any service to this country or to themselves by this performance. On the other hand, we want to tell them in this Council, so that the country may know, that this performance is really a great injury to the country inasmuch as it is putting back the clock of progress in this land. It has been said that the reforms have been reactionarily worked in this province. On the other hand, instances after instances are known to you, Sir, as the President of this House, and to other Members of this Council that if there is any one province which has worked the reforms in the spirit in which they were conceived and with a sense of responsibility that they should succeed, it is only this province. Now, to-day, this act on the part of the Members might perhaps work a mischief which was not calculated by the gentlemen who have just now walked out. Are they not doing an injury to the country? Are they not doing an injury to the further advance of reforms in this country by this act of theirs? I wanted to mention this here, Sir, because it has been said that once a falsehood gets ahead, it is very difficult for truth to overtake it. I think that these words of mine will reach the country. I have nothing to quarrel with them. In fact, I will be missing many of the Members on the other side, especially the Member for the University of Madras, because it is really he who very often gave me the fillip to speak in this House. Personally, I feel it is a great loss to lose these Members from this House; but if it is a matter of election tactics, they have miscalculated and the country will tell them what it is that they were expected to do."

Rai Bahadur T. M. NARASIMHACHARLU :—" Sir, I have to tell you, something of the attitude of the Independents of whom I have the honour to be a Member. There is absolutely no difference of opinion between the Independents and the Swarajists or even the Ministerialists as regards the goal to be attained by the Indians, namely, the attainment of swaraj. As regards that, there is no difference of opinion. Here I will not say whether I am going to agree or disagree with the sentiments expressed by the Swarajists and other Congressmen to-day in this House. Nor am I going to say anything against or in favour of the sentiments expressed by the Ministerialists. As I already said, the goal being the same, the difference between us, the Independents and the Swarajists, is as to the method to be pursued in the attainment of that object. We, the Independents, believe in the justice, in the uprightness and in the ultimate beneficence of the British Government. We believe that we have to work in co-operation with the Government and thereby to justify ourselves in getting at the goal that we all so earnestly desire for. At the same time, it is not our purpose to support the Government through thick and thin. You would have noticed, Sir, that on 90 out of 100 occasions, I have supported the Opposition and I had once the honour to sit along with the Opposition Members. Latterly, some difference of opinion arose as regards the method to be pursued in this House for the attainment of the object. One method was obstruction. I said 'No'. Another method was to adopt tactics somehow or other to thwart the Government. I said 'No'. I said that we, the Independents, are out for openness, for righting the Government wherever they are wrong, for supporting the Government when their measures are for the benefit of the people. We are

[Mr. T. M. Narasimhacharlu] [16th March 1926]

here to support the Ministry when their measures are beneficent to the people and to oppose the Ministry when their measures are opposed to the interests of the people. In that spirit, I have opposed several measures brought in by the Ministry in this House. You very well know it, Sir. In short, the difference between us, the Independents and the Swarajists, is a difference in method, the object to be attained being the same. That being so, they think, they honestly think, and perhaps rightly think, that by future non-co-operation with this Government, they could attain their ends sooner than we. We believe that it is not the right method to pursue. We shall rather attain it later than earlier, if we are sure that we are going to attain it. I am one, Sir, who is always hopeful, who always placed confidence in the British justice. There may be people who may not be willing to give us our due rights, but on the whole the temper of the British nation is sound. We still think and believe so, and in that hope, Sir, and in that confidence, I, as a Member of the Independents and representing the Independents here, say that we have chosen to stay here and work with them and work against them until we get our object."

Mr. C. Natesa Mudaliyar rose to speak.

The hon. the PRESIDENT:—"I think that we have had enough of these statements."

III

ELECTION OF A MEMBER TO THE COURT OF THE INDIAN INSTITUTE OF SCIENCE.

The hon. the PRESIDENT:—"With reference to Regulation No. 8 of the scheme for the administration and management of the properties and funds of the Indian Institute of Science in Notification No. 1-10 (T), dated the 12th February 1926, made under sections 5 and 7 of the Charitable Endowments Act, 1890, the Director of the Indian Institute of Science has requested me to inform him of the name of the nominee of the Legislative Council on the Court of that Institute. For this purpose, the Council will proceed to elect a Member, and I prescribe 3 p.m. to-day as the latest time at which nominations of candidates should be presented to the Secretary. If the number of nominated candidates exceeds one, an election will be held and ballot papers for election will be distributed to the Members at some convenient time to-morrow. The ballot papers, after being marked, should be deposited in the ballot box provided for the purpose before 5 p.m. to-morrow, when the counting of the votes will commence. The election will be by the ordinary method and not according to the method of the single transferable vote."

IV

ELECTION OF MEMBERS TO THE MADRAS AND SOUTHERN MAHRATTA RAILWAY ADVISORY COMMITTEE.

* The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR:—"Mr. President, Sir, I move that with reference to G.O. No. 55 Railway, this Council do recommend to Government to communicate to the Madras and Southern Mahratta Railway Company the names of two persons elected by this Council in accordance with the arrangements made in that behalf by the hon. the President to sit on the Advisory Committee of the said Railway on the 31st March 1926 when the term of office of the present Members of the Committee will expire."

16th March 1926]

The hon. Khan Babadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—"I second it."

The motion was put to the House and carried.

* The hon. the PRESIDENT:—"It now remains for me to lay down the method by which election is to be held. I would suggest that hon. Members hand in nominations to the Secretary before 3 p.m. to-day. If the number of nominated candidates exceeds two, ballot papers will be distributed to hon. Members at any convenient time to-morrow for the purpose of holding an election. The election will be by the ordinary method and not according to the method of single transferable vote. The ballot papers should be deposited in the ballot box provided for this purpose before 5 p.m. to-morrow when the counting of the votes will commence."

V

MOTIONS ON THE BUDGET FOR 1926-27.

* The hon. the PRESIDENT:—"Before taking up the motions on the Budget, I have to inform the House that the Local Government have, under section 72-D (3) of the Government of India Act, indicated in italics in the Budget Estimates for 1926-27 those items in regard to which they are not submitting proposals to the House. They are ordinarily called 'non-votable' items. Under sub-rule (2) of rule 29 of the Madras Legislative Council Rules, His Excellency the Governor has been pleased to fix one day as the maximum for the discussion of the motions on each of the following Demands, viz., Land Revenue—Demand I, Education (Transferred)—Demand XIX and Civil Works (Transferred)—Demand XXX; and half a day as the maximum for motions affecting each of the other demands. In working this allotment, I propose to treat a day ordinarily as equivalent to five hours and half a day as equivalent to two and a half hours. But that definition will not apply to the total of ten days allotted; they are to be taken as ten ordinary days of sitting of the House."

"Neither the Rules nor the Standing Orders prescribe any time-limit for speeches to be made at this stage. I have, however, following the precedents of previous years, resolved to fix ten minutes as the time-limit for an hon. Member who moves the omission or reduction of a grant or of an item of a grant and also ten minutes for the hon. Member of the Government who has to answer the motion. All other hon. Members will have five minutes each."

"Hon. Members will kindly remember that under rule 29 (3) it will be my duty at 5 p.m. on the 26th March to put every question necessary to dispose of all outstanding matters in connexion with the Demands for Grants. The 29th March 1926 will be the day for the presentation of Further Demands for Grants."

DEMAND I—LAND REVENUE.

* The hon. Mr. N. E. MARJORIBANKS:—"Mr. President, Sir, on the recommendation of His Excellency the Governor, I move

"that the Government be granted a sum not exceeding 252.29 lakhs under the head 'Land Revenue Department'."

[16th March 1926]

Rai Bahadur T. M. NARASIMHACHARLU:—"I move the following motion, viz.—

'that the allotment of Rs. 9,10,100 for pay of permanent establishments be reduced by Rs. 37,692.'

"My object is to urge the omission of the provision made for extra twelve tahsildars, one deputy tahsildar, two deputy surveyors, one revenue inspector and 38 peons. It will be found from page 40 of the Civil Budget Estimates that there were in the current year 12 tahsildars, 50 deputy surveyors, 1,066 revenue inspectors and 12 peons. In the coming year it is proposed to increase the strength by the number I have indicated in my motion. It will be remembered, Sir, that there was a resolution passed in this Council that the Land Records establishments should be abolished. Accordingly, the Government abolished it for some time, but subsequently they sought to reintroduce the establishment partially. With the present increase in the strength, the whole staff would be reintroduced. I cannot see how this strength is required for the efficient discharge of public duties. I wish also to know whether any insurmountable difficulty has been felt in working without this establishment, especially as they had got on for some time without it. I now find that the revenue officials of the districts have got much less work than they had before. Some years before they were discharging various duties relating to Local Self-Government, Excise and even Income-tax. All this work has been taken away out of their hands and I do not see any reason why this establishment, which was once removed, should be restored. I am inclined to think that this sort of tactics on the part of the Government to introduce a part of the establishment this year and the other part in the next is not creditable to them. And when once they come to know of the decision of this House, it is their duty to loyally follow it and not to evade it in this manner. I submit this is not one of the methods that commend themselves to me. And I therefore submit that the provision should be deleted. At the same time, I do not press for the omission of the entire provision. I would allow the provision to be retained in the current year, but I am against increasing the strength in the coming year. I therefore submit, Sir, that the Government will be graciously pleased to accept my motion, especially in view of the fact that there are not so many Members here on the Opposition side to give their support to my measure and that it will be found very easy for the Government to oppose the motion with success. If the Government win now, there is not much glory in their success. But if they yield there is much glory in doing so. And I therefore appeal to the Government not to increase the number in the coming year."

* Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR:—"I move

'that the allotment of Rs. 9,24,800 for pay of establishments be reduced by Rs. 101.'

"Sir, in giving notice of this motion I had in my mind a purpose more or less similar to that of my hon. Friend, the Member from Uddapah. As I have stated in the notice paper, it is to omit the provision for tahsildars if there is no well-considered scheme before the Government to carry out the Land Records work. I doubt in my own mind whether the Government have any very clear policy in regard to the Land Records administration of the province. Here is an endeavour made by the Government to reintroduce

[16th March 1926] [Mr. A. Ranganatha Mudaliyar]

the tahsildars who had been done away with at one time. I want to know what exactly is the policy they have of which this forms a part. Is it their idea to reintroduce the entire system as it once existed in this Presidency? Are they going to have the Land Record revenue inspectors separately working under these tahsildars? Are they going to reappoint the Land Records Superintendent and the Director of Land Records? I want to know what it is that is proposed to be done in regard to this matter. There will be only one Land Records tahsildar for a district. Do they really expect that this tahsildar would be able to attend to the work of seeing that all the survey marks are properly maintained? There are not going to be evidently separate Land Records revenue inspectors. In other words, the ordinary revenue inspectors will be expected to do the work in addition to their duties. If that is so, why cannot the ordinary tahsildars also attend to the maintenance of these survey marks? It is with this idea that I have tabled this motion."

* The hon. Mr. N. E. MARJORIBANKS:—"Mr. President, Sir, in the first place, I would like to assure the hon. Member who first moved that the Government are always willing to consider any question on its merits irrespective of whether the Council has carried or rejected it. I can assure the hon. Member personally that I attach great value to his criticisms. In this particular matter the original scheme for ensuring the proper upkeep of land records registers and maps was that there should be an officer for the whole Presidency, under him some officers for certain groups of districts and under them again a tahsildar for each district and revenue inspectors. I am in agreement with those who argued that that system as a permanent arrangement was misconceived and wrong, and was rightly done away with. But as the revenue system of this Presidency requires the making of constant changes in our registers and maps and as, if they are not made, the registers get out of date and it entails very considerable expenditure to revise them, it is the duty of the ordinary revenue staff to carry out the changes as they arise and as they are sanctioned. It is the business of the ordinary revenue inspector, the ordinary tahsildar and the ordinary divisional officer to do this work. But it is necessary in this country to have inspecting agencies to see that the work is done, not only that, but in some cases to see to the technical processes that have to be performed and to assist the ordinary staff in cases of particular difficulty. It is not intended in any way to reintroduce or create a separate department but it is only intended to give the Collectors in each district some agency which will enable them to get inspections done and to satisfy themselves that sufficient attention has been paid to the subject by the karnams and other revenue subordinates who have received the necessary technical training and also to place at their disposal some agency for doing the difficult cases which happen to be beyond the power of the ordinary inspectors and tahsildars. It is with that object that a scheme for attaching an extra tahsildar to each district was laid before the Finance Committee. That Committee approved of the scheme but, having regard to the financial state of the province, they suggested that only half should be introduced in that year while the other half should be added the next. It was no crafty design on the part of the Government in some way to conceal the scheme from the cognizance of the House. The Government have simply adopted the advice of the Finance Committee and put one-half of the provision in the Budget for the current year which the House was pleased to grant and to put the other half in the Budget for the next year."

[Mr. N. E. Marjoribanks] [16th March 1926]

"Then, Sir, the hon. Member who spoke next on the motion asked what was the ultimate object, what was the policy of the Government on this matter. It is to do away with the necessity for resurveys and additional surveys and to keep the records up to date and in agreement with the actual holding so as to enable us, if the House approves of the scheme when it is fully developed, to introduce some system whereby our revenue registers will become records of title instead of merely serving as the bases of statistical information and as revenue collection registers. That is the policy, and it is only by training the staff and enforcing the various rules and orders of the Revenue Department by constant supervision that we can hope to bring the records in such order that we can venture to ask this House to sanction or approve of any legislation in the direction of making a record of rights. That is a goal which some may consider to be very distant but which we are hopeful of reaching if we are allowed to adopt sufficiently efficient administrative arrangements to see that the work which is proposed to be done is really done. That is the object of having this staff now. The method of introducing it piecemeal was adopted at the instance of the Finance Committee. I hope that the House will be pleased to approve of it."

12 noon.

Rai Bahadur T. M. NARASIMHACHARLU:—"Will the Government be agreeable to the out which I propose in the Survey department? If this is allowed, I do not wish to press this motion."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT:—"The hon. Member cannot anticipate."

Rai Bahadur T. M. NARASIMHACHARLU:—"Very good, Sir. Then I press the motion."

* Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR:—"I want to know whether the hon. the Revenue Member really has faith in what he has stated. Does he expect that these tahsildars will do away with the necessity for resurveys and revision surveys? I am afraid, Sir, that he really does not believe very much in what he says."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT:—"Order, order. The hon. Member is not justified in saying that a Member of the Government does not believe in what he says."

* Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR:—"I was led to think so, Sir, from the tenor of the speech made by the hon. the Revenue Member. If I am wrong, I withdraw that expression. After all, these tahsildars cannot possibly undertake or satisfactorily discharge the work that is expected of them by the hon. the Revenue Member. If they cannot do it, then what is the use of proceeding with these appointments? The Government can wait and perhaps take one year more and prepare a scheme under which this work can be more satisfactorily attended to, and then come before the House for its approval of the scheme. I take strong objection, Sir, to this method of achieving their object by piecemeal introduction of items. At one time they come and ask for some tahsildars, and nobody knows what they are for; the House sanctions the expenditure; and next year they come again and ask for some more tahsildars, and so on."

* The hon. Mr. N. E. MARJORIBANKS:—"Sir, the hon. Member says that these officers are not going to do any work. But if all our village officers are properly trained and if our revenue inspectors are also well trained and

16th March 1926] [Mr. N. E. Marjoribanks]

supervise the work which the former are supposed to do, I do not see why we should not attain a much higher degree of accuracy than we have been able to attain so far. In the past, this mistake has always been made; one system was started and was worked for a year or two, and then another system was tried. Naturally there was little progress. We must in these matters follow a continuous policy. The system now under discussion has not been lightly devised. It was planned after very considerable discussion and examination, and very detailed rules have been issued on the subject, of which I shall be pleased to send the hon. Member a copy if he wishes, so that he may give me the benefit of his criticisms. He need have no doubt as to the earnestness of the Government in the matter. One hon. Member urges that the Revenue staff has little or nothing to do, the other hon. Member says that they cannot possibly do this record work. I do not see why they should not do this work efficiently; it is a matter of organization, supervision and training, and we hope, if in this matter a continuous policy and method is followed, that we will achieve the object we aim at. It is said that the number of tahsildars is arbitrarily fixed. It is not, because one tahsildar is provided for each major district in the Presidency, and a deputy tahsildar for the Nilgiris. The introduction of the scheme in halves in successive years, as I said before, was made at the instance of the Finance Committee and not at the instance of the Government."

* Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR:—"Finance Committee presided over by whom?"

* The hon. Mr. N. E. MARJORIBANKS:—"Not by me, Sir."

The motion of Mr. Narasimhacharlu was put and lost.

* Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR:—"My motion is covered by that of my hon. Friend, Sir, and so I do not press it to a division."

Rai Bahadur T. M. NARASIMHACHARLU:—"I move, Sir,

'that the allotment of Rs. 92,400 for Miscellaneous under "Supplies and Services—General" be reduced by Rs. 80,000.'

"If we look at page 41 of the Budget, Sir, it takes away one's breath to see the provision of Rs. 92,400, whereas in the revised estimate of the current year only Rs. 3,000 is put; the budget estimate for the current year was Rs. 4,000 and in the accounts of 1924-25 you find nothing. I tried my best to understand it. It may be my fault that I did not avail myself of the good services offered by the hon. the Finance Member to go to him to remove any difficulties. But while I had this constitutional way of removing my difficulties, I felt it difficult to go to him to his chambers to remove my difficulties. I have to remove my own difficulties without going to his chambers and talking to him *in camera*. Therefore, I cannot at all understand why a large provision of Rs. 92,400 has been made under this heading 'Miscellaneous'. I have some idea of 'Miscellaneous' in dealing with Local Self-Government. Miscellaneous includes many things, some good, some bad, some indifferent, some expressible and some non-expressible, and so on. So, I think this is a provision which ought to go."

* The hon. Mr. N. E. MARJORIBANKS:—"Mr. President, Sir, there are various lands in this Presidency which were in the occupation of the Military department, and when the Military department no longer required them,

[Mr. N. E. Marjoribanks] [16th March 1923]

the former practice was to hand them over to the Local Government which was at liberty to utilize them for public purposes. Since the Reforms, the Central departments have become separated from the Provincial departments, and the question was raised as to whether the value of such lands should not be credited to the Military department. The question was pending for a long time and was finally settled recently by the Secretary of State who laid down certain rules under which, in certain circumstances, the Local Government has to pay the value of the land which it takes over from the Military department when it wants that land for public purposes. Of the amount of this demand, some Rs. 59,000 represents the cost of such lands as we have already taken over and utilized subject to the settlement of the question referred to. We have therefore now to provide, in accordance with the decision in the matter, for paying that sum to the Army department. The other item is a sum of Rs. 30,000, which is provided for the payment of lands relinquished by railway companies in regard to which a similar principle applies, and we have to pay for those lands which they relinquished because they were not acquired at the cost of the Government but at the cost of the Central Government. That is the explanation of this provision of Rs. 92,400."

Rai Bahadur T. M. NARASIMACHARLU :—"Sir, I wish to know why we are bound to take the lands back either from the railway company or from the Military department. Are they really required by the Provincial Government either for giving them to the depressed classes or for some such beneficent purposes? Simply because the Military department says 'We do not want these lands', are we bound to take them back paying money for it? If they take the lands at first for a certain time and then return the lands to the Provincial Government, are we bound to pay for those lands back? If the Government really want these lands for our purposes, I can understand the meaning of it. But if we are to take back what is given to us, I must protest against such helplessness of the Government to the dictates of the railway company or even the Military department."

* The hon. Mr. N. E. MARJORIBANKS :—"I can assure the hon. Member, Sir, that we did not take the lands in the way he described. This provision refers only to such lands as were actually wanted for public purposes and were taken in past years subject to the settlement of the question of payment. I cannot give the hon. Member particulars of this matter which extended over five or six years. We are not bound to take the lands. If we do not want them, they may be sold to others. But if we want them, we must in certain circumstances pay for them."

Rai Bahadur T. M. NARASIMHACHARLU :—"What I say is this: This amount is proposed to be spent next year. But I understand the hon. Member to say that we have taken those lands for public purposes. If so, they should have come before the House for a supplementary grant or must have made a provision in the last year's budget, in anticipation of the taking over of the lands. Some such thing must have been done. I do not understand him when he says that he took these lands for public purposes and that we are going to pay for it next year. I do not really understand how it was that the Government took possession of those lands in anticipation of approval of this House."

* The hon. Mr. N. E. MARJORIBANKS :—"It was because we wanted those lands. We first contended that they should be handed over to the Local

16th March 1926] [Mr. N. E. Marjoribanks]

Government without payment, but the matter has been ruled against us, and the orders have just come, and so the required amount is put into the budget. There was no need to move for a supplementary grant, as the matter has been brought before the House now, by a provision in the budget."

Rai Bahadur T. M. NARASIMHACHARLU :—"May I know for what purposes the lands are required? That, I submit, is a reasonable question. I want to know why these lands were required, for whom, for what purposes. The hon. Member may answer the question seeing the reasonableness of it."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—"May I ask the hon. Member to put all his questions in one speech?"

Rai Bahadur T. M. NARASIMHACHARLU :—"But these questions arise out of the answers given, Sir. Let him give all the answers all at once. That is the difficulty." (Laughter.)

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—"The hon. Member has spoken about half a dozen times so far."

* The hon. Mr. N. E. MARJORIBANKS :—"As regards the lands taken from the Military department, I now learn that they were taken from that department to be sold to the Telephone Company, the receipts from which have been shown in another place in the budget, on the Revenue side."

Rai Bahadur T. M. NARASIMHACHARLU :—"So, these lands are taken for the benefit of the public. But there are items in the succeeding pages of the budget which may not be quite satisfactory. If we get a set-off for this in other items of the budget, I do not press my motion."

* The motion was by leave withdrawn.

* Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—"May I move the motion No. 12 in the agenda paper standing in the name of Mr. Peddiraju, Sir?"

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—"The hon. Member ought to be in his place. This is not like ordinary resolutions which are balloted for. No ballot is required for these motions and if Members send notice and are not present, they must take the consequences."

* Mr. K. PRABHAKARAN TAMPAN :—"Sir, I beg to move

'that the allotment of Rs. 13,48,000 for Charges of Administration be reduced by Rs. 100.'

"My object in moving this token motion is to suggest to the Government that coconut and jack plantations may be exempted from payment of assessment for the first eight years. According to the rules and the standing orders of the Board of Revenue, no waste land is liable to the payment of assessment the moment it is fenced round, and if the fence is kept for three years continuously the land is brought under assessment permanently.

"Sir, before planting coconut or jack or pepper it is highly necessary that a fence should be put up to prevent cattle from preying upon them. It requires under normal conditions six to eight years before the coconut or jack begins to bear fruit. Therefore those people who plant these have not only to incur the incidental expenses in connexion with the planting but have also to pay the revenue every year for some time. In other words, payment of assessment until the trees begin to bear has also to be treated as additional capital outlay. It will be a great inducement for people to start fresh plantations if the assessments on these lands are remitted. I hope Government will see their way to accept this proposal."

12-16
p.m.

[16th March 1926]

* The hon. Mr. N. E. MARJORIBANKS :—"Sir, the hon. Member who has made the motion was not correct in stating the case and drawing an analogy with the rules regarding plantations. He has forgotten to mention the fact that owing to the peculiar custom in Malabar nearly all waste land is private land and is not assessed. No rate is paid until and unless it is cultivated or occupied. In the east coast land is at the disposal of the Government and Government can assign them on assessment as they choose. Further, the climatic conditions in the east coast are such that there is need for encouraging tope plantations, whereas in the west coast they have a copious rainfall."

* Mr. K. PRABHAKARAN TAMPAN :—"On a point of personal explanation Sir. My motion is confined only to the west coast where I know this system works great hardship."

* The hon. Mr. N. E. MARJORIBANKS :—"Yes. I am merely saying that the analogy is not quite complete. It is not fair to argue that there are such rules in the east coast. Land in Malabar is not as a rule at the disposal of the Government. It belongs to the ryot and he only pays the assessment if and when it is cultivated. The question that we should encourage coconut and jack cultivation in Malabar is a question which has not been raised before. I shall be glad to have it examined though I am not prepared to give any assurance about the result of the examination."

* Diwan Bahadur M. KRISHNAN NAYAR :—"I am afraid my hon. Friend the Revenue Member, has not understood the arguments which have been advanced by Mr. Prabhakaran Tampan. He did not make any comparison in respect of this motion between east coast and Malabar. What he stated in respect of this motion is that it is unfair to assess a particular plot simply because it is enclosed with a fence. For the purpose of rearing coconuts and jacks to the fruit-bearing stage it is necessary that at least eight years should pass and in order to protect these plants as soon as they are planted it is necessary to enclose them with fence. As soon as it is put up tax is put on. That is the ground that is urged in this proposition. No comparison has at all been made or attempted to be made between the conditions in Malabar and the east coast. Practically the whole argument of my hon. Friend, the Revenue Member, was based on the presumption that such a comparison was made. He has not understood the object of the motion. Even with reference to the conditions obtaining in Malabar there is nothing peculiar in the conditions of Malabar which makes the coconut and jack bear fruit earlier than the usual period. It was said that Malabar has copious rainfall. Very often in Malabar also rain fails. Even supposing it is not so these trees do not begin to bear fruit before six to eight years. Therefore there is nothing peculiar to Malabar. The hon. the Revenue Member said that land was not at the disposal of the Government in Malabar. I think these conditions have nothing to do with the question before the House. In the latter part of the hon. Member's statement he said he would examine these conditions, and that he has not examined them before and therefore he could not give any assurance that the particular Standing Order would be cancelled."

* The hon. Mr. N. E. MARJORIBANKS :—"It is a condition of the settlement and not a Standing Order."

16th March 1926]

* Diwan Bahadur M. KRISHNAN NAYAR :—"It is with reference to a Standing Order that this tax is levied. Whatever it is, whether it is a Standing Order or settlement, he has promised that he would examine the conditions and I think if he is convinced that there is nothing peculiar with reference to Malabar and that equity, good conscience and justice require that this tax should not be imposed, I hope Government will find their way to cancel it. Having regard to the observations of the hon. the Revenue Member, I may ask my hon. Friend to withdraw the motion."

* Mr. K. PRABHAKARAN TAMPAN :—"Inasmuch as the hon. Member for Revenue has promised to examine the matter I beg leave of the House to withdraw the motion."

The motion was by leave withdrawn.

* Mr. A. CHIDAMBARA NADAR :—"I move

'that the allotment of Rs. 13,48,000 for charges of Administration be reduced by Rs. 100.'

"As has been already stated by me the tahsildars have not got so much work to do as they used to have some years ago. The income-tax work has been taken away from them. At the same time the patta transfer work has been transferred to the Registration department. Moreover the Local Boards Act has relieved them of some of their work. The divisional officers also have not got so much work as they used to have some years ago. As presidents of local boards they had to do some work which they have not got to do now. In these circumstances, Sir, it will be better if the taluks and divisions are regrouped so as to give them sufficient work. Again with regard to the regrouping of the villages so as to provide for the restoration of the village officers who have been thrown out, no provision has been made in the budget. I do not know what the object of the Government is. According to the recent Bill which has been passed by this Council some of the village officers have to be restored by the end of this year—i.e., in December 1926. So, Sir, I should like to know what the object of the Government is with regard to these village officers."

* The hon. Mr. N. E. MARJORIBANKS :—"Mr. President, with regard to the question of regrouping taluks and divisions it is to be supposed that the hon. Member is aware that this question has been examined in every district in the Presidency and such regroupings have been made in several cases. I will just give a list of the cases. In Ramnad the Deputy Tahsildar division was abolished at Virudupatti. In Bellary, Siruguppa taluk was abolished and I see one hon. Member has tabled a motion to restore that. In Guntur, in Malabar, Cuddapah, Nellore, Coimbatore and other districts regroupings are under consideration and are strongly opposed by hon. Members representing the districts."

* Rai Bahadur T. M. NARASIMHACHARLU :—"Yes, Sir, I opposed the proposal."

* The hon. Mr. N. E. MARJORIBANKS :—"Yes, Sir, it is opposed. What I wish to point out is that although we examine the matter and pass orders according to circumstances in each district so as to effect retrenchment, local opinion is always strongly against such abolition. Where it is possible and where it is to the public advantage we have reduced the number of taluks and divisions."

[Mr. N. E. Marjoribanks] [16th March 1926]

"As regards the village officers hon. Member must be aware that the main condition which was mentioned at the outset before the restoration Bill was passed was that the total cost must not exceed the present cost. The Act has not yet come into force. Instructions have however been issued to the Board of Revenue to be ready to make the necessary changes with effect from the 1st July. But budget totals will not be affected."

* Mr. A. CHIDAMBARA NADAR :—"In view of the explanation given, I beg leave to withdraw the motion."

The motion was by leave withdrawn.

* Rao Bahadur C. NATESA MUDALIYAR :—"I move

'that the allotment of Rs. 13,48,000 for charges of Administration be reduced by Rs. 100.'

"Let me first of all thank you for giving me this opportunity for making this motion. Sir, my grievance is that Government orders regarding communal representation are being neglected by the Government themselves. Sir, I move this resolution not with a feeling against any community in the land, because I love all the communities. (Hear, hear.) I move this resolution because I am convinced that the elevation of the country depends upon the elevation of all the communities in this land. (Hear, hear.) If appointments are given to these communities they will have power in their hands and that will stimulate them to further progress. If I stay in this House to-day without walking out with the Swarajists, it is because I am convinced that the party to which I belong have got this communal plank and they are doing constructive work towards a permanent Swaraj. Swaraj built upon this communal foundation alone will be a permanent one. So, Sir, though I want Swaraj to-day, while the Swarajists want Swaraj to-morrow, I am here in this Council. Among the ten appointments for provincial service officers in the cadre of Collectors, there is only one non-Brahman Collector and that is a Muhammadan Mr. Bazl-ul-lah. Sir, about the other staff employed in the various Collectors' offices 25 per cent alone are distributed over the 97 per cent of the communities including non-Brahmans, Muhammadans, Indian Christians, Anglo-Indians, Jains, Parsees, Domiciled Europeans, etc. All these communities number 97 per cent of the population while all the appointments are given to one community. Here too, I may say that I have nothing against any particular community. I am only moving this motion to plead for all the communities and for the elevation of the country. Then, Sir, taking the Chingleput district, in the Revenue establishment, there are 256 appointments out of which only 46 appointments were made available for all the other communities in this land. With these few words, I move my motion."

* The hon. Mr. N. E. MARJORIBANKS :—"Sir, the hon. Member has voiced his dissatisfaction in the matter which we have often heard debated in this House, viz., the extent to which communal representation should be given in the services, and the extent to which effect should be given to the Government orders on the subject. The hon. Member must be aware, since he is a member of that committee, that the Government appointed a committee of this House last year to make such proposals as are feasible and right for rectifying any defect that might have been found in the working of those Government orders. As a matter of fact, they have not

[16th March 1926] [Mr. N. E. Marjoribanks]

worked so very badly, having regard to the short time that they have been in force. I see from the latest statement that there has been a considerable readjustment of the proportions between the different communities in the last three or four years. Naturally, that readjustment has taken place more in the initial stages of recruitment than higher up. Because, it is not possible to deny the promotion that is due to deserving officers and promotion has to be made irrespective of caste or creed. I really do not know what the hon. Member wishes the Government to do. They have appointed a committee and are awaiting their recommendations. If the hon. Member will examine the statement of appointments made, he will find there has been a good deal of effect given to the orders of Government. I have no doubt that when the recommendations of that committee come in, Government will be able to see their way perhaps to doing something more in the desired direction."

* Mr. A. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—"Mr. President, I have given notice of a similar motion in connexion with another portion of this Revenue budget. But since I see that all the points relating to this question have also been raised under this motion, I also wish to speak on that point at this stage. My motion is No. 64 on the agenda paper under Collectors and Magistrates. I have no objection to reserve my speech till that stage is reached. But, as the whole ground has been traversed here, I do not want to be shut out at this stage."

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—"Cannot the hon. Member move it now?"

* Mr. A. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—"With regard to Collectors, my hon. Friend has already touched on the points in his speech."

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—"With regard to the latter portion of Mr. Ramaswami Mudaliyar's motion regarding Magistrates, he may move that later on."

* Mr. A. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—"Then, may I have the liberty to speak on the Collectors at this stage?"

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—"Yes, yes."

* Mr. A. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—"Mr. President, I must confess to a feeling of helplessness in trying to tackle this question of communal representation. We have passed resolutions innumerable; we have asked questions galore; we have tried to make representations in several ways. It may be our own fault, it may be that the Government does not know how to approach this question. I am aware, Mr. President, and the hon. the Revenue Member has reminded us that a committee of this House is sitting to consider this question. With reference to one aspect of the question, I should like to make a personal appeal to the hon. the Revenue Member. No doubt, it is perfectly true that it is more easy to make inequalities equal at the initial stage. I also recognize that there is a certain vested interest among those officers who are already in service and it may not be as fair as in the other cases that men who are already in service should have their claims overlooked. But, it seems to me, Sir, especially in considering the higher services that the question of communal representation has been neglected almost entirely. I shall reserve my remarks on the Judicial service and the Civil service to a later occasion, and I will confine myself to the Revenue department at present. As my hon. Friend has just pointed

[Mr. A. Ramaswami Mudaliyar] [16th March 1926]

out, there are ten gentlemen in the position of Collectors to-day, of whom nine belong to one particular community and only one belongs to the Muhammadan community. Of the six permanent Collectors, only one is a Muhammadan, and of the four temporary Collectors none of them are either non-Brahmans, Christians or Muhammadans. Let me just compare that position with the position as it obtained previous to the Reformed Council, previous to this agitation regarding communal representation and previous to the resolutions passed by this House on the subject. At that time, Sir, there were two Muhammadan gentlemen as permanent Collectors, and there was an Indian Christian, your late distinguished predecessor in office, who held the position of the grade of a Collector, and there were two gentlemen belonging to the Brahman community. Out of five we had three non-Brahmans, using that term in the broadest sense possible. At present out of ten, we have one.

"Now, Sir, a great deal is made of seniority of claims of those who are already in service. As I began my speech, I wish to respect those claims wherever possible. But it seems to me that in the communal representation order issued by Government if it was recognized that promotions would not be wholly by seniority, the hon. the Revenue Member would be the first to repudiate the suggestion that appointments to the grade of Collectors are made wholly on considerations of seniority. Let me put another aspect of the question which I am certain the hon. the Revenue Member will recognize immediately. There are appointments called listed appointments, places reserved for officers of the Provincial Service. Now, it happens, it has happened in the past more than once, and my friends in the Indian Civil Service will bear out that statement, that while those of the Indian Civil Service have put in a longer term of years, some of the Provincial Service who had put in a shorter term of service were promoted over the heads of those Indian Civil Service men, to the listed appointments. Now, I ask if there is not an underlying injustice in that sort of appointments, and if that injustice is permitted, what is the use of those rules made by the Secretary of State? Now I ask where is the injustice in earmarking a definite percentage of appointments in these highest of all appointments which no man can naturally expect to get, which no man can claim to be eligible to merely because of his seniority, where is the injustice in earmarking a certain percentage of these highest appointments to unrepresented communities? If a Provincial Service man could become a permanent Collector, as indeed it has happened in the past, in his 31st or 32nd year of service,—I do not want to go into personalities; I am certain the House will realise it—now after 15 or 16 years a Provincial Service officer could be made a permanent Collector. While members of the Indian Civil Service, Europeans and Indians alike, men belonging to the ruling class, men who have had their training in England and been sent to the 'steel-frame' service, could not within that space of time get the appointment of permanent Collector, are you prepared to say that it is an injustice to earmark a few appointments? What is sauce for the goose is sauce for the gander. If by the members of the Indian Civil Service themselves it is looked upon as the highest of the appointments to be made permanent Collectors, where is the injustice in earmarking a few of the appointments for a particular set of people? I ask, where is the difficulty for Government in earmarking a certain number of those appointments to men of particular communities. Personally

[16th March 1926] [Mr. A. Ramaswami Mudaliyar]

speaking, I do not want to make a differentiation of castes, and I know that sort of thing is dangerous (Mr. A. Ranganatha Mudaliyar: 'Hear, hear'). I am very glad that I have got the approbation of my hon. Friend from Bellary to what I said. Sir, if that cannot be done, I really think that we might give up this question of communal representation altogether. Let us not repeat it *ad nauseum*. Let the hon. the Revenue Member get up from his place and say 'I shall not countenance this agitation. There is no good of your worrying me. It is a hopeless affair.' We know special appointments will be created; we know all those people will get them. Not only that. Supposing there are four appointments at present thrown open to members of the Provincial service and you give the four appointments to the seniors, in course of time, they will multiply into eight. These four appointments will in two years become six, from six it will become eight. Another Special Officer may be appointed for acquisition work. He is now called a Special Officer, but he will become a Collector very soon. Then there are other appointments. The Director of Industries is thrown open to the Provincial Service. Appoint another in his place. Then, I ask where is the injustice again in earmarking these new appointments at least, in earmarking a special percentage out of the total number of appointments, to particular communities. If in the service when they entered as deputy collectors, they did not expect to have any more than four appointments that will be open to them, their cadre has been increased and the opportunities of getting more promotions have been increased, and yet the hon. the Revenue Member on behalf of the Government is pursuing a policy which will keep us permanently out. If you say that seniority is the only test and if you say when a senior is there that merit is the only test, we are between the deep sea and the other thing. Now, I make a personal appeal to the hon. the Revenue Member. I know that constantly he is in sympathy with many of our ideas.

"I am aware that what is human in him will respond. I do not want to take my stand on the Government order on communal representation or on the number of questions we are in a position to put. I say I have ceased to believe in this, namely, that resolutions of the House are going to be of any effect, so far as this particular matter is concerned. You are backed up by the idea that though we may pass resolutions by an overwhelming majority, there is yet a strong vocal minority which will help you, which will plead your case, which will come to your rescue, and there lies the strength of your power in opposing communal representation. Therefore I do not stand by the resolutions of this House. What is the position in the districts. If nine districts are ruled by persons of one caste—I have excluded by calculation members of the steel frame, then of course we have no voice. What is the position in this presidency? I now find that a new policy is being followed with reference to the recruits in the Indian Civil Service. At one time the Madrasis who passed into the Indian Civil Service almost invariably got into other presidencies. I find there is a danger here too. I want to strike a note of warning, not indeed for the Government, because Government may give very little heed to what I say, but for my own people, if in the case of recruits recruited in the very province of their origin, the wholesome policy of what is applicable to other provinces is departed from, that is a note of warning not to members of Government, but to my own community. It is for them to devise ways and means. There is the final test. There is

12-45
p.m.

[Mr. A. Ramaswami Mudaliyar] [16th March 1926]

sufficient authority behind these demands that we have repeatedly placed before the Government. I have had an opportunity of going to several parts of the Presidency; and without trying to cast any slur on any official or head of the district, I may say there is a deep seated, rankling feeling amongst members of the community that things are not going on all-right. The other day you published an administration report. Fortunately or unfortunately, you appended a note regarding employment of different communities there. Are you satisfied, I ask the Treasury Bench, with the position of affairs revealed by the very note? In regard to gazetted appointments, including all communities, Anglo-Indians, Europeans, the depressed classes and the 300 and one castes in Southern India, we have not got as many appointments as one single community has. Not only in gazetted appointments. As to appointments on Rs. 100 and above it is the same thing. In regard to appointments between Rs. 35 and Rs. 100 it is the same thing. We have got vested interests, we have got all our interests protected by a benign Government, when it comes to a question of appointments below Rs. 35. I am sorry that nothing has been done even after the communal Government Order. I do not want to suggest that the Staff Selection Board, about which I have spoken so often even to weariness, has not done anything. Only the other day, the question of selection of Sub-Inspectors for my district came up well, the less said about it, the better. There are other questions like that. I do not want to go into those questions of detail, of minor policy. Here is the question of main policy with reference to the officer, who is the representative of King-Emperor in the district. What are you going to do? Are you going to perpetuate this position? We shall take the answer and we shall try to seriously think over the matter again. I do not want to pursue the matter. I make a human appeal to the hon. the Revenue Member. I know if he has got the power of his other colleagues he will do it. I am emphasising on the highest administrative posts. I am not considering the question of Staff Selection Board and the S.S.L.C. candidates, I am referring to the highest administrative posts—posts that have been newly opened up, posts started last month—how are these administrative posts to be filled in? If we see no hope, well, as I said, we shall have to revise our opinions."

* Mr. P. N. MARTHANDAM PILLAI:—"Mr. President, Sir, some of us are really serious about communal representation. I ask Government whether they are really serious about this question. We have been repeatedly agitating this question both here and outside. Has the Government bestowed that amount of attention that the subject deserves? My answer to it is an emphatic 'No'. My hon. Friend from Chingleput limited himself to the highest administrative posts. I will take you through the lower administrative posts. I can understand cases in which vested interests are sought to be put forth, people who have already entered service. They are crying out that their promotion has been jeopardised when communal representation comes in. What about the initial recruitment? Take the various cases of sub-inspectors and deputy inspectors of the various departments of Government."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT:—"We are now concerned with the Revenue Department."

* Mr. P. N. MARTHANDAM PILLAI:—"I will confine myself to the Revenue inspectors, tahsildars and deputy collectors. In all these cases, have

16th March 1926] [Mr. P. N. Marthandam Pillai]

the interests of the non-Brahmans been looked after? Have the Government done anything to advance their interests? Time and again we have agitated on the floor of this House. Did the hon. the Revenue Member satisfy himself that the claims of the non-Brahmans, that the Government order on communal representation have been given effect to? We are satisfied that the interests of the non-Brahmans have not been attended to. We represent the large millions of this Presidency; we are agitating for our rights. What we ask for is to take a reasonable view of these things and attend to them at an early date."

* Mr. J. A. SALDANHA:—"Mr. President, Sir, while my non-Brahman friends are very eloquent over the neglect of communal representation in services, I beg to point out to the House that the non-Brahman Ministry and those who are responsible for the appointment . . ."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT:—"The Revenue Department is not under the jurisdiction of any of the Ministers. We are now on the Revenue Department only."

* Mr. J. A. SALDANHA:—"I will mention an illustration."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT:—"That is for a later stage."

* Mr. J. A. SALDANHA:—"At least those who advise the Revenue Department; The non-Brahman Ministry is bound to advise the other half on various appointments. They entirely exclude the interests of Indian Christians. They think that Indian Christians are either like a Brahman community or are in the position of a new untouchable community like Brahmans and leave them alone. The Indian Christians in the regular departments are entirely neglected. I do not want to give figures. But I raise this note of warning against my non-Brahman friends ignoring the interests of Indian Christians. They want to ignore them deliberately by saying that they are overrepresented in the services in proportion to their numbers. I for one would urge upon the attention of the Government and the House, the importance, of bearing in mind, at least in the case of Indian Christians, their sacrifice of men and money in the cause of education and their great progress in education. I think this fact of their great progress in education should be recognized as an important factor, because our community is on the whole, except in one or two towns, where there is some sort of advance in wealth, very very backward economically, and those in villages are very very backward in education too. Considering these facts I hope the Reserved Half as well as the Ministry will take into consideration not merely our numerical strength but also the great advance we have made in education, the large number of candidates that are now qualified in proportion to the number and give sympathetic consideration to the claims of this community."

Mr. R. MADANAGOPAL NAYUDU:—"Sir, I wish also to submit that due recognition has not been given to the Government Order regarding communal representation. I am glad that Mr. Saldanha has expressed his practical sympathy with our aspirations, though a few minutes back I thought he was giving up his case because when he was quoting figures he quoted the extent of literacy among Brahmans and said that Indian Christians came nearest to them and suggested that the interests of his community should be safeguarded. If he pleaded for merit and merit alone, then the highest community or the community which had a greater amount of

[Mr. R. Madanagopal Nayudu] [16th March 1926]

literacy would occupy every place leaving none for his community, so that in supporting communal representation I am glad of his not advocating the claims of his particular community to-day but has left it in the hands of the movers of this motion. I therefore feel that the time has come when special attention should be paid to the enforcement of the particular Government Order."

* Mr. R. VEERIAN :—" Sir, I wish to make a few observations in connexion with this communal representation. We have passed G.O. No. 658, dated 15th August 1922, regarding communal representation in the public services. What do we find after all here after passing this grand Government order? Only the other day I quoted figures to show how far the depressed classes are being represented in public services. If you will kindly go through the proceedings of Wednesday, the 4th November 1925, page 945, you will readily see that the members who are overrepresented in several departments of Revenue are being encouraged. Is this called communal representation? In this country, we have numerous communities. Only the other day I have quoted that there are three thousand and odd different communities and castes. When such is the case I think it is very essential that members of all communities should be given the opportunity to serve in the public services. So far as the depressed classes are concerned, I am very sorry to state that the result of the resolution is far from satisfactory. In several of these departments I find that owing to sentimental objection they are not at all being encouraged. I hope that hereafter at least due regard will be given to the very order passed by the Government. I am glad the hon. the Revenue Member in charge of this department is making a noble attempt. But we are not at all concerned with the attempt that he is making. He might make one thousand and one laudable attempts. But what is the result. We are particular only about results. Can the hon. the Revenue Member boast of one single achievement in this direction? I ask the hon. the Revenue Member to give due regard to the Government order passed by Government, so that the depressed classes may have ample opportunities of entering and serving in the public departments of Government."

1 p.m.

Mr. ABBAS ALI KHAN SAHIB :—" Sir, I want to associate myself with hon. Members who have spoken on this motion. As regards the Muhammadan community I know, Sir, that the hon. the Revenue Member is anxious to do what he can for the benefit of the Muhammadan community and yet I find that no representation has been given to the Muhammadan community in the Secretariat of Madras"

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" Which Secretariat ?"

Mr. ABBAS ALI KHAN SAHIB :—" Revenue Secretariat."

* " I hope that the hon. the Revenue Member will illustrate his sympathy practically by giving one of the appointments in the Revenue Secretariat to the Muhammadan community."

* Rao Bahadur C. NATESA MUDALIYAR :—" I am very glad that my hon. Friend Mr. Saldanha has been supporting me so well. He has always stood as an anti-communalist and yet fighting for his own community (laughter)."

* Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—" I assert that I am against Mr. Natesa Mudaliyar in this matter. So far as some of the Indian Christians are concerned, I base my claims on their merit and the greater advance which

16th March 1926]

[Mr. J. A. Saldanha]

they have made in education than some of the other communities. If there are other communities who have neglected their education and yet want to share the plum, I will not support their claims. I have made it very clear that I base my claim on merit and merit mainly, and we want that justice should be done to those who have got merits in them for holding appointments in public services. I feel that great injustice has been done to my community in every department. I have drawn up the figures"

* Mr. P. N. MARTHANDAM PILLAI :—" On a point of order, Sir. Is that personal explanation ?"

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" Yes."

* Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—" I do assert that I did not stand for merely communal representation."

* Rao Bahadur C. NATESA MUDALIYAR :—" I have been telling nothing but that. I submit that we too, Sir, take our stand on merit and communalism. Coming to the remarks of Mr. Ramaswami Mudaliyar who said that higher administrative appointments should be given to our community, I say that we should have appointments even to the last grade distributed to the various communities. Some members may not want it, but I have been fighting for this principle for all my life time and I will fight for it in this Council till I leave it. Communal resolutions have been passed in this Council not only by one party, but sometimes by all parties in the Council including the Brahmans. In spite of all this, I do not see why Government should be so stubborn as not to observe the Government Order. With all the arguments advanced by the hon. the Revenue Member I can assure him that Government are not observing the Government Order and if there are any who are non-co-operating with Government it is the Government subordinates. Sir, there is no meaning in telling that adjustments are being made. We are worse off than what we were before the Reformed Council came into existence, and before resolutions on communal representation were passed in this Council. As for the claims of the Indian Christian community for whose cause my hon. Friend Mr. Saldanha has been fighting, I think the increase in the percentage of appointments given to the non-Brahman community in general is due to the fact that the Indian Christian community has been given many of the appointments, because they are available. I do not grudge this, because I have been fighting for them and also for my Muhammadan friends."

Mr. ABBAS ALI KHAN SAHIB :—" Hear, hear."

* Rao Bahadur C. NATESA MUDALIYAR :—" Let all Indian Christians and all Muhammadans think that we, as belonging to the non-Brahman community, are fighting and will never hesitate to do anything in our power for advancing their interests and that anything we are doing, we are doing not only for our own communities but also for other communities."

Mr. ABBAS ALI KHAN SAHIB :—" Question."

* Rao Bahadur C. NATESA MUDALIYAR :—" Well, Sir, in fact the non-Brahman Hindu community have not been conferred so much benefit as other communities including Anglo-Indians and domiciled Europeans as the result of the Party's work. We are doing good to all communities including the community to which my hon. Friend, Sir Alexander MacDougall, belongs (laughter). We want elevation of all the communities and therefore we will

[Dr. C. Natesa Mudaliyar]

[16th March 1926]

do all that lies in our power to elevate all the communities that deserve elevation.

"Sir, we have been in this Council for the last six years and we have been passing resolutions after resolutions and also Government Orders, and what is the result? If you go to the electorate now, you will have to say that you have done nothing for them. At least the Reserved half have done nothing for the various communities. In the beginning we had hopes that they would do something. Now, Sir, everything is hopeless. I do not know how we are going to face the electorate. I do not know what the attitude of the Government is and why they are so stubborn with regard to the claims of the non-Brahman communities. Now the hon. the Revenue Member tells us that a committee was appointed and has not submitted its report. I ask, Sir, if that committee has not reported, what prevented the hon. the Revenue Member from observing the Government Orders strictly which have already been passed by the Government. I am extremely sorry that he has not followed that step. Although I have got my personal respect to the hon. the Revenue Member, I am compelled to press this motion to a division."

* The hon. Mr. T. E. MOIR:—"Personally I regard it somewhat of a misfortune to the administration of this Presidency that we should never cease from having this question of communal representation in the services being brought up in this House. Let it be admitted that at the time when the Reforms were introduced the services, the provincial services, and more especially the higher ranks of these services, were largely manned by members of a particular community. But it was not because the Government at that time had any special partiality for that community or desired in any way to show it special favour. The plain fact is that that community with the development of administration in this country and the opportunities for employment which this afforded devoted themselves to acquiring that standard of education which the Government prescribed as forming the minimum qualification for the different grades in the services. That is a fact which I do not think any one can deny, that one particular community more than any other took advantage of those opportunities and the consequences that followed from that were perfectly natural and, I may say, inevitable. I do not propose to discuss in detail the attitude of other communities but I may say this much: that since the Reforms there has been a greater desire on the part of the members of those communities not only to raise themselves to a position of equality in the public services but also to place themselves in that position of political equality which education confers on members of all communities. And as a natural consequence of this desire they proceeded to raise a cry for appointments and claim that they should be represented in the public services in proportion to their numerical strength. That principle, generally speaking, the Government has accepted and has no desire to depart from, and given those qualifications which any Government must set down as the minimum qualifications which are essential for the efficiency of administration, in making appointments to the services the Government agree that belonging to any particular community or communities which are only slightly represented in the public services must not be regarded as any disqualification for such appointments. But while admitting that, that we should every six months or once a year dig this whole question up and consider how matters are progressing seems to me to be proceeding entirely on wrong lines. Inequalities of this kind cannot possibly be redressed within a few years."

[16th March 1926]

[Mr. T. E. Moir]

"At present I am concerned only with what has happened in the case of the Revenue Department. If some members of the House think that the opportunities in this department which have been afforded to those communities which are now struggling for this method of expression have been limited, may I point out to them that it is very largely due to the direct action of this House itself? Ever since the Reforms came into existence there has been persistent pressure upon the Reserved half of the Government to curtail their establishments and abolish some of these appointments."

(Mr. A. Ramaswami Mudaliyar took the chair.)

"To this expressed desire of the House the Revenue Department has given very full adherence. I have a few figures here to show that in a period of 4 years, i.e., from 1922 which more or less corresponds to the date at which Dr. Natesa Mudaliyar and others brought this issue into prominence, in the case of non-gazetted officers on Rs. 35 to 100 there has been a reduction of 452 posts. In the case of non-gazetted officers on Rs. 100 and over there has been a reduction of 27 posts. Now, Sir, I have no intention of entering on a discussion of the question as to whether 'A' had a preferential title to a particular appointment or 'B' had. I merely wish to draw attention to the results as a whole. As regards the non-gazetted officers on Rs. 35—100 where there has been a total reduction of 452 appointments there are now 518 fewer Brahmans holding appointments of that nature."

(Diwan Bahadur P. Kesava Pillai took the chair.)

"That at any rate is some measure of the extent to which the Revenue Department has carried out what was the intention underlying the resolutions passed in this House. In the case of non-gazetted officers on Rs. 100 and over where there has been a reduction of 27, the reduction in the case of the Brahman community has been 36. That is to say in the case of these two very large classes of appointments in the Revenue Department that one community has lost considerably more than the total number of posts reduced. It is perfectly true that if we take those castes, which for purposes of classification, are scheduled as non-Brahmans there is a slight decrease in their cases also. In the first class, that is to say, non-gazetted officers on Rs. 35—100 there is a reduction of 13. In the case of non-gazetted officers on Rs. 100 and over there is a reduction of 2. But I know my hon. Friends Dr. Natesa Mudaliyar and Mr. Ramaswami Mudaliyar, when they refer to the non-Brahman community, did not use the term in that restricted sense. I understand that so far as they are concerned they agree that an increase in the number of Muhammadans or Indian Christians or of members of the depressed classes who are holding appointments under Government would equally satisfy the desire and the object with which these resolutions were moved."

"I may give a few figures more regarding the Indian Christian community for Mr. Saldanha's benefit. There is a reduction of 12 in the case of appointments on Rs. 35 to 100, an increase of three in the case of non-gazetted officers on Rs. 100 and over. In the case of Muhammadans where owing to their late entry into the field we might naturally expect to see the largest increase, there is an increase of 76 posts in the case of non-gazetted officers on Rs. 35 to 100; and in the case of non-gazetted officers on Rs. 100 and over there is an increase of 11. I am unable to give

[Mr. T. E. Moir]

[16th March 1926]

the House the exact figures regarding the depressed classes, because their classification seems to have given rise to considerable trouble and they have now been classified as "Depressed classes and others." At present therefore I am unable to say what exactly the position is in regard to the depressed classes. But on the larger issue, surely, these figures do not show that in the Revenue Department due consideration is not being shown to the claims of various communities."

* Mr. R. VEERIAN :—"The statistics are given in the Proceedings of this Council, dated 4th November 1925, at page 945. That shows that even punkah-pulling work is not allotted to the members of the depressed classes." (Laughter.)"

* The hon. Mr. T. E. MOIR :—"The figures I have do not tally with those of the hon. Member. But, Sir, surely these figures do show, having regard to what has happened during the last few years, that the Reserved half has had due consideration to the object which was in the mind of the House when they moved these resolutions."

* Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—"Except in the case of the Indian Christian community."

* The hon. Mr. T. E. MOIR :—"I do not think the Indian Christian community have fared at all badly, or that it has borne an undue share of the reduction which has taken place in the number of appointments in a department in which any increase of any kind is jealously scrutinized and challenged by this House. The Indian Christian community, a highly educated community, like some of the important non-Brahman communities, finds that it has to make way for those other communities which are not duly represented and are now pushing their way to the front. That seems to me to be the inevitable consequence of the principle that as far as possible every community in the country shall have a fair share in the administration of the Revenue or any other department. I do not think that there is any justice in the complaint that the Revenue Department has been neglectful of this question of communal representation or that the facts give any reason to press for a vote against the department."

* Mr. A. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—"What about superior appointments?"

* The hon. Mr. N. E. MARJORIBANKS :—"As regards the superior appointments those that are under the control of this Government relate to the Provincial Civil Service. The higher posts in that service comprise of posts that were once reserved for the All-India Service and have now been listed. The number of posts has been increasing during the last two years, and has not yet been finally fixed. As regards the principle upon which those posts should be filled, the Local Government awaits the decision of the higher authorities as to the extent to which provision should be made for communal representation in recruiting for the All-India Services. Hon. Members are perhaps aware that last year the hon. the Home Member of the Government of India stated in the Legislative Assembly that one-third of the appointments of the All-India Services would be reserved for the purpose of meeting the demand of communal representation. We have been waiting for the rules on the subject in order to consider what rules we should adopt here. The hon. Member referred to the existing

[16th March 1926]

[Mr. N. E. Marjoribanks]

appointments. If he would look at the list he would find that the officers who are holding the appointments have been holding them for a very considerable number of years past. I think there has been only one appointment recently made. It was a very special and temporary appointment and, there is no likelihood of its becoming a permanent one. The officer concerned retires next year. I do not think the blame, if there is any blame, rests on this Government. I do not think that anybody in this House would urge that people who have been holding the appointments for a considerable number of years should be deprived of them simply on the ground that they are of a particular caste or community. As regards the future, we are awaiting the rules to be framed by the Secretary of State so that we may issue rules regarding the provincial services generally."

The hon. the DEPUTY PRESIDENT :—"May I request the hon. Member to speak up a little so that the whole House may hear? The reporters also are anxious to hear. I also should like to hear what the hon. Member says."

* The hon. Mr. N. E. MARJORIBANKS :—"As regards the other services generally, we are awaiting the report of the Committee to see whether it would be possible for us to issue any further instructions besides the Government Orders with which the House is already familiar."

The hon. the DEPUTY PRESIDENT :—"Is the hon. Member, Mr. Natesa Mudaliyar, pressing this motion?"

* Rao Bahadur C. NATESA MUDALIYAR :—"Yes, Sir."

The motion was put to the House and declared *lost*.

A poll was demanded by Mr. Natesa Mudaliyar and the House divided thus:

Ayes.

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1. Mr. Abdulla Ghatala Sahib. | 11. Mr. P. N. Marthandam Pillai. |
| 2. " S. Arpudaswami Udayar. | 12. " C. Muttayya Mudaliyar. |
| 3. Rao Sahib T. C. Tangavelu Pillai. | 13. " G. Premayya. |
| 4. Mr. K. Prabhakaran Sampin. | 14. " K. Ragbhuachandra Ballal. |
| 5. " D. Manjappa Heggade. | 15. Diwan Bahadur M. Krishnan Nayar. |
| 6. Rao Bahadur J. Tanikachalam Chettiyar. | 16. Mr. P. T. Rajan. |
| 7. " C. Natesa Mudaliyar. | 17. Rao Bahadur P. Raman. |
| 8. Mr. A. Ramaswami Mudaliyar. | 18. Mr. Chavadi K. Subrahmanya Pillai. |
| 9. Diwan Bahadur P. C. Ethirajulu Nayudu. | 19. " K. Venkatachala Padayachi. |
| 10. Mr. K. Madanagopal Nayudu. | 20. " Khadir Mohiddin Elyas Khan Sahib. |

Noes.

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1. The hon. Sir C. P. Ramaswami Ayyar. | 14. Rao Bahadur M. C. Raja. |
| 2. " Mr. N. E. Marjoribanks. | 15. Mr. N. Devendrudu. |
| 3. " Khan Bahadur Muhammad Usman Sahib Bahadur. | 16. Rao Sahib P. V. Gopalan. |
| 4. " Mr. T. E. Moir. | 17. Mr. L. C. Guruswami. |
| 5. Mr. F. B. Evans. | 18. Honorary Lieutenant Madurai. |
| 6. " G. T. Boag. | 19. Mr. P. S. Rajappa. |
| 7. " V. Pandrang Row. | 20. Rao Sahib B. Srinivasan. |
| 8. " F. Noyce. | 21. Mr. R. Veerian. |
| 9. " T. M. Ross. | 22. Rao Sahib P. V. S. Sundaramurti. |
| 10. Capt. E. G. Windle. | 23. Rai Bahadur T. M. Narasimhaachari. |
| 1. Sir Alexander MacDougall. | 24. Mr. Abbas Ali Khan. |
| 2. Mr. J. A. Davis. | 25. Khan Bahadur Haji Abdulla Haji Qasim Sahib. |
| 3. " H. B. Ari Gowder. | |

[16th March 1926]

Neutral.

- | | |
|--|---------------------------------|
| 1. The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir F. N. Sivagnanam Pillai. | 5. Mr. J. A. Saldanha. |
| 2. „ Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. Patro. | 6. Dr. P. Subbarayan. |
| 3. „ the Raja of Panagal. | 7. Mr. A. Ranganatha Mudaliyar. |
| 4. Mr. P. K. S. A. Arumuga Nadar. | 8. „ A. Chidambara Nadar. |
| | 9. „ B. Ramachandra Reddi. |

The hon. the DEPUTY PRESIDENT :—“ 20 hon. Members voted for the motion, 25 against it; and 9 hon. Members remained neutral. The motion is lost.”

The House then adjourned for lunch.

After Lunch (2-30 p.m.)

Rai Bahadur T. M. NARASIMHACHARLU :—“ I move

‘that the allotment of Rs. 1,40,200 for temporary establishments be reduced by Rs. 50,000.’

“ Every year, surveys and settlements carry away a lot of money by way of temporary establishments. The temporary establishment never ceases to exist and it is of a permanent character. It is of a temporary permanent character. The Government have not thought fit to reduce this temporary establishment. I would suggest that instead of abolishing all the temporary establishment altogether, the Government would find their way to reduce the temporary establishment costing Rs. 50,000. I submit, Sir, that this motion of mine is by way of raising a protest against the Government keeping this temporary establishment. Every year we find provision for such temporary establishments.”

* Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—“ I have given notice of a motion for reduction with the same idea, regarding these temporary or permanent professional survey parties. I am referring to my motion (No. 25).”

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—“ They are different motions. They are not token motions but regular motions for reduction.”

The hon. Mr. N. E. MARJORIBANKS :—“ Sir, the item now under discussion is the allotment for the temporary establishment in the Central Survey Office. This establishment is on a temporary and not on a permanent footing because the work is of such a nature that it cannot continue for any considerable time; and if we make the establishment permanent we would incur heavy pension charges. The particular demand that the hon. Member is taking exception to is first, for a small establishment for preparing the maps of municipal towns which have been surveyed, second for establishments preparing geographical details for the district maps; and third for a large staff to do work for the Government of India Survey Department and that Government pay for it. The budget estimate gives the amount we recover for the latter item. The other two items, I submit, are very desirable pieces of work, and I do not see why this House should wish that we should not do them. It would not be justifiable to make the establishment permanent because this work, by its very nature, will come to an end in a few years.”

The motion was by leave withdrawn.

16th March 1926]

* Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—“ Sir, I move

‘that the allotment of Rs. 11,70,400 for Professional Survey Parties—Government villages be reduced by Rs. 3,90,100, i.e., by one-third.’

“ I refer in this connexion to the survey that was undertaken or might be going on in South Kanara. With fairly good knowledge of my own taluks—northern taluks—I know that they have already been surveyed. The opinion of a large number of land-owners and land-lessees is that the resurvey is quite uncalled for. The survey of South Kanara was done in the year 1901 at a cost of something like nine lakhs of rupees and there was settlement afterwards at a cost of seven lakhs of rupees as a result of which, the assessment was raised to over ten lakhs of rupees practically more than double the original revenue. Having had to pay increased revenue and after such a tremendous cost of nine lakhs and seven lakhs of rupees for survey and settlement, we look aghast at a further survey of our district. We have the experience of several hon. Members representing other districts of the survey, re-survey and resettlements going on periodically and perpetually with a permanent establishment, with additional establishment and with temporary establishment. We wonder why the re-survey is undertaken and what is the necessity for it. We have got, Sir, a large establishment, what is called the Land Records establishment, which was temporarily abolished by this Council but which has been revived now with one tahsildar on an average for each district. The work of this department is to revise and correct the survey records from time to time and from year to year as there are changes in the demarcation of land by partition or by construction of new railways or for any other reasons, so that the revision of the survey records is kept on always and there is an up-to-date record of the survey, though not a record of the rights for which I have been urging. We have at least a very carefully drawn up record of the survey and of the changes in the division of the lands or in the demarcation of the lands so that, if the land record revision is made carefully in every district—it is made very carefully in my district—I am sure that there would be no need for resurvey of the majority of the districts. The other day I put a question as to whether Kanara was to be fully resurveyed and I got the assurance from the hon. the Revenue Member that the point was under consideration, that it was very likely that the survey would stop with Kasaragod where there was necessity to resurvey it and that there would probably be no resurvey of the other taluks. We were glad to have that assurance from the hon. the Revenue Member. I am sure the hon. Member with his sympathy and experience of our people will not insist upon a resurvey of our district if it is not absolutely necessary.

“ I therefore appeal to the hon. the Revenue Member that in spite of the pressure that there might be from the Survey department, Government will be kind enough not to sanction any resurvey of the district unless it is absolutely necessary. I am sure our people in Kanara who are a very industrious class of people, who do much work for cultivation at their own cost and who are very careful payers of revenue, will do their utmost to help the Land Records department by furnishing a very correct record of the lands to the Settlement Officers when they come for settlement operations which must have commenced by now. I am sure that our ryots will not hesitate to supply the Settlement Officers with a correct record of their land, so that whatever the assessment—I hope there will not be any necessity for increase—the officers will have no difficulty in getting a correct estimate of the extent of the land and the produce of the land.”

2-46
p.m.

[16th March 1926]

* The hon. Mr. N. E. MARJORIBANKS :—" Sir, in the first place, I would assure the House that the Government have not the intention of resurveying any area unless it is absolutely necessary in the interests of the ryotwari holders. In South Kanara the only taluk where it has been found necessary to have a resurvey because of the imperfection of the existing records is Kasaragod. It is the taluk in which one of the survey parties is engaged. The work has not been completed. In the current year there are 250 square miles to be done by the party that is working there. The rest of the district has not been ordered to be resurveyed, and as far as I can foresee, it will not be necessary to resurvey it. But the contrary view has been strongly urged on the Government, and therefore we have not yet distinctly vetoed it as I wish to be quite certain that the existing records are sufficient for the owners of property there. There are six parties in all provided for in the budget. The one in the South Kanara district is working in the Kasaragod taluk. Another is working in two taluks of Malabar where also the records are well known to be defective, namely, the Ponnani and Ernad taluks and in some area of the Walluvanad taluk where the records were destroyed during the rebellion of 1921. There is no idea at present in the minds of Government of resurveying any other part of the district. A third party is working in the southern taluks of Salem where again it is well known that records are defective. The other three parties are working in East Godavari, West Godavari and Kistna. When these areas are done, as far as can be foreseen at present, there will be no more resurvey to be done; but there will be a large number of proprietary areas, the proprietors of which want their estates to be resurveyed, and there will be a good deal of supplementary survey work to be done, at each revision of the registration of holdings at settlement. When we proceed to issue new draft pattas at the time of resettlement, people come forward with petitions for the revision of their holdings and record of the transfers which they have effected and then it is usually necessary to employ a special survey staff to get this work done in time. But that of course will not be anything of the dimensions of a complete resurvey. We therefore hope that possibly in the coming year and certainly next year, the number of these parties will be reduced; it will not only be reduced, but we shall soon get down to the permanent strength of the department which has been provisionally fixed at I think, two or three parties. The question may of course be asked why the survey was defective in those areas. Well, Sir, it is due just to the policy of retrenchment in those days. The work was being done well and carefully by the Survey department, but the order went out that it must be done cheaply with the consequence that much of it was badly done and done in an imperfect manner; and we have now got to pay the penalty for the cheapness that we then achieved. In order to prevent a similar experience in the future, I would ask the House to allow the work to go on and let the staff be gradually reduced as the areas which we know are defective are completed."

* Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—" I do not press the motion"

The motion was by leave withdrawn.

* Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—" Sir, I move that—

'the allotment of Rs. 18,400 for the Pay of Officers be reduced by Rs. 101'

[16th March 1926] [Mr. A. Ranganatha Mudaliyar]

"I wish to make the following observations. Sir, all papers connected with the posting of deputy collectors, the granting of leave to deputy collectors and similar things were hitherto being disposed of in the Secretariat of the Government. Instead of that, all this work is being done now in the Board of Revenue office. It may be asked, Sir, what difference that change makes to these people. The hon. the Revenue Member, experienced as he is, will easily recognize the difference to officers when matters relating to them are dealt with by the junior officers in service and by senior officers in service. It is an undoubted fact, Sir, that when these questions are dealt with by experienced officers who have put in considerable service in the department, they receive a consideration quite different from that which it is likely to command at the hands of inexperienced junior officers. Now, Sir, such junior officers are more likely to be in the Board of Revenue than in the Secretariat. There is a growing discontent, Sir, among the deputy collectors that this change has in fact affected the prestige and dignity of their position. I think it is time now that Government recognised this fact and did what was necessary to allay and not to give room for that discontent. My hon. Friend, the Raja of Ramnad, asked a question in regard to this, and the hon. the Revenue Member referred to an answer which was given some time ago. Now that this question comes up specifically before him, I hope he will give us some satisfactory solution for the difficulty."

* The hon. Mr. N. E. MARJORIBANKS :—" Mr. President, in the first place, it is the general policy of Government, to leave to the heads of departments wherever practicable, questions relating to the posting and transfer of officers. That is a matter of administrative routine, which it is not the intention of Government to deal with. It is the business of Government to deal with matters of policy and to leave the administrative routine to heads of departments. The other objection regarding the experience and seniority of the officers who deal with the subject cannot, I think, be seriously meant. There is practically little difference between the experience and seniority of Members of the Board of Revenue and of the Secretaries to Government. As a matter of fact, the Members of the Board of Revenue are, as a rule, the senior and more experienced. In the matter of knowledge of the men's work, it is obvious that the Members of the Board as heads of the Revenue department are in a much better position to gain personal knowledge of the officers and of their work than any Secretariat officer can do. Such matters when dealt with in the Secretariat, so far from being treated with the importance that they deserve, tend to become routine and to be left in the hands of ministerial officers which is not good either for the service or for the officers concerned. I do not know, and I am not aware, that the officers concerned are in any way dissatisfied with this. If they are, I am afraid it does them no credit, and it is rather an indication that a little more control over them is perhaps needed."

* Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—" I just want to know, Sir, why, if he thinks this sort of control and supervision is so very essential in the case of the Provincial Service officers who are Indians, the same supervision and control are not equally desirable in the case of the junior members of the Indian Civil Service. If he thinks this change is not good for Civil Service, I think I must protest against its application to the case of Indians. I am afraid, Sir, there is more in this, than the hon. the Revenue Member is willing to acknowledge at once. I think, Sir, it will assume an aspect which

[Mr. A. Ranganatha Mudaliyar] [16th March 1926]

it is undesirable it should assume. It will become a question of race, a question of the Civil Service and the Provincial Service, and I do not think the Government are justified in giving ground for legitimate criticism on those points. Why should not then, Sir, all the confidential papers relating to the Sub-Collectors be dealt with hereafter by the Board of Revenue. Why should this Provincial Service officer alone be singled out for such treatment, at the hands of the Board of Revenue? I think, Sir, whatever might be the fate of the resolution, for my part, I cannot agree with the hon. the Revenue Member and should press it to a division."

* The hon. Mr. N. E. MARJORIBANKS :—"The hon. Member, Sir, in his second speech has shifted his ground. He now strives to import some racial consideration into the matter. I would ask him to remember that the Indian Civil Service consists of Indians also and every year will become more and more Indianised. There is no question of race in the matter at all."

p.m. "The administrative difference is that the services of the Deputy Collectors are mainly employed in the Revenue department whereas the Civil Service is an all-India service scattered over and employed in many departments. So that, what holds good in the one case does not hold good in the other."

The motion was put and lost.

* Diwan Bahadur M. KRISHNAN NAYAR :—"Sir, I move

'that the allotment of Rs. 1,19,300 for Board of Revenue—Settlement be reduced by Rs. 100.'

"The object of my motion is to bring to the notice of this Council once again the desirability of abolishing that old, hoary and I may say useless institution, namely, the Board of Revenue. The motion which precedes mine and which has not been moved on account of the absence of my hon. Friends, Mr. Srinivasa Ayyangar and Mr. Anjaneyulu, is not like mine a token motion but one for the omission of the entire provision.

"This is not the first time that this question comes for consideration before the House. In the first year of the Reformed Council, in 1921, this question came before the House and the Government appointed a committee consisting of officials and non-officials to enquire into the matter and report on it. And I believe two of the non-official members who were on the committee reported that there was no need to retain the Board in any case in its present strength. But the majority consisting of officials and some non-officials also were in favour of reducing the strength of the Board. Subsequently this question came again before the Council at the time of the budget discussion last year, and also the year before. On both those occasions this Council passed resolutions to the effect that it was not necessary to maintain this institution. The motion was carried but in spite of it, the institution is still there. And the amount reduced by the House was certified and restored by His Excellency. The question has therefore come again before the Council.

"Having regard to the fact that it has been discussed threadbare on previous occasions in this Council, I do not wish to go in detail into the arguments. I shall just refer to the salient features. A large portion of the work that was formerly being done by the Board has been taken over from it. For example, the Board was formerly doing the work connected with the Forest department. The whole of that work has now been taken

16th March 1926] [Mr. M. Krishnan Nayar]

over from the Board and vested in the Chief Conservator. Again, work relating to the Department of Agriculture is no longer done by the Board as a separate department has come into being for that work. So also the veterinary work which was formerly done by the Board has been transferred to the Veterinary department. Again, Co-operation has been similarly taken away while Income-tax and work connected with the Salt department have practically ceased to be part of the work of the Board because they have become Central subjects.

"As for the two Commissioners, one for Land Revenue proper and the other for Settlement, it is by an accident that we happen to have them both for work relating to land. Speaking from memory, I may say that the Settlement Commissioner originally was not a member of the Board of Revenue. Somewhere in the fifties of the last century there was a Superintendent of Survey and that Superintendent was drafted on to the Revenue Board as the Director of Agriculture or under some such designation. Subsequently he was incorporated into the Board of Revenue and made an integral part of it. And it is in this way that we happen now to have two officers. What is the nature of the work done by them? As a matter of fact the same paper goes to these two different Commissioners from two different departments. And sometimes conflicting orders happen to be passed curiously enough on the same paper on the same subject. And they were separately issued to the Collectors to their embarrassment. That probably is not now done for the reason that three years ago the Committee to which I referred and which was appointed by the Government went into that question and the Revenue Board themselves recommended to the Committee that one of the two Secretaries working under the Commissioners for Land Revenue and for Settlement might be abolished. They referred to this aspect of the case and stated that very often conflicting orders were passed by the two Secretaries and therefore by the two Commissioners which were issued to the Collectors so as to cause a great deal of confusion and embarrassment and to the discredit also of the Board. The Board therefore recommended that one Secretary was sufficient for both the Commissioners and that recommendation was accepted. And I believe the Government have abolished the place. But the main fact, namely, that there is no need for two Commissioners dealing with the same set of papers, I submit, exists even now. It is stated that one reason for the retention of the Board is that under certain Statutes the Revenue Board alone has the power of dealing with certain appeals presented against the decisions of revenue officers such as the Collector. But when we go into the question, we find that all the appeals relate more or less to very minor matters and if a change in the Statute is necessary, it can be easily effected. As a matter of fact formerly the strength of the Executive Council was very much less than it is now. Now there are four Members of Council. In addition to them there are the Ministers. The Revenue Member can therefore devote more attention to revenue matters than before. And provided the necessary statutory changes are made, the appeals can be disposed of by the Revenue Member.

"For these and for other reasons referred to at very great length in the authorized reports on previous occasions it is not necessary to retain the Board and I therefore move this motion which though it is a token motion is intended to effect the same object as the motion for the total omission."

[16th March 1926]

* The hon. Mr. N. E. MARJORIBANKS :—" Mr. President, as the hon. Mover himself has said this is a matter which has been debated in this House before at considerable length and if I thought hon. Members wished to consider the question on its merits, we might go at some length into it. But, I do not know why, it has in the past been a sort of article of faith that this House should wish to abolish the Board of Revenue. I intend advertising to that aspect of the matter later. I shall for the present briefly traverse the ground covered by my hon. Friend. He has pointed to the fact that several branches of administration have been removed from the Board of Revenue and otherwise provided for. Because of this, one Member of the Board has been abolished. Then he has stated that the Survey and Settlement departments were under separate departmental officers outside the Board of Revenue. It was exactly, Sir, owing to that arrangement that there was such a lack of co-ordination and much of the work done was so imperfect that we are now obliged to pay the penalty and incur such heavy expenditure over resurveys. Had the step been taken in the beginning of co-ordinating these departments and placing them under the immediate control and direction of the Board of Revenue, we should have been saved a great deal of money."

"Another criticism has been that the same paper used to go separately to two Members. That is beyond my comprehension. I do not understand what the hon. Member can possibly refer to."

* Diwan Bahadur M. KRISHNAN NAYAR :—" I refer to the printed note supplied to the members of the Committee of whom I was one by the Revenue Board itself. The fact that I stated is there, namely, that identical papers passed through both the Commissioners."

* The hon. Mr. N. E. MARJORIBANKS :—" I have not got the paper before me, Sir. But I am constrained to think that the hon. Member must have misconstrued what was stated in the note because the work of the Board of Revenue is regulated by an Act of the Madras Legislature. The subjects are, in a manner somewhat analogous to that applicable to the Members of Council, divided between the different members and notified in the gazette. There are also certain subjects which are put down as subjects to be dealt with by two Members. I do not see how under a system like that the same paper could go independently to two Members and receive two disposals. I fancy that it must be either a misapprehension or if such a thing had occurred it must have been due to some Secretariat breakdown."

"Again, as in last year, my hon. Friend has forgotten the Court of Wards. I only mention that because it is a very important duty of the Board of Revenue. There are at present only two Members of the Board instead of the original four. The third Member is only a member in name. He is really the Commissioner of Excise and is only nominally a member of the Board for the purpose of exercising control over the Collectors in excise matters. Of course, he sometimes helps the Board with his advice. But that is a different matter."

"The main reason, however, why the Board cannot be abolished is, as I have said already, that the policy of the Government is to have a head for each department to attend to its administration. It is not the function of the Government to manage the details of the administration directly and such detailed administration should properly be left to the head of the department."

[16th March 1926]

[Mr. N. E. Marjoribanks]

"As regards the argument that the Government has time to look after such work, of course, it is easy to make such statements but I wish I could invite hon. Members to change places with me for a short while and I am sure their view would change remarkably."

* Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—" Sir, one of the motions for reduction here stands in my name. That is No. 48, in the agenda and it covers the same ground as the motion under discussion."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" Would the hon. Member rather speak on this motion and waive his right to the other motion ? "

* Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—" Yes, Sir. The Revenue Board has been attacked off and on and I believe this motion is an annual affair in the House, and I hope it will be so in future also. As regards the abolition of the Board of Revenue, to a great extent this House expressed the public feeling on the subject, and public opinion in a matter like this, I think, must be respected. In some other Presidencies, Bombay for instance, corresponding to the Board, there are Commissioners, and the feeling there also is that these Commissioners are not required at all, that they are a sort of stopgap between the Government and the Collectors and some other officers. There is some sort of work created for these Commissioners and Board of Revenue by Acts and Regulations and we have only to amend those Regulations and Acts and then the work will adjust itself. I think the appellate work that the Board is doing can be divided between the Collector and the Government. The work done by the Collector is done to a great extent by the deputy collectors. The deputy collectors who are really deputies are in fact Collectors; they can do all work which the Collectors have to do; and the Collectors say of one or two districts might have a kind of appellate jurisdiction over the deputy collectors. Some revisional jurisdiction can be given to the Government. The appellate and revisional work at present done by the Board of Revenue in respect of settlement and other matters may be done away with. And if it is done away with, there is really no work for that Board. There is a great deal to be said about the appellate work done by the Board and the revisional work in settlement matters and matters relating to village officers etc. In 10 per cent of the cases the Board interferes and in other cases there is no interference. The Collectors generally act correctly in these matters and I think the Government can very well interfere and do justice in some cases, which will be small. I do not say that this appellate and revisional work should be done by the Revenue Member alone. There are other Members, the Law Member, the Finance Member and the Home Member, and they can do some work, in cases where justice is to be done. There are four Members and it can be arranged. We have got some statutes which can be amended and the first thing we should do in the Council is to bring a Bill amending these Acts and Regulations dealing with the Revenue Board. I believe the House will pass it without much difficulty, and thus get rid of this Board of Revenue. It is useless, I believe, to bring forward any resolutions any more. This will be the final resolution. There must be a Bill, and I wonder why I did not bring forward the Bill myself (laughter). Probably I shall bring it forward, and I think I shall have the support of this House, though there is some apprehension that we must go to the Government of India. That is my fear. I have got some Bills which have had to run the gauntlet of the Government of India's sanction. They refused sanction in one case

[Mr. J. A. Saldanha]

[16th March 1926]

the other is still awaiting sanction. But I believe this will not stand in the way of my hon. Friend bringing forward a Bill. This Revenue Board is not needed at all. It is a stumbling block in the way of proper work of Collectors, and the Collectors, I am sure, do not relish it very much. I think the Collectors should be trusted much more in the work done by them in the districts. They are heads of districts which are bigger than two or three counties put together, and I think the Collector must have some more power. Now the Ministers and others go and open bridges, etc. I think that ought to be left to the Collectors. I have mentioned some time ago the way in which the Ministers go and boss over the Collectors. I think the Collectors should be entrusted with more power in the matter of appeal and in looking over the administration of the districts. He is a sort of king there, and was even more than that in the past. But now the Collector cannot exercise much power. The presidents of local boards are another set of collectors and act sometimes as greater bosses than the Collectors. If we should strengthen the hands of the Collector, I think the Revenue Board will not be needed at all, and any work in the nature of appeals, etc. can very well be done by the Members of the Government and also by the Ministers (laughter). I therefore strongly support this token motion moved by my hon. Friend."

* Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR:—"Sir, I crave the indulgence of this House if on this question I raise certain important issues on the answer to which will depend—in regard to many other items also I think—as to how this is to be voted upon. Sir, this budget is presented to us by the Government and I take it, Sir, that the Transferred half had also its share in the business, in framing this budget and in presenting it to the House. This important item in the budget, Sir, we have a right in presuming had the approval of the Ministers. Now, Sir, a prominent Member of that party raises this issue and wants this Board of Revenue to be abolished. Now, I should like to know whether this motion of this prominent Member of the party has been made with or without the approval of the Ministerial Leader of this House. If that has been done with the approval of the Ministerial Leader of this House, then I should say he was not correct in giving his consent to this item when it was discussed in the Cabinet. If, on the other hand, he did not give his consent, then I think that a Member of the position and status of Mr. Krishnan Nayar should not have brought it here without his consent. Now, the question would arise as to what policy he is going to pursue. Would he also be a party to raising an issue like this, and then leave it to the vote of the House as it likes? Constitutionally, I think it should be his duty to support the Government in regard to a provision to which he has been a party already. That is the issue I want to raise, and I think it is a very important issue, and on the answer to it I shall have to decide as to how I should vote."

* Mr. A. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—"Sir, we have had many surprises since we began the sitting this morning, but I think the greatest of those surprises is the constitutional purloinitism that we have listened to just now (laughter). My hon. Friend from Bellary now comes forward and talks of the constitutional principle. He is more at home with famine and forest grievances and the grievances of the ryots with whom he is more intimate, both in his official capacity in the halcyon days when he was capable of doing some good to them, and in these latter days. I think the House will

[16th March 1926] [Mr. A. Ramaswami Mudaliyar]

readily agree that the issue he has raised is an utterly trivial issue which every baby in politics can easily answer. He has raised the question that the Ministerial party should share responsibility for this provision for the Board of Revenue. We have been working the diarchic system. The hon. Member seems to forget that there is no Ministerial connexion with the Reserved half. There is no responsibility attached to the Ministers with reference to the Reserved subjects, and we who are called Ministerialists, we who are followers of our leaders in the Ministry have a free hand with reference to the Reserved subjects, if such occasions arise, in speaking in this Council and voting on them. That the hon. Member from Bellary should have raised this point shows either to what lengths he is driven, to what position he is reduced, in order to prove a defect where there is none."

* Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR:—"May I say this as a personal explanation? I have raised and have been raising this question more than once, and yet it has not been taken up and answered by responsible persons."

* Mr. A. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—"That only proves how absurd the question raised is. It means that nobody ever took it seriously. He has raised it and raised it again and again, and yet everybody knows full well that the question is of such a trivial nature that it is not worth while to answer it. I am really very sorry for the hon. Member for Bellary when he says that he has raised as a serious proposition a question like that. Surely the hon. Member knows, or if he has read anything of the Montagu-Chelmsford report, if he followed the discussion before the Joint Parliamentary Committee, if he read the report of the proceedings of that Joint Committee himself, he would have known the position as between the Ministers and the Reserved half in regard to subjects relating to the Reserved half. He knows that a convention has been established and is proposed to be observed by the Joint Committee that in matters where Ministers differ from Members of the Reserved half they ought not to speak or vote against the Reserved half, normally speaking, but the widest latitude is given to the Ministers themselves to differ from the Members of the Reserved half. That is one of the fundamentals of the diarchic system. Otherwise where is the chance of a portion of the responsibility being effective? If we say that all the items in the budget, whether they are Transferred or Reserved, are passed and put in the budget with the consent and connivance of the Ministers, that means you abolish the whole system of responsibility in the Government. You cannot say which is that portion of the Government that is responsible to the House, which is responsible to public opinion, and which is that portion of the Government which hears you and might be influenced by the vote of this House as much as possible but is aided in view of its responsibility by higher authorities as well. My hon. Friend is not doing justice to the constitution under which he is working. He is not serving the people aright by this. He is trying to cloud the issues, and thus he would be misleading the electors by this game which has been played by all detractors of the Ministerial party to shove on the head of the Ministers that responsibility which by no stretch of the imagination can berown upon them. Surely that is not the way of working the constitutional principle. My hon. Friend has not walked out this morning and I was out to congratulate him for it, but it seems to me that there are other things for which I must feel very sorry for the hon. Member. If this is the art of constitutionalism that he is going to give to his electors, then I

[Mr. A. Ramaswami Mudaliyar]. [16th March 1926]

must say 'God save his electors'. This is not the way in which you are going to work responsibility, this is not the way in which you are going to show in what way the Ministers are responsible to the House. Where there may be defects, they can be taken to task. But if the Criminal Law Amendment Act is to be enforced, are the Ministers to be held responsible for it? If the Board of Revenue is retained, are the Ministers to be held responsible? I know, as a Member of the Finance Committee—the hon. Member must have been aware also—about the financial responsibility in these matters. Does he not know that there are what are called 'standing sanctions' which are passed automatically year after year? They are not placed before the Cabinet but are automatically passed year after year and go into the budget. I refer to part I or class I of budget items. Surely the hon. Member cannot pretend that he does not know these things. And yet he says there is the budget provision put before the House and therefore the Ministers must have known that this was brought before the Cabinet, that their views must have been taken on it, that they were brought round, that they must have explained the position, and so on. I do not know what qualifications my hon. Friend has got to say that these things have taken place. I do not possess any esoteric qualifications, but I would only say this, that as a Member of the Finance Committee I know how these things are done. If he remembers his ego as a Member of the Finance Committee, he will himself know how they are done. But to raise this question and expect an answer to this question is courting ridicule."

* Mr. J. A. SALDANHA:—"So many Members of the other side have taken their seats on this side and therefore there is a natural confusion of ideas (laughter). We do not know where we are and what they are doing." (Laughter.)

* The hon. the PRESIDENT:—"I hope the hon. Member was listening when Mr. Ramaswami Mudaliyar was making his speech. From his speech the hon. Member should know from which side he was speaking."

* Mr. J. A. SALDANHA:—"From the sides they have taken and the speeches they have been making we are led to some sort of confusion. The public also will be confused by the sides they have taken and the speeches they have been making."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT:—"Every one judges the speeches by the arguments and not the side upon which they are spoken."

* The hon. Mr. N. E. MARJORIBANKS:—"I am always reluctant to enter into constitutional questions. I would ask the House to remember that the Reserved half of this Government has its responsibilities and that it cannot seriously be asked to adopt every resolution of this House as it cannot make the House responsible for the consequences. I am sure whatever the House wishes to do it does not wish us to go against our convictions and our sense of duty in this matter."

* Diwan Bahadur M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—"I wish to say one word in reply and it is this. With reference to the constitutional issues raised by the hon. Member from Bellary, my Friend, Mr. Ramaswami Mudaliyar, I believe, has convincingly answered to them so that I do not wish to refer to that point again. My hon. Friend, the Revenue Member, referred only to one new point and that was in regard to the work done by the Board of

16th March 1926]

[Mr. M. Krishnan Nayar]

Revenue as Court of Wards. One suggestion that I have to make about this is that the Court of Wards work may be transferred to the Collectors who are at the seats of the wards. Another suggestion is that the work may be transferred to the hon. the Revenue Member. To my mind these suggestions are practical and there will be no difficulty in carrying them out. By adopting one or the other these difficulties can be got rid of. I am sorry that this motion has been opposed not by the non-official Members but by Government. It is the attitude indicated by the opposition to motions of this kind and by the certification that was adopted with reference to similar motions last year and the year before last that is really the cause of the feeling of despair that prompted many of the Members of the Opposition to walk out this morning. It is this attitude of Government with reference to motions like this that causes considerable discontent in the country. For these reasons I am very sorry that Government have thought it fit to oppose this motion. Government must know that this Council is very particular about this and that it has been so is shown by its attitude during the past years. I press my motion."

* The hon. Mr. N. E. MARJORIBANKS:—"I only rise, Sir, to protest against the imputation of unreasonableness and the allegation that this matter affords any ground of despair. The constitution, as my hon. Friend is perfectly well aware, divides the administration into two and makes the wishes of the Council mandatory in one field and advisory in the other. It seems to me an extraordinary proposition to put forward that where any view that is expressed by virtue of the advisory power is not accepted, it becomes a matter for despair. I cannot see, at any rate, how this question is vital. The Board of Revenue is an agency for the administration of a subject for which the Governor in Council is responsible. We have done our best to consider alternative methods or agencies. We have not been able to find any other method of administering the department which would be as cheap or as efficient as the one we have at present. I do not see how it can become a vital constitutional issue that we are unable to accept the wishes of the House in this particular matter."

The motion was put and declared lost.

A poll was demanded and the House divided thus:

Ayes.

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1. Mr. K. Prabhakaran Tampar. | 10. Diwan Bahadur M. Krishnan Nayar. |
| 2. Rao Bahadur C. Natesa Mudaliyar. | 11. Mr. P. T. Rajan. |
| 3. Rao Sahib S. Ellappa Chettiyar. | 12. " Chavadi K. Subrahmanyam Pillai. |
| 4. Mr. A. Ramaswami Mudaliyar. | 13. " K. Venkatachala Palayacheti. |
| 5. Diwan Bahadur P. C. Ethirajulu Nayudu. | 14. " B. Ramachandra Reddi. |
| 6. Mr. R. Madanagopal Nayudu. | 15. Khan Bahadur Haji Abdullah Haji Kasim Sahib. |
| 7. " P. N. Marthandam Pillai. | 16. Mr. T. M. Moitiff Sahib. |
| 8. " C. Muttayya Mudaliyar. | |
| 9. " J. A. Saldanha. | |

Noes.

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1. The hon. Sir C. P. Ramaswami Ayyar. | 8. Mr. F. B. Evans. |
| 2. " Mr. N. E. Marjoribanks. | 9. " G. T. Boag. |
| 3. " Khan Bahadur Muhammad Usman Sahib Bahadur. | 10. " V. Pandrang Row. |
| 4. " Mr. T. E. Moir. | 11. " F. Noyce. |
| 5. " Diwan Bahadur Sir T. N. Sivaganam Pillai. | 12. " Abdulla Ghatula Sahib. |
| 6. " Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. Patro. | 13. " S. Arpadaswami Udayar. |
| 7. " the Raja of Panagal. | 14. Rao Sahib T. C. Tangaveedu Pillai. |
| | 15. Capt. E. G. Windle. |
| | 16. Mr. J. A. Davis. |

[16th March 1926]

Noes—cont.

- | | |
|------------------------------------|--|
| 17. Mr. H. B. Ari Gowder. | 25. Mr. P. S. Rajappa. |
| 18. Rao Bahadur M. C. Raja. | 26. Rao Bahadur P. Raman. |
| 19. Mr. P. K. S. A. Arumuga Nadar. | 27. Mr. K. Sarvarayudu. |
| 20. " N. Devendrudu. | 28. " R. Veerian. |
| 21. Rao Sahib P. V. Gopalan. | 29. Rao Sahib P. V. S. Sundaramurti. |
| 22. Mr. L. C. Guruswami. | 30. Rai Bahadur T. M. Narasimhaachalu. |
| 23. Honorary Lieutenant Madurai. | 31. Mr. Abbas Ali Khan. |
| 24. Mr. G. Premayya. | |

16. hon. Members voted for the motion and 31 against it. The motion was lost.

* Mr. A. CHIDAMBARA NADAR :—" Sir, I move
that the allotment of Rs. 66,200 for pay of officers be reduced by Rs. 1,000."

"With regard to the Land Revenue Settlement Bill it has been stated that it is with the Government of India and that the sanction of the Government of India is expected every moment. We do not know what it is going to be. At the same time the Government have been going on with the operations of resettlement. Until the policy is definitely declared by the Government, I think, Sir, the settlement operations that are going on now should be suspended. With these words I move the motion."

* The hon. Mr. N. E. MARJORIBANKS :—"I could have understood the hon. Member if he had suggested that there should be no revision of assessment until the proposals with regard to the Bill were better known. But the settlement operations in progress have little to do with the rates of assessment. They very largely consist in making registration correct and complete and where the scheme report has not been prepared in collecting material which will be useful when the Bill on the subject is passed. I do not see what will be gained at the present stage by stopping settlement operations. Before any revised rates of assessment are introduced, I think, it is quite certain a definite statement regarding the Bill will be made. As a matter of fact there is no revision of rates pending now or in the immediate future so far as I am aware."

* Mr. A. CHIDAMBARA NADAR :—"The consequence of the settlement will be the raising of the rates."

* The hon. Mr. N. E. MARJORIBANKS :—"I do not understand the hon. Member. Surely he does not propose that we should cancel settlements already introduced."

The motion was then by leave withdrawn.

* Mr. R. VEERIAN :—"Sir, I move

that the allotment of Rs. 23,38,900 for Survey and Settlement be reduced by Rs. 100, to raise the question of the grant of darkhast lands to members of the depressed classes."

"I am not going to make any general observations in the matter of the depressed classes. I have several specific instances but I am not going to state the facts in all the districts. The Adi-Dravidas of Kallamangalam village, Tanjore taluk, were applying to the District Collector of Tanjore for the past few years for the assignment of darkhast land survey No. 220 and the Collector was pleased to order the reservation of 20 acres of land for assignment and it was transferred to assessed dry waste in his communication, dated 14th November 1925, No. 4177/25. Afterwards the Collector

[16th March 1926]

[Mr. R. Veerian]

took steps to alter the classification of the land to assessed dry only on the repeated requests of the petitioners and he had also ordered that out of 20 acres 10 acres should be assigned to the depressed classes and 10 acres to ex-military men.

"Sir, a very interesting thing then took place. The Labour Department had the land subdivided into tiny pieces with a view to assigning them to Adi-Dravidas. Afterwards, the powers of assignment were transferred to the Revenue Department, and the question of assignment of lands to poor Adi-Dravidas was kept in suspense. Then, Sir, those people were informed to their surprise on a reminder petition put by them, by the tahsildar in his communication, dated 26th February 1926, No. 3710/26, that the land that was subdivided previously to be assigned to Adi-Dravidas was to be assigned to ex-army men alone, contrary to their original expectation. This is not the only instance, Sir, and there are two more also which I wish to quote."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—"Would it not be better for the hon. Member to communicate his catalogue of instances to the hon. the Revenue Member, instead of quoting them on the floor of this House?"

* Mr. R. VEERIAN :—"I have communicated these things, Sir. But what I find is that they communicate the whole thing to the District Collectors concerned, and the District Collectors only uphold the views of their subordinates. They do not take the statements made by the poor Adi-Dravidas, but they take only the words of their subordinate officials as Gospel truth. So where is the salvation?"

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—"Does the enumeration of these instances mend matters?"

* Mr. R. VEERIAN :—"Then, I have, Sir, a few more instances to enumerate (laughter). It will be very interesting and it will be very pathetic to hear them also, as to how the members of the depressed classes are being treated with reference to the assignment of lands."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—"The hon. Member has only ten minutes for his speech."

* Mr. R. VEERIAN :—"Very well, Sir. The Government should take a special interest in the matter of assigning lands to members of the depressed classes as in the case of the ex-military men. That is my point. Also, Sir, the assignment of land should be made to those members of the depressed classes who are socially very low. There are so many sub-sects among the depressed classes, and the assignment of lands should be made to such members of the depressed classes as are socially very low. I think, Sir, that the hon. Member representing such a community, Mr. L. C. Guruswami, will join with me on this point, because they refer to the grievances of his community mostly. I really feel for that community because they do not possess even a bit of land. They are not being encouraged, because they have no god-fathers. That is my own impression, Sir. What I want to point out again is that when Adi-Dravidas cultivate lands spending enormous amounts, they are being deprived of those lands because the officials want to give preference to ex-army men. But they can pitch upon some other land. There are so many other lands. They particularly pitch upon these lands of Adi-Dravidas. They want to give such lands to other classes of people. Is it

[Mr. B. Veerian]

[16th March 1926]

because those poor Adi-Dravidas have no influence in these days? It is not justice, and we expect justice at the hands of the Government, and when we see that no justice is done to them, it is very pathetic to hear their cry.

"There is another difficulty also. The Board of Revenue has already issued a notification No. 1187, dated 5th March 1925, wherein it is stated that darkhast lands set apart for Adi-Dravidas should be made known to the people and that a list of such lands should be hung up in places where the depressed classes live and also in chavadis and other places. But these things are not at all being actually carried out. Such instructions were issued on the 5th of March 1925. It is nearly a year, and practically no effect has been given to them, and even in places where such lands exist the lists are not at all exhibited. I hope at least hereafter effect will be given to it, so that Adi-Dravidas may be able to get at least the lands set apart for them."

* Rao Sahib R. SRINIVASAN:—"I second my hon. Friend Mr. Veerian's motion. There are several instances of injustice. But I should like to mention only one instance. In a village called Illapur in Sriperumbudur taluk, Chingleput district, a depressed class man applied for land and he got from the Tahsildar a plot of about two acres. After he had broken the soil and brought it under cultivation, as usual, the village officials like the karnam, munsif and other caste people wanted to drive him out. Accordingly they arranged in such a way that the piece of land was assigned to ex-military men. The poor man who was originally given the piece of land was given notice of ejectment from it, though he had been cultivating it for over five years and paying penalty. I represented the matter to the Revenue Divisional Officer and I got a reply to say that it was transferred to the Tahsildar. I wrote to the Tahsildar and he said that it was assigned to ex-military men. So I had to raise the question in this Council and after I got the answers I submitted them to the Collector and said that sivayi-jama right should be given to him. I asked the Collector to call for the records and go through them. Afterwards, he called for the records and transferred that plot of land to the poor man, and the ex-military men were given some other land. Well, Sir, what I want to bring to your notice is that these people are ignorant and have no means of knowing where lands are available. They are not supposed to find out where the M.L.C.'s are and to represent to them, so that they may bring their grievances to the notice of the Government and enquiries made into them. I would therefore respectfully ask the hon. the Revenue Member to see that special attention is paid to these poor people by the Revenue Officers, the Tahsildars, especially the revenue inspector, the village karnam and the monigar, who are the traditional enemies of Adi-Dravidas, and in fact as they hold hereditary appointments, I say, they are their natural enemies. If the Government cannot be expected to do anything in these matters, it is impossible to get justice done. For the last thirty years the Government have been trying to assign some lands to these poor people, but they have not succeeded. They succeeded to a small extent after they created the Labour Department. In the beginning this department was manned by Deputy Collectors, men of some experience and qualifications, and they did something here and there. But they were replaced by Tahsildars, and the department is not doing so much now for the depressed classes. A good portion of poramboke lands and those lands on which depressed classes were allowed to cultivate for the last 30 or 35 years are now given away to ex-service men who should have been

[16th March 1926]

[Mr. R. Srinivasan]

paid in money for the services they had rendered. Of late, these poor people are not able to get such lands. Good lands available are given away to the ex-military people, to whom preference is given, and not to the tillers of the soil. When land has to be given to some ex-service man, the depressed class people are sent away from lands they were cultivating. It is not fair to the Government to take away the lands from the peasant labourers. If the Government wanted to do anything to the depressed classes, the Revenue Department should bestow special attention to these poor people. What I would suggest is that the assignment of lands should be made to those people who will make it a direct and independent means of living. Everything is in the hands of the ordinary revenue inspectors and Tahsildars who go round the villages. There are also the village officials from whom it is impossible to expect anything favourable to these poor people. These people have no chance of expressing their grievances to any higher official, and their needs should be met by the Government so that they may make their living."

* Mr. L. C. GURUSWAMI:—"Mr. President, Sir, I wish to present the Government with a fact which might perhaps astound it because of the poor performance of the Collectors of this Presidency. It may be strange to most of the hon. Members, too, because they might not have had occasions enough to know of it. It is this: Of the members of the depressed classes, the Arundatiyas or Madigas are the most depressed. Before giving any details to corroborate my statement, I am anxious to appeal to the hon. Members of this Council to sympathize with this class of people whenever they happen to go to them beseeching help, for some of my community go all the way to Madras to find help from a Member of the Legislative Council, whom they consider to be all in all to remedy their grievances by ventilating them in this House and before His Excellency the Governor. When I ask them to resort to Madras Legislative Councillors very near them, they say they meet with the reply that they have their own representatives in the Council. I do not like to say anything more in the matter, and leave it to the sympathetic hearts of my hon. Colleagues here. It is in connexion with the method of the disposal of lands under darkhast applications to the Tahsildars and Collectors in several districts that I find fault with.

"I know there are complaints from all communities regarding the procedure adopted by the Revenue Department on this account. But those complaints are the results of intelligent fight for more lands to add to their own estates. What I bring to your notice is the begging for alms by poor classes of people, without one meal a day whose leather work does not bring in sufficient income to feed them, and who could not find any other supplemental occupation.

"No doubt some of these people are uneconomical and addicted to vices of drinking and what not. But cases there are where genuine poverty makes men seek for lands to cultivate the soil to feed the hungry mouths of a large family. I have reasons to say that even those people cannot gain their object because of the oppressions of not only the castemen, but also the official caste which has not yet learnt to cut away the bonds of their superstition. Even European and non-Brahman Collectors are afraid to break the old records probably on the plea of breach of peace in villages if lands are assigned to the depressed class men, especially the Arundatiyas who cannot approach the villagers even to the extent of their brethren of other

4 p.m.

[Mr. L. C. Guruswami]

[16th March 1926]

depressed classes—the Adi-Dravidas—whose services the landlords could not dispense with very easily. I do not mean to say that the Adi-Dravidas or Adi-Andhras have become the real sons of the soil. Comparatively speaking, Arundhatiyas occupy a lower scale in the order of gifts by the Government also. I had several cases of report of utter negligence and indifference to men of my community and the treatment afforded to them by the karnams, village munsifs, revenue inspectors, Tahsildars, Deputy Tahsildars and a host of the official hierarchy.

“I began a correspondence with the Tahsildar of Chingleput in September 1924 on receipt of his disposal of an application by one Ponnai of Iohangarani for darkhast in his village. It dragged on several months and finally I wrote to the Secretary of this Council in my letter, dated 15th January 1925, fourteen months ago this date requesting him to get for me information regarding the details of assignments of lands. The reply, dated 15th February 1925, was to the effect that no information was available in the office regarding them and that I could apply to the Collectors concerned direct. Thereupon I prepared the following printed form and sent them on to the Collectors of all the districts on the 7th September 1925. The Collector of Salem says: ‘I invite your attention to note 4 of the notes for the use of non-official Members of the Council printed on page 99 of the Madras Legislative Council Manual, Volume II, according to which the requisition of a Member for information should be addressed to the Secretary to the Legislative Council’. In spite of the copy of the letters received from the Government referred to a few minutes before, sent to him as well as to the other Collectors, it is surprising to find that he replies in this vein.

“The Tanjore Collector asks what useful purpose will be served by preparing such statistical statements which involve much work, including a statement apparently of all waste lands in the district.

“The Trichinopoly Collector remarks it is a laborious process to fill up the forms sent and he has given the total area reserved and assigned for the depressed classes.

“Wherever the information is available, it is deplorable to find that a very small area of lands only is assigned to the Madigas. For example, taking Chingleput, our neighbouring district, we find only 46 acres out of 5,000 acres available have been assigned to the men of my community and these few acres are to be found scattered in seven taluks, whereas 2,460 acres are distributed among other depressed classes. South Kanara boasts of 29 acres 22 cents assigned and Tinnevely 22 acres. Ganjam has been most liberal to assign 5 acres 12 cents out of 2,857 acres to this class of people.

“I have more figures to quote, but I am afraid my time is not sufficient. I need hardly say that the Collectors should be more condescending to the depressed classes and more ready to furnish statistics needed by the Members of this Council through the Government.

“Next, I have to bring to light another irregularity of some of the Collectors and their subordinates. It is very difficult to get a reply even acknowledging our letters. If they reply at all, they seem to think it a matter of grace. I am prepared to produce lots of correspondence with one Collector which I had to make for getting a reply ‘nil’ or ‘not possible’ or ‘the letters not traceable’.”

[16th March 1926]

(The Member then proceeded to discuss about nominations of depressed classes, but on being called to order by the hon. the President he resumed his seat.)

* Rao Bahadur C. NATESA MUDALIYAR :—“I move

‘that the allotment of Rs. 23,38,900 for Survey and Settlement be reduced by Rs. 100.’

“Mr. President, there is a department called the Survey Department which is permanently temporary. The members of this staff have put in a service of 25, 30, 35, 40 and even 45 years and in one case 47 years. They are asked to go home because they are no more able to work, and the pay they receive when they are employed is not enough to maintain themselves and so they are not able to save anything. If they are sent home, they are not able to eke out their livelihood in any other way, and they are reduced almost to starvation. I know a case in which one man has almost starved after serving in the Survey department for over 47 years. They have no pension, they have no gratuity. Last time, at the Budget, I requested the hon. the Revenue Member to see that something was done in their case, and I also requested that if such people after serving for 20 or 25 years are sent home on account of retrenchment, they might be given preference if there were vacancies. But I do not think anything has been done in the way, and there are many people who are asked to go away and who are not given any gratuity. So, I request the Government to see that people who have put in more than 25 years' service, the pensionable period, are given some gratuity at least.”

* The hon. Mr. N. E. MARJORIBANKS :—“Sir, in regard to the lists of lands reserved for grant to particular classes, the Government have issued orders that lands which have been enjoyed by the cultivator for three years should not be reserved or granted to other people unless the cultivator has first had the option of taking it on patta himself. And as regards the non-publication of lists of land reserved for grant to the depressed classes, the hon. Member who spoke on the subject made similar representations to me personally in January, and circulars were issued, asking that Government officers on their tours should verify whether the orders as to publication have been carried out and see that they are carried out. As far as orders go, therefore, I do not see that Government can do more than they have done. But I am fully aware that there are very considerable difficulties in getting these orders translated into action. I do not know of any remedy for that except for hon. Members to keep on pegging away as they now do till the opposition, or what I may call passive resistance, of other interests gradually dies down.

“The hon. Member who spoke of the incident from Chingleput has well illustrated how by dint of persistence he got the orders observed and got the land granted to the party who ought to have got it. In that case, I do not understand why he in the course of his remarks said there was no use appealing to the Collector because when he did appeal to the Collector he apparently got the land. Apart from issuing orders, the Government have constituted a special staff in connexion with the Commissioner of Labour's department to watch over the interests of the depressed classes and to help them in getting the lands which are reserved for them. I think hon. Members who have spoken to-day will admit that we have done a great deal, and

[Mr. N. E. Marjoribanks]

[16th March 1926]

it is only by steady perseverance and constant insistence upon our orders that in time we hope that the practical difficulties will diminish.

"As regards individual cases, when the facts are brought to our notice, we can send them on to the local authorities to look into them and deal with them in the light of the orders we have issued. This may seem cold comfort in some respects, but I can assure hon. Members, if their memories go as far back as mine does, they well recognise that there has been a very great change for the better in the prospects of the depressed classes getting land. This was impossible thirty years ago because the darkhast rules stood in the way. One of the first acts of the Government I can remember in the direction of the present policy, was to amend the darkhast rules so as to abrogate the preferential claims of the adjoining holder, and the policy has steadily developed since. So, I do not think the representatives of these classes have any need really to despair so long as they continue to persevere and do not omit to bring to notice all cases of failure to carry out orders that Government have issued.

"Coming to the Revenue Department, the case that the hon. Member (Mr. Natesa Mudaliyar) mentioned referred to certain reductions made in the Central Survey Office. As I promised him last year I did look into the matter and I found that a majority of those who had over five years' service who had been brought under reduction were provided for in other posts in the Parties and the Director is doing his best to provide posts for the remainder.

"Of course it is inevitable that as the work of the Survey Department is completed a good many of the staff will have to be dispensed with. If a man spends all his service on a non-pensionable footing he can hardly expect Government to provide him with a pension at the end of his service. He is supposed to have made provision during his service for that contingency. It is, I admit, a great hardship to the individual but it is one inseparable from the very nature of the work and, probably, it will not be so hard as it seems, because there are always number of miscellaneous surveys going on in connexion with estates and litigation; a good many of the people whose services have been dispensed with will find employment in connexion with these works. I do not recollect any other matter on which hon. Members have spoken in connexion with this grant, and I should be glad to be reminded of anything that I have omitted."

* Mr. R. VEERIAN :—"Sir, I wish to say a few words in reply to what the hon. the Revenue Member has so out-spokenly said in connexion with the depressed classes. He says that we should cry hereafter. It is true that only crying children will get milk. We shall take up the sound advice and make frequent representations. Well, Sir, I admit that a good deal of improvement has been made in the condition of the depressed classes and I must point out that the hon. Member in charge has driven the nail. I am very glad of it. But I am sorry to say that the nail has not reached the very bottom, but it has reached only half way. I hope the hon. the Revenue Member will try his best to drive the nail to the very bottom so that the depressed classes may not have any room for complaints."

The motion of Mr. Veerian was by leave withdrawn.

* Rao Bahadur C. NATESA MUDALIYAR :—"I thank the hon. the Revenue Member for the steps he has already taken for entertaining those gentlemen

[16th March 1926]

[Dr. C. Natesa Mudaliyar]

who were asked to go away some five or six years ago. I request him to look into the cases of those people who have put in some 40 or 45 years' service. He says these people may get appointments in the estates. Supposing a man is 60 or 67 years old, I ask which estate will take him as a surveyor, or in other capacity. I would therefore ask the hon. the Revenue Member to consider such classes of cases and see whether any gratuity could not be given to them. I am not pressing this motion to a division to-day as the House is very thin and as the Government will carry all these motions by official and nominated votes. However, I would request the Government not to depend for the success of these motions on the votes of nominated and official members but to see whether the majority of the votes are from the elected members or not. It is only then the Government will know the public opinion. As I have already said I do not want to press my motion as I am aware what its fate will be. In these circumstances I only request the hon. the Revenue Member whether he cannot see his way to grant a gratuity to those people who have put in 30, 35, 40 or 45 years' service."

The motion of Mr. C. Natesa Mudaliyar was by leave withdrawn.

* Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—"Sir, I beg to move

'that the allotment of Rs. 97,400 for Board of Revenue, Financial Commissioner and establishments be reduced by Rs. 101.'

"My idea in moving this motion is to invite the attention of the House to the present strength of the Court of Wards Section and to the possibility of making a reduction in its establishment. About thirty years ago the Court of Wards Section was managing thirty-nine estates. That number has been steadily going down till to-day or it is managing only about eighteen estates. Surely the hon. the Revenue Member will concede that the work involved in the administration of thirty-nine estates—some of them were important and big in the old days—was far more than that involved in managing eighteen estates. I would ask him whether he is satisfied that the establishment which he still entertains is quite necessary. I want him to examine and say whether the same staff which existed about thirty years ago still continues, possibly with some additions. I think, Sir, that in the interests of economy which will not impair efficiency, a case is made out—if what I have stated is correct as I have tried to verify it—for him to reduce the present establishment, because the work is not enough for the officers and the staff. I hope he will make a serious endeavour to effect this retrenchment."

* The hon. Mr. N. E. MARJORIBANKS :—"Sir, the hon. Member who has moved this motion for reduction, some time ago put a question on the subject and I then had the matter examined. I did not go back as far as thirty years, because the circumstances which existed then and the circumstances which exist at the present moment are far different, but I took fifteen years as the basis for my comparison. I find that the number of estates under management has remained fluctuating between 18 and 22 during the last fifteen years. The establishment in the Office of the Court of Wards has remained exactly the same except the reduction of one lower division clerk which has been effected within the last four years."

* Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—"What about the Superintendent? Is that post not an addition?"

[16th March 1926]

* The hon. Mr. N. E. MARJORIBANKS:—"The establishment consists and has consisted of a manager, a superintendent where there used to be a head-clerk, six clerks where there used to be six clerks and four clerks where there used to be four routine clerks and two typists where there used to be two typists. The number of menials is the same. The amount of correspondence shows very little variation, and there is the further consideration, namely, that the entire cost is paid for by the estate concerned and it is not a charge on Government."

* Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR:—"I am surprised at the remark that because one is prepared to pay, you should be extravagant in your expenditure. As I have already submitted, in fasli 1292, there were thirty-nine estates under the Court of Wards. I am only asking the hon. the Revenue Member to go into the matter and if there is not as much work now as there was thirty years ago, to consider the question whether there ought not be a reduction in the establishment. If he will undertake to examine the question I shall withdraw my motion, otherwise I would press it."

* The hon. Mr. N. E. MARJORIBANKS:—"I should gladly undertake to do so, had I not already done so. The difference between the hon. Member and myself is only about the period. I think it is not proper to go back so long as thirty years because the circumstances were very different to what they are now both as regards quantity and quality of work done by the Court of Wards. People are not easily satisfied now-a-days and everything has to be done very carefully. For the last fifteen years there is no material alteration and in 1922 when the question of retrenchment was particularly taken up it was found possible to reduce one clerk. The maintenance of the Court of Wards Office does not cost the Government anything and I do not think that in the interests of the estates it would be wise to reduce the staff which checks the accounts and returns which come from these estates."

The motion was by leave withdrawn.

* Mr. J. A. SALDANHA:—"Sir, the motion which stands in my name runs as follows:—

'That the allotment of Rs. 7,04,700 for pay of establishments be reduced by Rs. 100.'

"Sir, last year during the budget debates it was this Council that passed a resolution by a majority that a Committee should be appointed to enquire into the grievances of non-gazetted men and I brought an amendment that in this category the grievances of unpassed men should be included. That grievance is well known to the Members of this House, and it is this: by an order of the Government when unpassed men were promoted to the grade of Rs. 20 they automatically rose to Rs. 50 because the resolution was so worded that even the Accountant-General or the Audit Officer when they were consulted on this matter said that the order of the Government did apply equally to the cases of unpassed men also.

4-30
P.M.

"The order was not clearly worded owing probably to the carelessness of some clerk or generosity of some officer. The Collectors or the Audit Officer who had to do with the order construed it also in the same light and treated unpassed men in the same category as passed men. These poor clerks got their increments for the last two years and no doubt spent them for their own absolute wants. Now after they have enjoyed the incremental scale for two years the hon. the Revenue Member says not that the order was wrong but

[16th March 1926]

[Mr. J. A. Saldanha]

that the interpretation of it was wrong and that the clerks should be asked to refund them. A resolution was passed by this House to investigate into the grievances of these clerks, but Government refused to accept the recommendation. I do not want to go into the details of the resolution which was solemnly passed by this House. But the Government flouted the wishes of the House. I am not now surprised if a large number of Members of the House have become so disgusted—many of us also feel that disgust—that they walked out of the House in a body. I should not be surprised if many more also walk out hereafter. This is a matter of very great importance to the unpassed men. I do not think the Government would lose anything by appointing a committee. We are in touch with the condition of the low-paid clerks and we know the pinch of distress that they feel in their families. I earnestly trust that Government will at least now appoint this committee and do this act of justice to the poor clerks. It is a very dangerous thing to have discontent among these non-gazetted servants. I am sure ninety per cent of them if not more would deeply sympathise with the action of these Members who have chosen to walk out of the House. After all discontent of any sort is a dangerous thing to the State. There might have been a misunderstanding of the order of the Government; but the Government might have very well condoned their promotion and stopped them at their present scale. They need not have asked the clerks to refund the excess that they have drawn. After constant agitation Government at last passed an order that they would consider the waiver of the refund of the excess amount if they applied to the Government. I ask, Sir, what the Government would have lost if they had said, 'we have done a mistake; there have been appeals from various quarters; what has been done is forgiven. All those that have refunded the amount might recover the amount.' That would have been appreciated by the clerks. Instead of that each clerk has now to apply to the Government. I earnestly appeal to the hon. the Revenue Member and the hon. the Finance Member to consider this solemn request of the Council contained in its resolution and appoint a committee."

* The hon. Mr. N. E. MARJORIBANKS:—"Mr. President, Sir, the total cost of the non-gazetted staff has during the last few years increased by about 60 per cent. The increase in the lowest scale has been from Rs. 20 to Rs. 35. I do not now wish to lay down positively that it is a sufficient increase; but I think the House will admit that it is a very considerable increase and it is very difficult for the Government to find larger funds for this purpose with due regard to the other demands on the public purse. In the memorials and representations received from the non-gazetted servants their grievance is as a rule set forth in the form of a request for more pay. But that, in one form or other, is a grievance which we all, whether officials or non-officials, have; we all would like to have more income. If the Committee that was asked for were appointed I do not see what it could do unless the Government said that they had got so much more money to spend on the services. When we know that there is nothing to be gained by the appointment of a committee, to appoint one would only be raising expectations in the minds of the clerks which we would not be in a position to satisfy. That, I believe, was the reason why the Government last year did not see their way to appoint a committee. Here again, I do not know why

[Mr. N. E. Marjoribanks]

[16th March 1926]

that should be called 'flouting' the wishes of the House. Is the Council prepared to find funds for any material increase on the present scale of salaries in preference to many other objects on which they have clearly intimated their desire? It is no use, to get indignant and leave the Council when you are not prepared to say how your desire is to be carried out.

"As regards the other point regarding unpassed men, I myself do not see how it could appear to any person who applied his mind to the question, that people who had been exempted specially to hold a post on Rs. 20 would be entitled to have the benefit of the incremental scale as soon as it was introduced and to rise to Rs. 60. There were some officers who did construe the rules so. I do not think they paid any attention to the orders at all; they granted the increments as a matter of course without any examination of the question. I admit it is hard on those who have to refund. The matter is however under the consideration of Government. Our difficulty is that the action taken varied in different departments and we do not wish to be unfair as between one department and another. In that matter also I do not see what a committee could do. The facts are known to us. As a matter of fact I do not remember whether the Committee was recommended for that purpose or not. I think it was rather to consider the general question of pay. I do not think the Government is in any better financial position to make it in any way expedient or desirable to appoint a committee and thereby give rise to hopes in the minds of all subordinates when we know we have not got the money to pay them any more."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—"Does the hon. Member wish to press the motion?"

* Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—"I wish to press the motion."

"This Council foresaw that if the committee inquired into the matter and recommended some increase, we should have to find the money required. With a full knowledge of this fact, that resolution was passed. Increase of salary need not be paid to every department. There are some departments in which there need not be any increase of salary. But there are some departments whose grievances might have been redressed by slightly increasing the rate of salary. The increase need not be very much. It is a fact that there has been an increase of 60 per cent in the pay of the higher services of every department. In the Judicial department for instance, the salaries were raised considerably. In Bombay there was increase of pay from Rs. 150 to Rs. 200 or 300. Here also there was considerable increase in the salary of the subordinates of the Judicial service. In any case, the poor clerks are generally men of some education and they have to spend money almost on necessities as much as a district munsif. The difference is not much. So the increase of salary in the lower grades might have been greater than in the higher services. In any case, the matter was discussed at length by both the official and non-official Members and a solemn resolution was passed."

"I had given notice of a motion with regard to the case of the unpassed men. My motion for a cut came lower down. For fear of my motion not being reached at all, I tacked it on as an amendment to the main motion for the appointment of a committee. The hon. the President, your predecessor, allowed the amendment to go in for fear of my motion not being reached."

[16th March 1926]

[Mr. J. A. Saldanha]

The motion that a committee should be appointed to inquire into the grievances and to propose a remedy was passed. So in the case of unpassed men this House has solemnly passed a resolution. I do not reiterate the arguments in favour of the unpassed men. But I wish to bring to the notice of this House—it is again and again overlooked—that once a time-scale of pay supersedes a graded system, it *ipso facto* follows that a clerk has a right to rise and get the incremental salary. In the case of a graded system it is different. To rise to Rs. 25 from Rs. 20 would require special sanction. If once a clerk is admitted to get Rs. 35, he must get his increments in the time-scale year after year."

* The hon. Mr. N. E. MARJORIBANKS :—"It is not so."

* Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—"The Accountant-General's opinion is different. Several departments have consulted the Accountant-General. The High Court consulted him. When I asked the Government what the opinion expressed by the Accountant-General on the subject was and to place the opinion on the table of the House, the Government as usual did not publish it. As a matter of fact the Accountant-General gave his opinion. I have got it in my record; I can easily get it. The Accountant-General solemnly expressed his opinion that the clerks were entitled to get increments in the time-scale. Be that as it may. Here is a resolution passed by this Council and it should be respected. Therefore I press the motion."

The motion was put to the House and lost.

Diwan Bahadur P. C. ETHIRAJULU NAYUDU :—"Mr. President, Sir, I move

'that the allotment of Rs. 1,15,000 for Travelling allowances be reduced by Rs. 100.'

"I have given notice of this token motion just to bring to the notice of the Government the undesirability of transferring Collectors very often. My district has suffered very badly in this respect during the last five or six years. During the last six or seven months we had five Collectors and within one year, seven Collectors. Take the last three or four years; the case is the same. What I wish to say is that it is difficult for an administrator however efficient he may be to understand the district before six months. Just before he gets into touch, with the people he is transferred and a new man is posted. He goes through the same process. Then a third man is appointed with the result that my district suffers in its administration. All I wish to say is that not only public money is wasted in the shape of travelling allowance but the real administration of the district also suffers. This is not the first time during the budget debate that I have brought this fact to the attention of the Government. Two years ago I made the same sort of complaint. I also wish to draw the attention of the Government to the fact that Sir Charles Todhunter expressed his regret and promised that he would minimise the transfers. But the promise has not been kept up. There may be some difficulties. But so many transfers in a district in a short period is really astonishing. I could not think of any reason for doing so. The hon. the Revenue Member who knows the district very well and the importance of the district will see his way to minimise the transfers and post a man who can stay there for some time so that he can understand the people. I might also say that some of the Collectors posted to Guntur were juniors. I hope and trust that the hon. Member in charge will post senior Collectors. I have given notice of this token motion just to draw the attention of the

[16th March 1926]

* The hon. Mr. N. E. MARJORIBANKS :—" Mr. President, Sir, the evil the hon. Member has spoken of is a real one and it is a matter that causes the Government considerable concern. It is an evil not due to any action of theirs. They cannot help officers falling ill and applying for leave under the more elastic rules which are now in force. The Government are always careful not to make any transfer that they can help. They have gone further and made it a rule that except on medical certificate no officer will be granted leave if one-fifth of the cadre is on leave. Guntur seems to have had luck in the matter of the Collectors falling ill and applying for sick leave. The last change was due to sickness and before that the officer took leave on some private affairs and the leave could not be denied. In order to prevent changes elsewhere, junior officers were put in as stop-gaps between the postings of senior officers. That is why the number of changes is so large. But I do not quite see how the Government can avoid the main changes and I can assure the House that the Government have no wish to remove any officer from a district of their own accord. It is only when an officer falls ill or applies for leave which cannot be denied that we have to make some arrangements. We post junior officers only to avoid disturbing the senior officers from other districts. At the same time I quite admit that the changes are too frequent and the Government will have to consider whether they should not further restrict the number of officers who can go on leave at a time at present. Beyond doing that, I do not think that it is in the power of the Government to avoid making a certain number of changes under the present conditions."

Diwan Bahadur P. C. ETHIRAJULU NAYUDU :—" I cannot understand the hon. Member in charge saying that the Government are helpless. The Government have been pursuing this policy for the last three or four years. Surely, when the hon. Member is the head of the department, he can help the district by making officers stay there for some time longer. My district specially requires a man with some experience of the district. Otherwise one will find it difficult to manage. The district requires a man of some experience in service to be posted. If he is posted for a couple of years he will get himself acclimatised and he would not get sickness. The hon. Member was in Guntur and he did not fall ill. He was hale and hearty and was quite all right. I dare say that other officers also will remain there for a long time. I do not want to press my motion."

The motion was by leave withdrawn.

* Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—" Sir, I move that

'the allotment of Rs. 11,07,900 for Collectors and Magistrates be reduced by Rs. 101.'

"I wish to elicit from the Government the reasons for treating the pay of some Collectors as non-votable."

* The hon. Mr. N. E. MARJORIBANKS :—" To cut short discussion, I may say that it is a mistake and that a supplementary demand will be moved by the Government to correct the mistake. It was a mistake made by the department owing to a misconstruction of certain statutory rules."

* Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—" I shall confine myself only to the other question which I have specified in regard to my motion and that is that there are a number of people, Sir, who are acting as Collectors for a

[16th March 1926] [Mr. A. Ranganatha Mudaliyar]

number of years without being confirmed in their places. There are perhaps no permanent vacancies in which they could be confirmed, but at the same time I wish to submit to the Government, Sir, that they have omitted one or two appointments which hitherto were open for the Provincial Service men, for some mysterious reason known to themselves. I will refer to one case. The appointment of the Judicial Secretary to the Government was for a long time not included among the 'listed' posts; but, Sir, two or three years ago—we cannot find out the reasons for that change—it has been treated as one of the 'listed' posts. The result is that an appointment which hitherto has been held or rather one appointment which was available for Provincial Civil Service officers has been denied to them. Now, Sir, I take it that there are six 'listed' posts at present. I am not sure if that number is not going to be increased very soon. Advantage should be taken of the increase in the number of listed posts, to confirm the acting people; because to continue the present arrangement is a serious disadvantage to the senior officers among Deputy Collectors. Usually, officers in the selection grade are appointed to these acting appointments; but people in the ordinary grade are not promoted to the selection grade in the acting arrangements. This, I think, Sir, is a disadvantage to people who have put in long years of service. That is why I have tabled this motion, Sir."

* The hon. Mr. N. E. MARJORIBANKS :—" I do not quite follow the point made, Sir. There are a certain number of listed superior posts, either executive or judicial. The superior executive post may be either a collectorship or a secretaryship or any other post graded as a collectorship. As a matter of fact—it may be a coincidence and it need not necessarily happen so—a Provincial civil service officer is at present the Law Secretary to Government."

* Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—" Shall I explain, Sir, to save time? What I mean to say is this: At one time including the post in question, there were seven appointments which were held by the Provincial civil service officers and the office of the Judicial Secretary was not treated as one among the listed appointments; but subsequently, it was treated so, with the result that only six officers now hold the superior posts."

* The hon. Mr. N. E. MARJORIBANKS :—" The number of listed posts has never been decreased, Sir. It has been steadily increasing and under the present proposals will increase slightly still further. But the listed posts are not all specified posts. There are only a certain number of specified posts and this number has always been filled by Provincial civil service officers. Of course, it is not possible to confirm the acting Collectors, Sir, unless the 'listed' posts they hold become permanently vacant. Some of our Provincial civil service officers who are holding superior executive posts have been for some years on leave or on deputation elsewhere. We have not turned out anybody; but at the same time there is no permanent vacancy."

"As regards the point about promotion of officers to the selection grade, under the Fundamental Rules, acting promotion is not admissible to the selection grade unless there is a special rule to that effect. There are certain departments where the rules permit promotion to the selection grade, but the Revenue Department is not one of them. The Fundamental Rules were made with the sanction of the Secretary of State. I cannot remember exactly the grounds on which the Revenue department was not included."

[Mr. N. E. Marjoribanks] [16th March 1926]

I did not know that the hon. Member would raise that point; but as a matter of fact, I recollect having answered a question of his on the subject some time ago. If I have not, I shall be glad, if he will put down a question, to look into the matter and give him the necessary information."

The motion was, by leave of the House, withdrawn.

The House adjourned (5-7 p.m.) to meet again at 11 a.m. the next day.

R. V. KRISHNA AYYAR,
Secretary to the Legislative Council.

APPENDIX I.

[Vide answer to question No. 1500 asked by Mr. R. Veerian at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on the 16th March 1926, page 15 supra.]

List.

	Name of member.	Community.	
1.	M.R.Ry. K. Souri Raja Ayyangar	Brahman.	Elected.
	Avargal.		
2.	" Rai Sahib A. Sethu Rama	Do.	Do.
	Ayyar Avargal.		
3.	" R. Somasundaram Pillai	Ahamudaiyar.	Do.
	Avargal.		
4.	" K. Srinivasa Raghava Ayyan-	Brahman.	Do.
	gar Avargal.		
5.	" V. Arumugan Pillai Avargal ...	Ahamudaiyar.	Do.
6.	" T. Somasundaram Pillai Avar-	Do.	Do.
	gal.		
7.	" K. Nataraja Pillai Avargal ...	Do.	Do.
8.	" K. R. Rajagopalachariyar	Brahman.	Do.
	Avargal.		
9.	" K. Gopalaswami Ayyangar	Do.	Do.
	Avargal.		
10.	" S. Soundararaja Pillai Avargal.	Yatavar.	Do.
11.	" N. C. Rangaswami Ayyangar	Brahman.	Do.
	Avargal.		
12.	" G. Samuel Pillai Avargal ...	Christian.	Do.
13.	" D. Sundaresam Pillai Avargal.	Ahamudaiyar.	Nominated.
14.	" D. Thavul Minakshisundaram.	Melakara.	Do.

APPENDIX II.

[Vide answer to question No. 1569 asked by Mr. R. Veerian at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on the 16th March 1926, page 20 supra.]

Letter from RISHI RAM, Arya Missionary, Arya Samaj Mandir, to the Divisional Magistrate, Palghat, dated Palghat, the 12th November 1925, No. 64.

I beg to inform you that our Arya Samaj Members as usual are going to see the car festival also in Kalpathy to-day. If you have any objection, please communicate to me the same as early as possible.

16th March 1926]

Letter from M.R.Ry. Rao Sahib M. KUNHIRAMAN NAYAR Avargal, B.A., Sub-divisional First-class Magistrate, to Pandit RISHI RAM, Arya Samaj Madam, Palghat, dated the 12th November 1925.

[Kalpathy Car festival—Entry of Arya Samajists.]

I have no objection to the Arya Samajists going to see the car festival at Kalpathy. But in view of the fact that the inhabitants of Kalpathy and adjoining aghaharams refuse to treat Ezhuvas and other depressed classes converted by the Arya Samajists as entitling to entry in the aghaharams, I have to treat such converts to Arya Samaj as members of the classes to which they originally belonged for purposes of entry into Brahman Aghaharams till the converts prove their claims in a Civil Court.

APPENDIX III.

[Vide answer to question No. 1570 asked by Mr. M. Krishnan Nayar at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on the 16th March 1926, page 21 supra.]

Proceedings of the Subdivisional Magistrate, Palghat,
dated 13th November 1925.

M.R.Ry. Rao Sahib M. KUNHIRAMAN NAYAR Avargal, B.A.,
Subdivisional Magistrate.

Order under section 144 of the Criminal Procedure Code.

To all Thiyyas, Izhuvas, Panans, Cherumas, Parayas, Nayadis and converts to Arya Samajam from all these classes of people.

Whereas it has been made to appear to me that a disturbance of the public tranquillity or a riot is likely to occur if members of the classes mentioned below, namely, Izhuvas, Thiyyas, Panans, Cherumas, Parayas, Nayadis and converts to the Arya Samajam from these classes of people, attempt to enter the Brahman aghaharams in and around Kalpathy, during the car festival, I do hereby prohibit them from entering the villages of Kalpathy, old and new, Chathapuram, Govindarajapuram, Vydianathapuram, 12th street, and the single street west of the Achan's house and strictly warn and enjoin all persons of the above classes not to enter these villages from to-day the 13th of November 1925 to 16th November 1925, both days inclusive.

Given under my hand and the seal of this Court, this 13th day of November 1925.

M. KUNHIRAMAN NAYAR,
Subdivisional Magistrate, Palghat.

THE MADRAS LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

Wednesday, the 17th March 1926.

The House met at 11 o'clock, with Mr. President (the hon. Mr. M. RUTHNASWAMY, M.A., Bar.-at-Law) in the chair.

PRESENT:

Ramaswami Ayyar, K.C.I.E., The hon. Sir C.P.	Narayanan Nambudiripad, Rao Bahadur O. M.
Marjoribanks, C.S.I., C.I.E., The hon. Mr. N. E.	Natesa Mudaliyar, Rao Bahadur C.
Usman Sahib Bahadur, The hon. Khan Bahadur Muhammad.	Noyce, C.S.I., C.B.E., I.C.S., Mr. F.
Moir, C.S.I., C.I.E., The hon. Mr. T. E.	Obalesappa, Mr. B.
Raja of Panagal, The hon. the.	Pandrang Rao, Mr. V.
Patro, Kt., The hon. Rao Bahadur Sir A. P.	Prabhakaran Tampan, Mr. K.
Sivagnanam Pillai, Kt., The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir T. N.	Premayya, Mr. G.
Abbas Ali Khan, Mr.	Raghuohandra Ballal, Mr. K.
Abdulla Ghatala Sahib, Mr.	Raja, Rao Bahadur M. C.
Ari Gowder, Mr. H. B.	Raja of Ramnad.
Arpudaswami Udayar, Mr. S.	Rajan, Mr. P. T.
Arumuga Nadar, Mr. P. K. S. A.	Rajappa, Mr. P. S.
Boag, Mr. G. T.	Ramachandra Reddi, Mr. B.
Chidambara Nadar, Mr. A.	Raman, Rao Bahadur P.
Davie, Mr. J. A.	Ramaswami Mudaliyar, Mr. A.
Ellappa Chettiyar, Rao Sahib S.	Ranganatha Mudaliyar, Mr. A.
Ethirajulu Nayudu, Diwan Bahadur P. O.	Rencontre, Mr. A. E.
Evans, C.S.I., I.C.S., Mr. F. B.	Ross, Mr. T. M.
Gopalan, Rao Sahib P. V.	Sagaram, Mr. P.
Guruswami, Mr. L. C.	Saldanha, Mr. J. A.
Haji Qasim Sahib Bahadur, Khan Bahadur Haji Abd-ul-lah.	Sitarama Reddi, Mr. K.
Heggade, Mr. D. Manjappa.	Srinivasan, Rao Sahib R.
Kesava Pillai, C.I.E., Diwan Bahadur P.	Subbarayan, Dr. P.
Khadir Mohiddin Elyas Khan Sahib, Mr.	Subramania Pillai, Chavadi K.
Krishnan Nayar, Diwan Bahadur M.	Sundaramurti, Rao Sahib P. V. S.
Krishnaswami Nayudu, Rao Bahadur K.	Tangavelu Pillai, Rao Sahib T. O.
MacDougall, Kt., Sir Alexander.	Veerian, Mr. R.
Madanagopal Nayudu, Mr. R.	Vellingiri Gounder, Mr. V. C.
Madurai, Hon. Lieut.	Venkatachala Padayachi, Mr. K.
Moida Sahib, Mr. T. M.	Venkatarama Sastri, Mr. T. R.
Muttayya Mudaliyar, Mr. O.	Venkatareddi Nayudu, Kt., Rai Bahadur Sir K.
Narasimhaachalu, Rai Bahadur T. M.	Windle, Capt. E. G.
	Wood, Mr. O. E.

[17th March 1926]

I

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

[Order made by the President of the Madras Legislative Council under Standing Order No. 15 on the 4th December 1924.]

1. Starred questions to be put at a meeting of the Council with their answers shall be printed and placed on the Council table an hour before the President takes his seat.

The Secretary shall call out the name of each interpellator in the order in which the names are printed, specify the serial number of his question and make a sufficient pause to give him or any other member a reasonable opportunity of rising in his place and putting a supplementary question. Supplementary questions must be put immediately after the principal questions to which they relate.

2. If a member responsible for a starred question happens to be absent when it is called, it will be open either to him or to any other member to put supplemental questions thereon after the other starred questions for the day have been answered, provided question-time is not thereby exceeded.

3. Questions, not starred, will not be called in Council, but they will be printed with their answers and placed on the table of the House along with the list of starred questions. Oral supplementary questions will not be allowed in regard to unstarred questions.]

STARRED QUESTIONS.

Criminal Justice.

Alleged attack of non-Devangas on Devangas in Chennur village.

* 1578 Q.—Mr. S. MUTTAYYA MUDALIYAR: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government have made any inquiries about the incident that took place in Chennur village, Gudur taluk, Nellore district, on 15th October 1925, when the non-Devangas of the place are said to have attacked the Devangas and committed dacoity;

(b) what are the causes that led to such outbreak of hostilities; and

(c) what steps have been taken to prevent similar occurrences in future?

A.—(a) The Government have received a report on the riot from the District Magistrate.

(b) The riot is ascribed to resentment at the increase in the wealth and importance of the weavers and to their alleged attempts to encroach on the privileges of the Kapus at the annual jatra in the village and on other occasions.

(c) A special police outpost has been opened as a temporary measure at Chennur, and Security proceedings under section 107, Criminal Procedure Code, have been launched against 20 Devangas and 20 Kapus. The question of the further continuance of the Police outpost will be considered after the conclusion of the Security cases.

Land Revenue.

Taxes on palmyra trees.

* 1579 Q.—Mr. R. VEERIAN: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether there is any difference in rates in connexion with palmyra trees in Tinnevely district as compared with those in other districts;

[17th March 1926]

(b) if so, what is the rate prevailing at present in Tinnevely district for palmyra trees and the rates in other districts for the same trees; and

(c) whether there is any difference in rate in connexion with fruit bearing and non-fruit bearing palmyra trees?

A.—(a) & (b) The hon. Member is referred to the following statement showing the rates of tax on palmyra trees in the several districts:—

			Palmyra.		
			RS.	A.	P.
1.	Anantapur ..	..	0	8	0
2.	Arcot, North ..	..	0	2	0
3.	Arcot, South ..	..	0	2	0
4.	Bellary ..	..	0	2	0
5.	Chingleput ..	..	0	2	0
6.	Chittoor ..	..	0	2	0
7.	Coimbatore ..	..	0	2	0
8.	Cuddapah ..	..	0	4	0
9.	Ganjam ..	..	0	2	0
10.	Godavari, East ..	..	0	2	0
11.	Godavari, West ..	..	0	2	0
12.	Guntur ..	..	0	2	0
13.	Kanara, South ..	..	0	2	0
14.	Kistna ..	..	..	..	..
15.	Kurnool ..	..	..	..	..
16.	Madras ..	..	..	..	..
17.	Madras ..	..	0	2	0
18.	Malabar ..	..	..	..	..
19.	Nellore ..	..	0	0	2
20.	Nilgiris, The ..	..	0	0	3
21.	Ramnad ..	..	0	2	0
22.	Salem ..	..	0	0	4
23.	Tanjore ..	..	0	2	0
24.	Tinnevely* ..	..	0	0	4
25.	Trichinopoly ..	..	0	2	0
26.	Vizagapatam ..	..	0	2	0

Fruit-bearing.
Leaf-cutting.

No tree pattas.
No rates notified.
No tree tax levied.

No tree pattas granted.

Sriharikota island alone.
No tree tax levied.

Smooth } Srivilliputtur and
Rough } Sattur taluks
only.

Smooth.
Rough.

* Except in six villages of the Srivaikuntam taluk where the rates are six pies for a smooth tree and three pies for a rough tree.

Notes.—A smooth tree is one fit for regular climbing; a rough tree is one not fit for regular climbing.

(c) There is a difference in rate between fruit bearing and other trees in Coimbatore and in certain taluks of Tanjore district it is not customary to charge on male palmyras.

Mr. R. VEERIAN:—"Sir, I find there is a vast difference between the rates in Anantapur and those in Tinnevely. May I know why?"

The hon. Mr. N. E. MARJORIBANKS:—"The rates in other districts are on scattered trees. I believe in Tinnevely, palmyras are grown in regular topes. And if the hon. Member refers to the Settlement reports he will see that the land is assessed by counting the number of trees on it and calculating at the rate of 4 pies per tree and fixing the amount as the rate on the land. The case of Tinnevely is different from other districts."

[17th March 1926]

Mr. R. VEERIAN :—" Again, Sir, while in many districts the rate is 2 annas, in Cuddapah it is 4 annas. May I know why? "

The hon. Mr. N. E. MARJORIBANKS :—" I don't know, Sir, but I suppose it is due to the local conditions. The comparative rarity of the tree makes it more valuable in that particular locality. "

Mr. R. VEERIAN :—" With reference to (c), I find there is a difference in rate between fruit bearing and non-fruit bearing trees and this is confined to Coimbatore and Tanjore only. May I know why? "

The hon. Mr. N. E. MARJORIBANKS :—" There again, Sir, it is due to the local custom. "

Mr. R. VEERIAN :—" May I know then, whether the custom in other districts are different in any way? "

The hon. Mr. N. E. MARJORIBANKS :—" Apparently so, Sir, in the case of these trees. "

Mr. R. VEERIAN :—" May I know whether there would be any difference in the palmyra trees, fruit bearing and non-fruit bearing, in the other districts due to local custom. "

The hon. Mr. N. E. MARJORIBANKS :—" Not in the tree but in the use to which people put it, I suppose. "

District Labour officers.

* 1580 Q.—Mr. R. VEERIAN : Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) the names of the districts in which the District Labour officers were vested with powers to assign darkhast lands to the members of the depressed classes straightway; and

(b) if all the District Labour officers were not vested with such powers, the reason for not giving such powers in their cases?

A.—(a) District Labour officers have no power to assign lands in any district.

(b) The assignment of land is not the function of the District Labour officers but of the Revenue Department.

Mr. R. VEERIAN :—" May I know the functions of the District Labour officer? "

The hon. Mr. N. E. MARJORIBANKS :—" That, Sir, is a question that should be addressed to my hon. Colleague. "

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" That is a matter for a separate question. "

Mr. R. VEERIAN :—" The answer says, Sir, that the assignment of land is not a function assigned to the District Labour officer. I wish to know what the functions are that are performed by the officer. "

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" That is a matter for a separate question. "

Mr. R. VEERIAN :—" I want to know whether the District Labour officers are engaged in starting co-operative credit societies. "

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" Order, order. That is a separate question in other form. "

[17th March 1926]

Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—" It is said in answer to clause (b) of the question that it is not the function of the Labour officer to assign lands, but of the Revenue department. May I know if the Labour officers have been informed of this, because I find in some places that they do usurp this function? "

The hon. Mr. N. E. MARJORIBANKS :—" I can only presume that they have been informed. But in view of what the hon. Member has stated, the matter will be looked into. "

Rai Bahadur T. M. NARASIMHACHARLU :—" Are the District Labour Officers consulted before land is assigned to the Depressed classes? "

The hon. Mr. N. E. MARJORIBANKS :—" There, again, it is a matter of practice. I am not aware that there is a rule on the subject; but if the hon. Member will give me notice, I shall look the matter up. "

Rai Bahadur T. M. NARASIMHACHARLU :—" Are the Government aware that in the guise of Depressed classes, people other than the Adi-Dravidas and the Adi-Andhras, I mean caste Hindus calling themselves as Depressed classes, get lands assigned to them? "

The hon. Mr. N. E. MARJORIBANKS :—" I hope not. "

Rai Bahadur T. M. NARASIMHACHARLU :—" Will the Government enquire into whether such assignments have been made? "

The hon. Mr. N. E. MARJORIBANKS :—" I must have something more definite to go on than a general statement. If the hon. Member can give me a little more definite information, I shall be very glad to make an enquiry. "

Mr. R. VEERIAN :—" May I know whether the District Labour officers have at least the power of making recommendations for assignment of lands or house sites? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—" If they are asked to give an opinion, they will do so. "

Mr. R. VEERIAN :—" I only want to know whether they are vested with the power of making recommendations. I do not want to know whether they give any opinion. "

The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—" Every officer of Government has this power. "

Mr. R. VEERIAN :—" But, Sir, recommendations of District Labour officers are bound to be more effective because there is a presumption that only they are working in those places for depressed classes. "

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" That is a very low estimate of the hon. Member's powers. "

Encroachments on channels and pathways in patta lands.

* 1581 Q.—Mr. S. MUTTAYYA MUDALIYAR : Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to lay on the table of the House further proceedings of the Board or Government connected with the Board's Proceedings, Mis. No. 894, dated 30th May 1922, as regards encroachments on channels and pathways in patta lands?

A.—No further orders have been issued either by the Board or by the Government on the subject.

[17th March 1926]

Minor Irrigation.*Pay and travelling allowance of Minor Irrigation overseers.*

* 1582 Q.—Mr. T. ADINARAYANA CHETTIYAR: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that several Minor Irrigation overseers in the Revenue Department have submitted memorials to the higher authorities as well as to His Excellency the Governor of Madras praying for an enhanced scale of pay and adequate travelling allowance;

(b) whether it is a fact that they are at present paid only Rs. 50—2½—100 whereas supervisors in the District Public Works, whose duties are nearly similar to those of the Minor Irrigation overseers, are paid Rs. 80—7½—125;

(c) whether it is a fact that the Minor Irrigation overseers have to travel over a whole taluk carrying their levelling and other instruments and whether they are paid only a fixed travelling allowance of Rs. 22-8-0 per mensem and on condition of a minimum touring of 20 days;

(d) whether it is a fact that overseers of the District Public Works are paid Rs. 30 (thirty) per mensem and supervisors Rs. 40 as travelling allowance; and

(e) whether it is a fact that chances of promotion are almost nil in the case of the Minor Irrigation overseers owing to the abolition of Minor Irrigation supervisors' posts?

A.—(a) Yes.

(b) Their present pay is Rs. 50—2½—100 and their duties are similar to those of Public Works Department overseers, who also receive the same scale of pay. Their duties are not similar to those of Public Works Department supervisors, whose pay is Rs. 80—7½—125—efficiency bar—130—10—250.

(c) Minor irrigation overseers have usually to travel over a whole taluk and take their instruments with them. Each overseer has a lascar to assist him. The travelling allowance of an overseer travelling over a single taluk is as stated in the question. An overseer travelling over two taluks gets Rs. 27-8-0 per mensem.

(d) No. The travelling allowance for Public Works Department supervisors is Rs. 40, but for Public Works Department overseers only Rs. 22½.

(e) Owing to the small number of supervisors' posts, a Minor Irrigation overseer's chances of promotion are limited.

Arms and Explosives.*Issue of licences for guns, etc.*

* 1583 Q.—Mr. K. RAGHUCHANDRA BALLAL: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(a) how many licences for guns, revolvers, rifles, pistols and swords have been issued by the District Magistrate of South Kanara for the last three years ending on 31st December 1925;

[17th March 1926]

(b) how many of those licences have been renewed for the next year;

(c) whether any renewal applications have been rejected, and if so, on what grounds;

(d) what are the qualifications for a licensee to hold a licence;

(e) whether it is the option of the licensing authority to grant or refuse the licences;

(f) whether the licensing authority is not bound to assign reasons for the grant or refusal of such licences;

(g) how many licences for arms have been issued during the said period for the whole of British India in the Presidency; and

(h) what are the qualifications for the issue of licences in the Madras Presidency?

A.—(a) & (b) The Government have no information but have called for it.

(c) The Government have no information, but any person who is refused a licence by the District Magistrate on inadequate grounds can appeal to the Government.

(d) & (h) The hon. Member's attention is invited to paragraph 7 of the Resolution of the Government of India, Home Department (Police), No. F. 829-1-22, dated 3rd November 1923, published at pages 1340-1343 of Part I of the *Fort St. George Gazette*, dated 27th November 1923.

(e) Yes.

(f) No.

(g) The total number of arms licences in force in this Presidency in 1923 and 1924 was as follows:—

1923	...	...	...	...	62,223
1924	...	...	...	...	68,977

Figures for 1925 are not yet available.

Criminal Tribes.

Machinery to watch persons registered under the Criminal Tribes Act in Anantapur district.

* 1584 Q.—Mr. G. RAMESWARA RAO: Will the hon. the Home Member, the hon. the Law Member and the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) what the machinery is that is employed in Anantapur district to watch the persons registered under the Criminal Tribes Act;

(b) how it differs from that existing in other districts;

(c) whether any additional expenditure is incurred for the purpose of watching the registered members; and

(d) if not, whether the existing village officers and Police officers have been found sufficient to cope with the increasing number of registered members?

[17th March 1926]

A.—(a) & (b) The machinery for watching registered members of criminal tribes consists of the Police and village officers. The machinery in Anantapur does not differ from that in other districts.

(c) No.

(d) No representation has been made to Government that the existing Police and village officers are not sufficient.

Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—“ May I know whether the people who were registered under this Act are required to report themselves two or three times a day ? ”

The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—“ As I have said in connexion with the Budget debate, I have called for a report on the subject.”

Forests.

Discontinuance of conveyance allowances of Forest Rangers.

* 1585 Q.—Mr. T. ADINARAYANA CHETTIYAR : Will the hon. the Home Member and the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that Forest Rangers and Police Sub-Inspectors alike had been receiving conveyance allowances provided they maintained serviceable double-bullock bandies or cycles respectively instead of ponies ;

(b) whether such allowance was discontinued only in the case of Forest Rangers with effect from 1st June 1925 ;

(c) whether Forest Rangers have to tour more extensively than Police Sub-Inspectors generally have to do ; and

(d) if so, what was the reason for discontinuing the allowance in the case of Forest Rangers ?

A.—(a) Till 1st June 1925, Forest Rangers were entitled to draw a conveyance allowance of Rs. 15 per mensem for keeping a pony ; but Conservators could exempt a Ranger from keeping a pony when a cart or other means of conveyance would be more useful to him for the efficient performance of his duties. For a bicycle the allowance was Rs. 5 per mensem.

As regards Sub-Inspectors of Police in the mufassal (except Railway Police) employed otherwise than as prosecuting sub-inspectors and readers, a conveyance allowance of Rs. 25 per mensem or Rs. 5 per mensem for maintaining a double bullock bandy or a cycle respectively is granted in particular localities where such means of conveyance are considered by the Deputy Inspector-General of the range to be most suitable.

(b) With effect from 1st June 1925 only those Rangers who keep a serviceable pony are entitled to draw a pony allowance of Rs. 15 per mensem.

(c) No such comparison is possible.

(d) Does not arise.

[17th March 1926]

Conveyance allowances of Forest Rangers and Sub-Inspectors.

* 1586 Q.—Mr. T. ADINARAYANA CHETTIYAR : Will the hon. the Home Member and the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that Sub-Inspectors of Police were given notice some time ago to the effect that they need not maintain conveyances ;

(b) whether, in spite of timely notice, several Sub-Inspectors of Police were given the conveyance allowance as long as they continued to maintain the conveyances ;

(c) whether any such notice as in (a) was given to Forest Rangers as regards their maintaining double-bullock bandies or cycles, and if not, why such timely notice was not given them ; and

(d) if the answer to (c) is in the affirmative, why similar exemptions have not been made in the case of Forest Rangers as was done in the case of Sub-Inspectors of Police, viz., continuing the conveyance allowance to such of those as maintained conveyances ?

A.—(a) No.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) No such notice was considered necessary.

(d) Does not arise.

Local Boards and Municipal Councils.

Representation of depressed classes in the Madanapalle Union Board.

* 1587 Q.—Mr. R. VEERIAN : With reference to question No. 1005 regarding strength and constitution of the Madanapalle Union Board, answered at the meeting, dated 14th December 1925, will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) why no representative of the depressed classes was nominated to the Madanapalle Union Board by the President of the Madanapalle Taluk Board ;

(b) whether any consultation was made by the President of the Madanapalle Taluk Board among the depressed classes for nominating one member among them to the union board ;

(c) whether the power of recommending candidates for nomination to union boards is vested in the hands of the presidents of union boards ; and

(d) whether there is any proposal by the Government to amend the Local Boards Act in order to give compulsory nomination to the depressed classes to union boards, taluk boards and district boards ?

A.—(a) The hon. Member is referred to the answer given to clauses (g) and (h) of question No. 1005 at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on 14th December 1925.

(b) The Government have no information.

(c) There is no provision of law or rule to this effect.

(d) The hon. Member is referred to the answer given to question No. 1393 at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on the 12th February 1926.

[17th March 1926]

Mr. R. VEERIAN :—" With reference to clause (c), may I know who generally makes recommendations ? "

The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL :—" The appointment is made by the Taluk Board President, who may, if he likes, consult the presidents of of union boards. "

Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—" Sir, in view of the very many questions asked in this matter and of my request to the hon. the Minister to be so good as to communicate the view of the Government that in the matter of these nominations there should be at least one Adi-Andhra, one Muhammadan, one Indian Christian, to which the hon. the Minister promised that he would consider the matter, I wish to know whether the hon. the Minister has advised the boards as to the necessity of nominations being more representative than hitherto. "

The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL :—" Sir, the presidents of the district and taluk boards have been repeatedly told that they should pay due regard to the representation of the depressed and minor communities. "

Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—" I just want to know whether the hon. the Minister has invited the attention of these people since my request was made to him or before that. "

The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL :—" I cannot exactly say that. Requests have been made ever so many times, but I am sure that after the request was made communications have been issued. "

Purchase of the portrait of the late C. R. Das for the Polur Taluk Board office.

* 1588 Q.—Mr. S. SATYAMURTI : Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that the Taluk Board, Polur, in the North Arcot district, passed a resolution to purchase a copy of the photograph of the late Desabhandu C. R. Das for the taluk board's office at a cost not exceeding Rs. 50 ;

(b) whether the Government declined to sanction the purchase ; and

(c) the reasons for that action of the Government ?

A.—(a) & (b) The answer is in the affirmative. The Board proposed to incur an expenditure not exceeding Rs. 15.

(c) The Government are of opinion that such expenditure is not a legitimate charge on public funds but should be met from private subscriptions.

Jurisdiction of Civil Courts over disputes connected with municipal elections.

* 1589 Q.—Mr. S. SATYAMURTI : Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government have in contemplation any proposal to deprive the civil courts of their jurisdiction over disputes in connexion with elections to municipalities ;

(b) if so, the reasons for this step ; and

[17th March 1926]

(c) whether the Government propose to consult the Legislative Council before passing final orders in the matter ?

A.—(a) The answer is in the affirmative.

(b) The reasons are—

(i) to secure speedy and final decisions in election disputes, and
(ii) to minimise litigation in civil courts in regard to elections.

(c) The answer is in the negative. A draft of the rules for the decision of election disputes as proposed to be amended will however be published in due course in the *Fort St. George Gazette* for information and criticism.

The RAJA OF RAMNAD :—" May I ask the hon. Minister in how many cases of election disputes orders passed by Government have been upheld in courts and in how many they were reversed. "

The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL :—" I am afraid the question is rather a wide one and it is impossible for the Government to give any answer without notice. If the hon. Member gives notice, I will be glad to give him the details. "

Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—" It is said that the Government are contemplating the proposal to deprive the civil courts of their jurisdiction. May I know what agency the Government propose to substitute ? "

The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL :—" The matter is under consideration. "

Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—" May I know what are the different agencies they are thinking of, of which one or the other will be substituted ? "

The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL :—" I do not think any purpose will be served by a statement of what is still under consideration. "

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" Evidently all except civil courts. "

Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—" Will the hon. the Minister give an opportunity for the House to express its opinion before the matter is decided ? "

The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL :—" The draft rules will be published in the *Fort St. George Gazette* and it will be open to the hon. Members to criticise them. "

Medical.

Use of indigenous products for medical purposes.

* 1590 Q.—Mr. J. A. SALDANHA : Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether Government have received any proposals for the establishment of their own medical stores for use in the public hospitals maintained by them or by local boards ;

(b) if so, what action Government have taken ;

(c) whether Government have taken stock of various indigenous products of South India that may be purchased for their own stores ;

(d) whether the medical virtues of sardine oil manufactured by the West Coast Fisheries Company and other firms have been brought to their notice ; and

[17th March 1926]

(e) what steps Government have taken or contemplate taking in order to encourage the use of indigenous products for medical purposes, such as sardine oil?

A.—(a) & (b) The suggestion that the Madras Government should establish a separate Medical Stores Depot emanated from the Government and not from any outside source. They have recently appointed a committee to report on the best method of reducing the cost of drugs and other medical necessities supplied to local fund and municipal medical institutions. One of the methods suggested in that connexion is the opening of a Medical Stores Depot to be maintained by the Madras Government. The report of the Committee is awaited.

(c) The answer is in the negative. The Government have, however, recently deputed a Civil Assistant Surgeon and a Chemist to carry out an investigation into the indigenous drugs of South India in the School of Tropical Medicine and Hygiene, Calcutta, for a period of three years.

(d) Yes. The question of substituting Sardine oil or 'Sardinole' for Cod liver oil in Government hospitals has been considered. 'Sardinole' was tried but experience showed that it was not an efficient substitute for Cod liver oil.

(e) The attention of the hon. Member is invited to paragraph 940 of the Civil Medical Code (3rd Edition) regarding the use of indigenous drugs and their preparations.

Sale of quinine.

* 1591 Q.—Mr. J. A. SALDANHA: Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state what orders have been passed or are proposed to be passed as to the sale of quinine at cheaper price or its distribution free by post offices and other agencies in malarial areas?

A.—The matter is under the consideration of the Government.

Public Health.

Location of market and slaughter-house in Panruti.

* 1592 Q.—Mr. T. ADINARAYANA CHETTIYAR: Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that the Union Board, Panruti, in South Arcot district, has allowed a private market and slaughter-house to be located in the heart of the town (Panruti);

(b) whether the inhabitants of Panruti have been for a long time agitating for their removal on the score of sanitation as well as of sentiment, and if so, how long this agitation has been going on;

(c) whether the District Collector, the President of the District Board, the President of the Taluk Board or the District Medical and Sanitary Officer visited the place or enquired into the grievances on receipt of the mahazars from the public; and

[17th March 1926]

(d) whether it is a fact that the Panruti Union Board has passed a resolution to construct a public market and slaughter-house and if so, when and why that resolution was not given effect to?

A.—The Government have no information but have called for it.

Religious and Charitable Endowments.

Salary and expenses of the Commissioners appointed under the Hindu Religious Endowments Act.

* 1593 Q.—Mr. S. SATYAMURTI: Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) the arrangements he has made for the salary and expenses of the Commissioners appointed under the Hindu Religious Endowments Act;

(b) the authority under which such arrangements were made; and

(c) the reasons why the Legislative Council was not consulted in the matter?

A.—(a), (b) & (c) The Legislative Council at the meeting held on the 6th November 1925 voted an advance of Rs. 1,65,000 to the Board of Commissioners for Hindu Religious Endowments for meeting its expenditure during the current year.

Appointment of Mr. P. V. Nataraja Mudaliyar as Member of Hindu Religious Endowments Board.

* 1594 Q.—Mr. S. SATYAMURTI: Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether Mr. P. V. Nataraja Mudaliyar has been appointed a member of the Hindu Religious Endowments Board;

(b) whether Mr. Mudaliyar was at the time of his appointment and still continues to be a trustee of the Pachaiyappa's Charities;

(c) whether the Pachaiyappa's charities include endowments made to Hindu temples, choultries, and Sanskrit patasalas;

(d) whether he has to inspect the endowed institutions as a trustee of the charities and also supervise the same as a Commissioner of the Board; and

(e) whether the Government intend to take notice of what is in any case an anomaly and if not, why not?

A.—(a) & (b) The answer is in the affirmative.

(c) The Government understand that endowments to certain Hindu temples form part of Pachayappa's charities. Endowments to choultries and Sanskrit patasalas unconnected with temples or maths do not come within the scope of the Madras Hindu Religious Endowments Act.

(d) Not necessarily. According to the scheme for the management of Pachayappa's charities which is at present in force and which was passed by the High Court of Judicature at Madras on 12th February 1909 and modified on the 19th July 1920 the Board of Trustees shall, at least once in every three years, cause all charities under their management to be locally inspected and reported on by one or more of their own body or any

[17th March 1926]

other person to be specially deputed for that purpose. In view of his position on the Hindu Religious Endowments Board M.R.Ry. P. V. Nataraja Mudaliyar would, for obvious reasons, not undertake that duty.

- (e) Of the religious institutions which are benefited by Pachayappa Mudaliyar's bequest, the temple of Sabha Nayagar in Chidambaram and the pagoda of Ekambereswaraswami in Conjeevaram are within the territorial jurisdiction of M.R.Ry. P. V. Nataraja Mudaliyar as a Commissioner of the Hindu Religious Endowments Board. The Board is arranging to entrust the supervision of these temples to another Commissioner.

The RAJA OF RAMNAD :—" May I ask the hon. the Minister, Sir, whether, in view of the answers given, he cannot advise Mr. P. V. Nataraja Mudaliyar to resign either the one or the other of the two places he is holding ? "

The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL :—" The President of the Endowments Board was of opinion that he need not resign either. But if necessary, he will not have anything to do with the Board of which he is a trustee, as the Pachayappa's Trust."

The RAJA OF RAMNAD :—" The Act prohibits trustees from becoming members of the Board as the Board has to sit in judgment over the conduct of trustees. Now the hon. the Minister says that the President of the Religious Endowments Board was of opinion that the combination of functions in one Commissioner is nothing undesirable. Is it a matter left to be decided by one of the members of the Board, the President himself, or is it a matter of public opinion which the hon. Minister is bound to respect and regard ? I think, Sir, it is really objectionable and I earnestly request the hon. Minister to consider the matter."

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" If the Act prohibits, it is open to the hon. Member to question the right to existence of Mr. Nataraja Mudaliyar on either of these institutions in a court of law."

The RAJA OF RAMNAD :—" We have no means of questioning him in the Board of which we are not members. Of course, the aggrieved party may take the matter to a court of law. But that is not a simple affair. The Government cannot commit irregularities and ask the subjects to go to court. But people aggrieved may go to courts. And certainly the Religious Endowments Board is not a thing which has not already been taken to court. But this is an obvious irregularity and it is certainly for the hon. the Minister, if he has any regard for public opinion, to take action himself."

The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL :—" I do not quite understand what the hon. Member means by this being an obvious case of irregularity. I do not know if the hon. Member is aware of any section of rule made under any section of the Endowments Act which makes a man who is in charge of trust property disqualified for commissionership on the Endowments Board."

The RAJA OF RAMNAD :—" Am I to understand the hon. Minister would receive applications from trustees of temples for commissionership on the Board, when the time comes for the next selection ? "

The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL :—" Each case will be considered on its merits."

[17th March 1926]

Alleged levy of entrance fee from Malayalis in Rameswaram temple.

* 1595 Q.—Diwan Bahadur M. KRISHNAN NAYAR : Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether an entrance fee of one rupee is levied from every Malayali who goes to worship in the temple of Rameswaram before he is permitted to enter the temple ;

(b) whether such entrance fee is levied from other worshippers in the temple ; and

(c) whether the Government will take steps to abolish the collection of such entrance fees from the Malayalis ?

A.—(a) The answer is in the affirmative. The Government understand that the levy has been in vogue for more than a century.

(b) A fee of one rupee was also levied from every Brahman for admission to the Arthamantapam of Sri Ramanadhaswami Sannidhi. At the instance of the Hindu Religious Endowments Board the levy of the fee has been discontinued.

(c) At the instance of the Hindu Religious Endowments Board, the Rameswaram Devasthanam Committee has decided to abolish the levy of the fee.

Diwan Bahadur M. KRISHNAN NAYAR :—" Sir, with reference to the answer to clause (c), wherein it is stated that 'at the instance of the Hindu Religious Endowments Board, the Rameswaram Devasthanam Committee has decided to abolish the levy of fees,' is the hon. the Minister in a position to tell me now whether this decision of the Religious Endowments Board has already taken effect, or from which date it will take effect ? "

The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL :—" I am informed that it has already taken effect."

Rao Sahib P. V. GOPALAN :—" May I ask the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government whether there was a committee appointed so far as the management of the Rameswaram Devasthanam is concerned, just before the Hindu Religious Endowments Board was constituted ? "

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" That does not arise from any of these questions."

Rao Sahib P. V. GOPALAN :—" I just wish to draw the attention of the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government to this matter, Sir. I want to know whether he has authorized such a committee to exclude members of backward communities from entering into the temple. That is my question."

The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL :—" Sir, the committee was appointed under a scheme framed by the High Court."

Rao Sahib P. V. GOPALAN :—" May I ask the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government whether he is aware that that committee consisting of Brahmans and non-Brahmans decided that the members of backward communities should be refused permission to enter into the temple ? "

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" What jurisdiction has the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government over a committee constituted under instructions from the High Court ? "

[17th March 1926]

Rao Sahib P. V. GOPALAN :—"I am asking the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government whether he has authorized any such committee to exclude members of backward communities from entering the Rameswaram temple."

The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL :—"There is no such authorization at all."

Rao Sahib P. V. GOPALAN :—"May I know whether the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government is aware that a respectable member of a so-called backward community, holding a decent position in public life, was excluded the other day from entering the Rameswaram temple by this committee consisting of Brahmans and non-Brahmans including a gentleman named Mr. Vanamamala Pillai who protested against such a step?"

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—"That is not within the cognizance of a Member of the Government."

Rao Sahib P. V. GOPALAN :—"In the answer to clause (b) it is stated that a fee of one rupee was also levied from every Brahman for admission to the Arthamantapam. The question is whether this fee is generally levied from people who enter into the temple, but the answer is that it is levied from Brahmans. May I know whether the fee is levied from the non-Brahmans also?"

The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL :—"Sir, I have already answered that these fees levied in the past from non-Brahmans have been of late not levied and have been abolished."

The RAJA OF RAMNAD :—"Will you permit me, Sir, as a member of the committee, to say a few words on this question?"

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—"Yes, if it will clear up the matter."

The RAJA OF RAMNAD :—"As a member of the committee I may state at once that the committee has not passed any resolution to this effect, preventing any member of any community from entering the temple, but there is the local usage and custom restricting admission. The gentleman referred to by my hon. Friend Mr. Gopalan, that is, Mr. Vanamamala Pillai, is not a member of the committee. He is the treasurer, a paid servant of the committee. And regarding the admission to the temple there is no prohibition except as regards communities which have by custom no right to enter the temple. There is the Arthamantapam, which is next door to the sanctum sanctorum, into which only Brahmans are allowed to enter. Visitors to the temple, if they are not residents of Rameswaram but outsiders, all have to pay the fees. Non-Brahmans have no admission into the Arthamantapam."

Rao Sahib P. V. GOPALAN :—"After what I have heard from the Raja of Ramnad, I will just mention for the information of the Raja and the House that the other day when I went to Rameswaram . . ."

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—"What is the question?"

Rao Sahib P. V. GOPALAN :—"I want to know whether the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government is aware that Mr. Vanamamala Pillai insisted upon my giving a declaration to the effect that I am not a member of

[17th March 1926]

either Ezhuva, Chanava or Chonan community, and said that unless and until I give such a declaration I would not be admitted. I had to give a declaration that I am not a member of any of those three communities mentioned."

The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL :—"I have no information, Sir, on the subject, except what the hon. Member has just now stated."

The RAJA OF RAMNAD :—"The practice in the temple is that, when a member of a particular community goes there and there is no information as to his caste, a temple official would ask the particular gentleman to state the community to which he belongs. If he gives the name of a community which has no right of entry, the admission is denied. I do not know what his community is, but if my information is correct then the members of the community to which the hon. Member belongs have no right of admission to the Rameswaram Devasthanam."

Rao Sahib P. V. GOPALAN :—"I have already had entry into the temple on two occasions. It was only when I went there on the third occasion that I was asked by Mr. Vanamamala Pillai to give a declaration that I am not a member of Ezhuva, Chanava or Chonan community. I cannot understand the reason why Mr. Vanamamala Pillai, a member of the committee appointed by High Court, should insist on the third occasion for a declaration but not on the first two occasions unless he was forced to do so by Brahman members?"

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—"The activities of the Rameswaram Devasthanam Committee are not the primary concern of the Government."

Village Panchayats.

Inspection of Therakupatti Village Panchayat.

* 1596 Q.—Mr. CHAVADI K. SUBRAHMANYA PILLAI: Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Therakupatti Village Panchayat, Tinnevely taluk, was inspected at any time (1) by the Registrar or Assistant Registrar of Village Panchayats, (2) by the President of the Tinnevely Taluk Board, (3) by the Revenue authorities, i.e., Tahsildar or Revenue Divisional Officer, and if so, whether any adverse or good remarks have been made by any of them; and

(b) whether this panchayat is properly maintaining its proceedings book and other records from the time of its origin and whether these were inspected by the Registrar or Assistant Registrar?

4.—(a) The village panchayat was inspected by the Personal Assistant to the Registrar-General of Panchayats in company with the President, Taluk Board, Tinnevely, on 24th August 1925. The Personal Assistant remarked in his note of inspection that taxes had been assessed by the panchayat in an unsympathetic manner owing to the fact that all the members elected belonged to one of the two factions in the village. The Government have no information as to whether any officers of the Revenue Department have inspected the panchayat.

(b) The panchayat is reported to be properly maintaining its proceedings book and other records. They have been inspected by the Personal Assistant to the Registrar-General of Panchayats.

[17th March 1926]

Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—" Did the Government take any measures at all to ascertain whether or not it is true that the taxation was assessed unfairly, owing to factions existing in the village? "

The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL :—" The Personal Assistant to the Registrar-General noted that there have been factions and that taxes were assessed in fallacious spirit."

Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—" If, as I surmise from the answer of the hon. the Chief Minister, the remarks of the Personal Assistant were justified, I want to know what steps he took to relieve the people from such unjust and unsympathetic assessment of taxation."

The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL :—" The question as to whether it would be possible for the Government to interfere in the matter will be considered."

Powers of village panchayats.

* 1597 Q.—Mr. A. CHIDAMBARA NADAR : Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) how many panchayats are enjoying the right of holding markets, the right of fishery and the control of poramboke lands;

(b) whether the Registrar-General of Panchayats has any power to over-ride the taluk board decisions disallowing anything asked by panchayats; and

(c) whether the president of the taluk board has any power to appoint a presiding officer to conduct panchayat election?

A.—(a) The Government have no information.

(b) The answer is in the negative.

(c) Under the rules issued under the Madras Village Panchayat Act, 1920, the Registrar-General or the person specified by him or any other person which such person may depute shall preside at the meeting of the voters and conduct the election. If the person specified by the Registrar-General happens to be the president of a taluk board, he can depute another person to preside over a panchayat election.

Co-operative Societies.

Number of Co-operative Unions in each Assistant Registrar's section.

* 1598 Q.—Mr. T. ADINARAYANA CHETTIYAR : Will the hon. the Minister for Development be pleased to state—

(a) the number of Co-operative Unions in each Assistant Registrar's section in the Presidency, in the year 1924-25 (as on 30th June);

(b) the amount received as 'rebate' from the Central Bank or District Banking Union in each of the Assistant Registrar's section for the period mentioned in (a) above;

(c) the amount of 'supervision fund' collected from the Co-operative Societies by the Co-operative Unions, in each of the Assistant Registrar's section for the period mentioned in (a) above; and

17th March 1926]

(d) the total amount of money spent in each of the Assistant Registrar's section in this Presidency under

(i) the pay of the supervisors and travelling allowance;

(ii) the travelling allowance of governing body members; and

(iii) contingencies?

A.—(a) The information is furnished below :—

Name of section.	Number of unions on 30th June 1925.	Name of section.	Number of unions on 30th June 1925.
Anantapur	15	Madras	4
Vellore	24	Madura (including part of Ramnad).	21
Cuddalore	19	Malabar	13
Bellary	8	Nellore	9
Conjeeveram	23	The Nilgiris	3
Chittoor	10	Salem	13
Coinbatore	16	Tanjore	17
Cuddapah	6	Tinnevely (including part of Ramnad).	20
Ganjam	14	Trichinopoly	13
Cocanada (Godavari East).	12	Vizagapatam	10
Bezwada (Godavari West and Kistna).	16		
Guntur	9	Total	* 323
Mangalore	17		
Kurnool	11		

(b) to (d). The Government have no information.

Industries.

Loss in the working of the Fruit Preserving Institute.

* 1599 Q.—Mr. G. RAMESWARA RAO : Will the hon. the Minister for Development be pleased to state—

(a) to what head or sub-head would the loss of Rs. 23,681-10-9 accrued in 1924-25, in the working of the Fruit Preserving Institute, be debited;

(b) the reason for such a heavy loss;

(c) how the Government propose to recoup the loss;

(d) whether the products of the Institute are able to compete with imported stuffs and if not, why not;

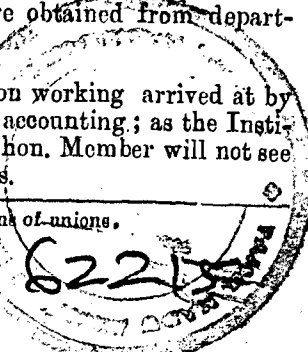
(e) whether there are any proposals either to reduce the expenditure on the Institute or otherwise to work it with a view to economy and profit; and

(f) whether the fruit and sugar required for the Institute is purchased locally and; if so, on what terms or whether they are obtained from departmental gardens, farms and factories?

A.—(a) The figure quoted represents the loss on working arrived at by applying the principles of commercial accounting; as the Institute has not been commercialised, the hon. Member will not see this figure in the Government accounts.

* This number includes ten District Federations of unions.

V 211, 32 N26
N26-2936



[17th March 1926]

- (b) & (d) The products of the Institute are not able to compete with imported jams owing to the fact that cheap 'Bounty fed' Australian and other jams are imported in large quantities and are offered at cheaper rates.
- (c) It is not possible to recoup it.
- (e) Orders have been issued to close the Institute.
- (f) Fruits are generally purchased locally from private parties and the Government Botanical Gardens (Sims Park). Some fruits such as pineapples and roselles are got from Cochin, Travancore, Nellore, etc., where they are available at cheap rates. Sugar is purchased largely from Messrs. Parry and Company, the only firm who can supply sugar of the standard quality required for jam making.

Sale of the products of the Fruit Preserving Institute.

* 1600 Q.—MR. G. RAMESWARA RAO: Will the hon. the Minister for Development be pleased to state—

- (a) whether the products of the Fruit Preserving Institute are exported to other countries or to other provinces in India and if so, to what extent;
- (b) where and how these products are advertised; and
- (c) the quantity of the sales effected in consequence of the advertisements?

A.—(a) The products of the Institute are not exported to other countries. A small quantity is supplied to other provinces.

(b) The products were widely advertised in the press till recently but in view of the poor results achieved thereby this has not been continued.

(c) Information is not available.

The Madras Ink Factory.

* 1601 Q.—MR. S. SATYAMURTI: Will the hon. the Minister for Development be pleased to state—

- (a) the cost incurred by the Madras Ink Factory in buying jars and glasses for bottling the inks;
- (b) whether the Government propose to make the glasses and jars themselves; and
- (c) if not, why not?

A.—(a) The cost incurred up to 31st January 1926 was Rs. 15,118;

(b) & (c) The question is under consideration.

MR. B. RAMACHANDRA REDDI:—"May I know, Sir, whether the ink produced in this factory is of a good quality?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir T. N. SIVAGNANAM PILLAI:—"It is certified to be of very good quality."

[17th March 1926]

MR. B. RAMACHANDRA REDDI:—"May I know, whether the Government indenting upon this factory for all the supply of ink necessary for the Government?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir T. N. SIVAGNANAM PILLAI:—"It is all done under the orders of the Superintendent of Stationery."

MR. B. RAMACHANDRA REDDI:—"May I know at the same time whether the Government does not indent upon this factory for any supply of ink?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir T. N. SIVAGNANAM PILLAI:—"The officer of the Government who is interested in the matter is the Superintendent of Stationery, and he is not in my department."

Printing class attached to the Madras Trades School.

* 1602 Q.—RAO BAHADUR M. C. RAJA: Will the hon. the Minister for Development be pleased to state—

(a) whether there is a printing class attached to the Madras Trades School;

(b) when this was opened and how many are now being trained;

(c) whether it is a fact that there was a similar class attached to the Government Press, Madras, over a decade ago, and if so why that was abolished, when that was abolished and what was the strength of that class then;

(d) when there are sufficient facilities for this class in the Government Press, what was the necessity for attaching this class to the Trades School;

(e) what is the amount paid to the various lecturers attached to the printing class in the Trades School; and

(f) what was the amount paid to the lecturers then attached to the printing class in the Madras Government Press?

A.—(a) Yes.

(b) On 2nd November 1925; 17.

(c) Yes; it was abolished in April 1919 for the reasons that the Superintendent, Government Press, or his men could find no time to devote to it, and that the class was held outside working hours and as working hours in the Press are by no means few the attendance became irregular and the working of the class consequently unsatisfactory. The average attendance for the six months preceding the closing of the class was 39 out of 102 on the rolls.

(d) There is no suitable accommodation in the Government Press. The Government did not consider that it would be right to ask the Superintendent of the Government Press to admit into his works lads from outside presses over whom he would have no control apart from the fact that such an arrangement would tend to discourage recruits from other presses being sent by their employers. The Trades School is organized to provide trade instruction for apprentices and learners in the City; the class was therefore opened in that institution. Moreover the

[17th March 1926]

class if conducted at the Government Press would entail extra expenditure on peons, lighting, general supervision, etc., which are provided as a matter of course in the Trades School.

- (e) Rupees 20 per lecture and Rs. 2 per demonstration of two hours' duration each.
- (f) The Government have no definite information as to the amount but they understand that the small sum given by the Industries Department as grant-in-aid was divided among such of the staff as worked overtime in the conduct of the class.

UNSTARRED QUESTIONS.

Forests.

Strength and cost of the Forest Panchayat staff.

1603 Q.—Mr. G. RAMESWARA RAO: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

- (a) whether the Forest Panchayat staff has been increased; and if so what is the additional strength and what is the total strength; and
- (b) what is, and what was the total cost of the Forest Department, which has been replaced by the panchayat staff?

A.—(a) The strength of the Forest Panchayat staff at the end of March 1925 was as follows:—

One Panchayat Officer.	Two clerks.
Six Inspectors.	Eight peons.

The following additional staff was sanctioned in September 1925:—

One Additional Panchayat Officer.	One clerk.
Ten Special Deputy Tahsildars.	Twelve peons.

(b) A statement* is appended.

Local Boards and Municipal Councils.

Arian Tidal burial and cremation ground, Kadambadi.

1604 Q.—Rao Sahib R. SRINIVASAN: With reference to question No. 899 regarding Arian Tidal burial and cremation ground in Kadambadi put at the meeting of the Council on 2nd November 1925 and the Government reply thereto that "the Government have no information," will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state whether Government will be pleased to call for information?

A.—The Chairman, Municipal Council, reports that the pathway to the burial-ground has now been made and is in good condition. No encroachment on the burial-ground has been made by the cultivators of the adjacent fields. A wooden bridge over the irrigation channel within the municipal limits has been constructed. The second of the two channels referred to in clause (d) of the question is outside municipal limits and the Government have no information in regard to the provision of a bridge over it. They have called for it.

* Printed as Appendix I on page 163 infra

[17th March 1926]

Construction of a second bridge across the Cauvery at Kumbakonam.

1605 Q.—Mr. T. ADINARAYANA CHETTIYAR: Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that the Rate-payers' Association of the old 7th Ward of the Kumbakonam Municipality have asked Government for a second bridge across the river Cauvery at Kumbakonam; and

(b) whether Government propose to sanction the construction of such a bridge at an early date?

A.—(a) & (b) No.

Religious and Charitable Endowments.

Members of the Hindu Religious Endowment Board acting as trustees of charities also.

1606 Q.—Mr. G. RAMESWARA RAO: Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether any members of the Religious Endowments Board are also trustees of any charities like the Pachaiyappa's charities, which include endowments to Hindu temples;

(b) whether trustees of such charities can also occupy the position of a member of the Board supervising their own acts done in the capacity of trustees;

(c) whether the Government propose to take steps to remedy such anomalies; and

(d) whether Mr. P. V. Nataraja Mudaliyar is in the position of both a trustee and a member of the Board?

A.—(a) & (d) None except M.R.Ry. P. V. Nataraja Mudaliyar Avargal who is a trustee of the Pachaiyappa's charities.

(b) & (c) The attention of the hon. Member is invited to the answer to question No. 1549.

Roads and Communications.

Addition to the list of trunk roads.

1607 Q.—Mr. K. SITARAMA REDDIYAR: Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government and the hon. the Minister for Education be pleased to state—

(a) whether the District Boards of South Arcot, Tanjore and Trichinopoly were consulted in the matter of adding to the list of trunk roads the road from Cuddalore to Trichinopoly via Serakuppam, Shatiatope, Lower Anicut, Kumbakonam and Tanjore;

(b) what were the opinions of the three boards;

(c) what was the final order of the Government on this matter;

(d) what is the estimated cost to the Government if the road is treated as a trunk road in respect of (1) initial capital expenditure, and (2) recurring annual expenditure; and

(e) whether the Government will be pleased to treat this road as a trunk road at least with effect from 1926-27?

[17th March 1926]

- 4.—(a) The presidents of the three boards were asked whether, if the road were included in the list of trunk roads, their boards would agree to bear the initial cost of bringing the existing roadway up to the standard of trunk roads and to a revision of the maximum grant for the maintenance of second-class roads in the district.
- (b) The Trichinopoly District Board expressed its inability to bear any portion of the initial cost. The Tanjore District Board agreed to bear the whole of it whilst the South Arcot District Board was willing to bear half. None of the three boards was in favour of a revision of the maximum grant for the maintenance of second-class roads.
- (c) In these circumstances the proposal was dropped.
- (d) The total initial capital expenditure was estimated by the three boards at Rs. 4.21 lakhs. The question as to what portion of this should be borne by Government has not been examined. The recurring cost to Government would be about Rs. 59,500.
- (e) No.

[Note.—An asterisk (*) at the commencement of a speech indicates revision by the Member.]

II

SECESSION FROM THE COUNCIL.

Mr. V. C. VELLINGIRI GOUNDER :—“I thank the hon. the President for giving me an opportunity for a few minutes to make my statement. I am sorry I was unable to be present yesterday. In view of the Congress mandate, in view of the statement made by our Leader yesterday, and in view of the interest which I gather it has evoked on the part of the public, I find that we are very much wanting in effective representation to the Government and I also find satisfactory response wanting on the part of the Government.”

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—“Is the hon. Member going to explain why he is going to walk out to day?”

Mr. V. C. VELLINGIRI GOUNDER :—“Yes, Sir.”

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—“Then would he kindly content himself by saying that he is walking out for the same reasons for which his colleagues walked out yesterday, and save time?”

Mr. V. C. VELLINGIRI GOUNDER :—“I beg leave of the Council to walk out, Sir, for the reasons mentioned by the Leader of the Opposition yesterday.”

The hon. Member then left the hall.

III

COMMUNICATION TO THE COUNCIL.

The Secretary then laid on the table a copy * of the list of posts on Rs. 500 per mensem and above created during the quarter ending December 1925.

* Printed as Appendix II on pages 164-168 infra.

17th March 1926]

IV

PLACE OF NEXT MEETING.

* The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—“Mr. President, Sir, with reference to the meeting arranged to take place in June for the purpose of considering the Irrigation and the Malabar Tenancy Bills, certain hon. Members of this House have told me that they would be willing—I would not say anxious—to have the meeting in Ootacamund. Others say that the meeting might be held at Madras. In matters of this kind I thought that, with your leave, I might get the opinion of the House on the matter so that we might make the necessary arrangements in Ootacamund if this hon. House should decide upon having a session in Ootacamund.”

* Diwan Bahadur M. KRISHNAN NAYAR :—“Personally I would like very much to have the meeting at Ootacamund, for there is a large number of Members coming from Malabar, and Ootacamund is nearer to Malabar than Madras, so that, so far as they are concerned, it is more convenient to them, that is, Members coming from Malabar. On all sides of the House Members generally wish to go to Ootacamund and have the meeting there instead of having it here. There is also this other consideration that in June it would be intensely hot in Madras, and it would be to the convenience of all Members, not only Members from Malabar but from all districts, to have the meeting in Ootacamund. And so far as I have been able to ascertain, the majority of those whom I consulted are in favour of having the meeting at Ootacamund. Having regard to all these considerations, personally I would like very much to have the meeting in Ootacamund.”

* Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—“May I ask for information with regard to one point, and that is the relative cost to the Government if the meeting is held at Ootacamund or at Madras?”

* The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—“Sir, I think I can throw some light on that subject. Certain questions, which the hon. Members of this House are aware, were raised with reference to the Select Committee on the Irrigation Bill and then we went into the matter, and it was found that, taking things all round there was a certain amount of saving in regard to Members coming from Salem, Coimbatore, North Malabar, South Malabar, South Kanara and such districts. There was of course a greater expenditure for people coming from the Northern Circars. But on the whole it was found that the difference in cost was scarcely perceptible.”

* Diwan Bahadur M. KRISHNAN NAYAR :—“Of course, my hon. Friend the Law Member knows these things much better than myself. But my impression is that on the whole the cost would be less, if the meeting is held in Ootacamund. I may be wrong and speak subject to correction. My hon. Friend the Law Member knows better, particularly with reference to this matter.”

* Mr. K. PRABHAKARAN TAMPAN :—“Sir, I am sorry that, even in a minor matter like this in regard to the Tenancy Bill, I have to oppose my hon. Friend Mr. Krishnan Nayar. (Laughter.) I am against holding the meeting at Ootacamund for two reasons. In the first place, we all raise such a hue and cry with reference to the annual exodus of the Government, and when it concerns us it is not fair we should treat it differently. And, personally I do not think I shall be able to stand Ootacamund weather in

[Mr. K. Prabhakaran Tampan] [17th March 1926]

June. If the meeting takes place in April or May I would be able to stand it. As I happen to be leading the opposition to the Malabar Tenancy Bill, the discussion of the Bill in my absence will be almost like enacting Hamlet without the Prince of Denmark. There are other members also who cannot stand high altitudes. My Friend the Raja of Challapalli is against holding the meeting at Ootacamund. So, I think it would be advisable to hold the meeting here instead of going all the way to Ootacamund."

Rai Bahadur T. M. NARASIMHACHARLU:—"Sir, the two measures that are going to be discussed are the Irrigation Bill and the Malabar Tenancy Bill; and these two measures are of a controversial character tending to raise heat to a certain extent (laughter), and if we hold the sessions in Madras, the heat will be accelerated (renewed laughter), so that from a heated discussion it may go to anything (loud laughter) I would therefore suggest that we should keep our heads cool and Ootacamund is the best place to have a discussion on these two Bills. Whether it should be in the end of May or the beginning of June is a matter that can be decided or even precipitated by the Government. So, Mr. Prabhakaran Tampan's doubt about this withstanding the too much coolness of the climate, I submit, may be set at rest if the session could be held at the end of May or in the beginning of June. I think the Bills are almost ready, the drafts are almost ready, and I think they can be discussed in the end of May instead of June."

* The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR:—"If nobody else wants to make any observation may I say this? I take it that Mr. Prabhakaran Tampan is under the impression that the meeting may perhaps be held during the monsoon. It is felt that it will not be proper thing to hold it in the monsoon time especially as many Members may be new to Ootacamund. Steps will be taken to hold it either in the first week of June or in the last week of May so as to make it sure that it will not coincide with the monsoon."

* Mr. K. PRABHAKARAN TAMPAN:—"I have nothing to add to what I have already said."

* Mr. J. A. SALDANHA:—"The monsoon bursts in the beginning of June."

* The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR:—"No."

* Mr. J. A. SALDANHA:—"It is a question of days. I am not aware of it exactly."

* The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR:—"I take it that the opinion of the House is that the next meeting is to be held at Ootacamund provided we find accommodation both for this hon. House and for the Members."

V

ELECTION OF MEMBERS TO THE MADRAS AND SOUTHERN MAHRATTA
RAILWAY ADVISORY COMMITTEE AND THE COURT OF THE INDIAN
INSTITUTE OF SCIENCE.

* The hon. the PRESIDENT:—"I have now to announce to the House the names of the Members who have been nominated as candidates for election to the Madras and Southern Mahratta Railway Advisory Committee and the Court of the Indian Institute of Science."

ELECTION OF MEMBERS TO THE MADRAS AND SOUTHERN MAHRATTA 109
RAILWAY ADVISORY COMMITTEE AND THE COURT OF THE INDIAN
INSTITUTE OF SCIENCE

17th March 1926]

[The President]

MADRAS AND SOUTHERN MAHRATTA RAILWAY ADVISORY
COMMITTEE.

The Raja of Ramnad.

Diwan Bahadur P. C. Ethirajulu Nayudu.

Rao Bahadur M. C. Raja.

Sir K. Venkatarreddi Nayudu.

Mr. A. Ranganatha Mudaliyar.

COURT OF THE INDIAN INSTITUTE OF SCIENCE.

Dr. P. Subbarayan.

Mr. R. Madanagopal Nayudu.

"Voting papers will be distributed to the hon. Members presently and may be deposited in the ballot box in the Secretary's room from 12 to 5 p.m."

VI

MOTIONS ON THE BUDGET FOR 1926-27.

DEMAND I--LAND REVENUE--cont.

* Mr. J. A. SALDANHA:—"May I draw your attention, Sir, to the delicate situation in which the House is placed at the present juncture? It is not that there is no quorum. But there is something which is next to no quorum. The House is practically filled up by the official members and the nominated members who are as good as official members for all practical purposes." (No. no.)

* The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR:—"I should like to know whether the hon. Member is speaking on a point of order or is making a personal explanation."

* Mr. J. A. SALDANHA:—"It is neither a point of order nor a matter of personal explanation. I appeal to you, Sir, that in a matter like this if my surmise is correct that the nominated members"

* The hon. the PRESIDENT:—"Order, order. Is the hon. Member asking me how I can go on with the meeting?"

* Mr. J. A. SALDANHA:—"Yes, Sir, the very thing."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT:—"As long as there is quorum under the Act, I have to conduct the business of the House." (Hear, hear.)

Rai Bahadur T. M. NARASIMHACHARLU:—"I move

'that the allotment of Rs. 11,07,900 for District Collectors and Magistrates be reduced by Re. 1.'

"This I do to draw the attention of the Government to the unsympathetic nature of Revenue Department to the local bodies. Well, Sir, ever since the powers under the Local Self-Government Department have been transferred from the Revenue Department to the local boards separately I perceive, and I have no doubt that the House will believe what I say, that the Revenue Department has not been sympathetic towards the local boards in the discharge of their arduous duties that are imposed upon them. For instance in the matter of collection of profession tax and other

[Mr. T. M. Narasimbachari] [17th March 1926]

taxes we have been accustomed to the help of the Revenue Department, the village munsifs, the karnams and others. We are also prepared to pay and are paying five per cent of the collections as an honorarium to the officers who are engaged in the collections. But with all that these officers are not at all doing their work satisfactorily so that you will find, Sir, that a very great amount of this tax has been in arrears and the Local Self-Government Department and the local bodies are taken to task for incompetency in the collection. You will notice, Sir, that the financial powers of the local bodies are very limited and they are not expected to spend large amount in the matter of collections. These taxes are very small and if a fair amount of it is spent on collections then what is left will be so very inconsiderable that it will not be worth while to take the trouble of assessing the tax at all. That is one thing. When this matter is brought to the notice of the higher authorities, I submit, Sir, they do not say 'no' but they do the worse thing, viz., they ignore our requests and even our protests. Next in the matter of police also considerable help was being given by the Revenue Department. Now on account of the unsympathetic nature of the Revenue Department we are made to shift for ourselves. It is no use multiplying the number of institutions. What I would request is that the Government may issue instructions to the Revenue Department that as far as it lies in the power of the Revenue Department in the mufassal they should come forward to help us and to co-operate with us in the matter of the administration of the local bodies in the mufassal. After all it must not be forgotten that the Local Self-Government Department is only a branch of the Government itself and local bodies must be considered part and parcel of the other branches of the administration in the mufassal. Unless there is co-operation between the two departments, I think, Sir, there is no use of blaming one department for not being efficient without the help that was being rendered when the official President or the Collector was in charge of the department. I submit that the Local Self-Government Department in the mufassal should be so treated as to drive away the apathy now found which is a matter to be deplored. I therefore request that the Government—of course they need not issue an order that they should do this and that and so forth—must see that this complaint is communicated to the Collectors and they may be requested to help us as far as it lies in their power. Otherwise I think however much we may try to improve the department and make it efficient, we will find it very difficult to get on with our administration without the co-operation and help of the Revenue Department. It is in that spirit that I framed this motion. In all other token resolutions I have put down thousand rupees. In this I have made it one rupee just to make it token and nothing else. So I request Government will be pleased to consider my request and say 'yes' and not to be unsympathetic."

* The RAJA OF RAMNAD :—"I beg to support this motion and to place certain facts before the Members of Government so that they may take early steps to remove the serious difficulties under which many local bodies now suffer. In my district, Sir, there is a great friction between the Collector and the local bodies and the result is that while the predecessor of the present Collector had decided that prosecutions by the local bodies should be conducted in certain cases by the police the present Collector has cancelled that order. The result is that prosecutions are undertaken by local bodies at great expense and the delinquent is let off with a nominal fine

17th March 1926] [The Raja of Ramnad]

of one rupee. To secure that nominal fine local bodies had to spend something like 50 to 100 rupees on each prosecution. Moreover many prosecutions by the local bodies end in acquittals. I do not suggest that the subordinate magistrates are in any way responsible for this. But it is a truism to say that if the prosecutions are launched or conducted by the police the results are far more satisfactory. Another matter is about the collection of various amounts by the village officers on behalf of the local bodies. Collections were made hitherto on behalf of the local bodies such as fishery rent, usufructuary rent of avenue trees, etc., by the revenue subordinates, particularly the village officers. Now, Sir, that has been cancelled and the local bodies are asked to entertain their own staff and make the collections. I remember the hon. the Revenue Member taking these local bodies to task for slackness in collections. I beg your pardon, Sir, it was the hon. the Finance Member. It is a fact to some extent the local bodies are not responsible for this state of affairs. It is such action of non-co-operation on the part of the revenue establishment that is responsible for the large arrears left uncollected. In the matter of acquisition the Collector wants special establishments from the local boards' funds. The result is that in one case I found that the establishment cost went to a much higher figure than the cost of the acquisition itself. When I pointed out to the Collector on various occasions that it will be a mere waste of money, he was not prepared to give any relief in that direction. These are the various difficulties. I can multiply such instances. I think when the hon. the Revenue Member is pleased to institute an enquiry he will get all the facts to decide on the matter. In the matter of one of my taluk boards, Government said that the president should be a divisional officer for a specified period. The Collector was not willing to that arrangement. I believe it was done against his consent. I had no means of knowing it. From the correspondence he had with me which was not confidential it was clear that the Collector was for appointing a Brahman retired Deputy Collector as the president of the taluk board.

"But when the Deputy Collector was eventually appointed, I understand, Sir, he has been asked not to attend the meetings of the district board. The result was that the Deputy Collector President of the taluk board ceased to be a member of the district board by not taking the oath of allegiance, and he did not attend a single meeting until he was transferred. Now, the other day I requested him to attend the meeting for giving the benefit of his views on certain matters concerning particular taluk boards, and I understand that the Deputy Collector President of the taluk board had to telegraph to the Collector and get his permission to come to the headquarters to attend the meeting. If this is the kind of treatment that is accorded to local bodies, all I can say is, either we should entirely not have any kind of official interference and should be given the necessary powers by statutes, or in the absence of it, the hon. the Revenue Member should see that these people give to the local bodies the help which they were hitherto getting when they the officials themselves ran the show. Otherwise, I am afraid the Local Self-Government administration cannot possibly be carried on smoothly."

Diwan Bahadur P. KESAVA PILLAI :—"Sir, I associate myself wholly with the remarks made by my hon. Friends, the Raja of Ramnad and Mr. Narasimbachari. I have been president of a district board for the last seven years, and I find that there is more or less a sort of estrangement

[Mr. P. Kesava Pillai]

[17th March 1926]

between the Revenue Department and the Local Self-Government Department. I know some Collectors who give us their help but some do not. But generally, the village officers would not mind the denudation of our avenue trees near their own fields. They are not afraid of any prosecution. We are afraid to prosecute them, as my hon. Friend says. Very often, the local magistrates are not very kindly disposed towards the local board overseer or the taluk board president or people of the kind. I think some steps should be taken by Government in order to ensure harmonious working of these departments. I hope they will try to make their subordinates co-operate with us and not to non-co-operate with us. We are accusing the Swarajists as non-co-operators, and we have also to accuse the Government as non-co-operating with the local self-government bodies."

* The hon. Mr. N. E. MARJORIBANKS :—" Mr. President, Sir, I must in the first place assure hon. Members who have spoken that the Government have full sympathy with them in their difficulties. I do not think the wording of the motion is very happy. It is not, I feel sure, due to any lack of sympathy on the part of the Revenue officials that their difficulties arise, but to the administrative changes which have taken place and which in a transition stage as we are in at present must necessarily cause a great many difficulties before matters can adjust themselves. Apart from the question of the administrative changes, the complaint is that the agency of the revenue officials is not now available to do the work of local bodies, and it is said that in former days this work was almost all done by the agency of revenue officials. I must respectfully point out that I was a president of a district board for many years, and I took care during that time to see that the agency of revenue officials was not employed on the work of the district boards. I found it was quite possible for the local boards to do their work with the staff at their command. Of course, in cases where the village officer is paid a percentage in order to do certain work, he ought to do that work, and if he fails to do that he ought to be taken to task. But in other cases where the duty does not fall on revenue officials, I think the local boards will find that it is quite possible to make arrangements to do the work without the intervention of officials to do duty which cannot be rightly considered to be theirs."

* The RAJA OF RAMNAD :—" May I interrupt the hon. Member, Sir? There are statutory duties which cannot be performed by local bodies, for instance, the acquisition. That must be done by the revenue staff only. If additional staff be demanded and they are not given them we have no means of getting things that we want done at our cost."

* The hon. Mr. N. E. MARJORIBANKS :—" Individual cases do not affect the general question. It is possible that there are cases where on account of individual disagreements, difficulties are enhanced in that direction. But that does not affect the general question. Land acquisition is the duty of the Government staff, and where land has to be acquired and the correct valuation settled under the Act, it is the duty of the Revenue Department to see that acquisition through. That is not doubted. I was referring to the general work of administering lands which are vested in the boards and collecting the revenues which accrue to the boards from those lands. Although as I have just said I found it possible myself to have this work

[17th March 1926]

[Mr. N. E. Marjoribanks]

done by the agency of the boards themselves, I admit that in some places it has been the practice for revenue officials to do it and owing to that practice the whole question was examined two years ago by the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government and my predecessor, and they came to definite conclusion and issued definite instructions as to what items of work should be done by revenue officials for the boards and what items the boards would be expected to do by their own agency. If the hon. Members who have spoken will study that report and point out those items which they think might be modified or changed, I am sure the hon. Minister for Local Self-Government and myself will be only too glad to consider the matter. I would tell hon. Members, if they will go through the instructions actually issued, and as presidents of district boards write to us and tell us where the shoe pinches exactly, we shall be only too glad to do what we can to help them."

Rai Bahadur T. M. NARASIMHACHARLU :—" I am very glad for the sympathetic way in which the hon. the Revenue Member has spoken. But perhaps he does not know where the shoe pinches. The shoe pinches just exactly at the place where he may not know it at all."

* The hon. Mr. N. E. MARJORIBANKS :—" That is why I am asking the hon. Member to write to us and tell us."

Rai Bahadur T. M. NARASIMHACHARLU :—" The shoe pinches in this way. Suppose there is a prosecution under the Forest Act, or under the Abkari Act, or under any other Act, which is ushered in by the Government officials. The subordinate magistrates generally throw the burden of proof on the accused, whereas when we prosecute for cutting away the branches of avenue trees or for other encroachment on our properties or otherwise, the Revenue officials think, 'we have been deprived of our powers, they do not want officials because the Act says no official can be elected; so we are not now having those powers; they think they can manage the whole thing themselves; let them do it', and so they cast a double burden of proof on the prosecution. That is where, Sir, the shoe pinches. Now, that is the thing I wanted to say. The Revenue Department is quite unsympathetic towards the local bodies. Now, what I would request is, let them get rid of that idea that the local bodies are alien bodies, let them carry the idea that the local bodies are as much the department of Government as the Forest Government or the Abkari Government . . ."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" There is no Abkari Government!"

Rai Bahadur T. M. NARASIMHACHARLU :—" Yes, Sir, I mean the Abkari Department or the Police Department. So I submit in this wise that I want the sympathy of Government and nothing else. The hon. Member invited me to go into the question over again and tell him exactly in what respects we require remedies. I will be glad and we shall take an early opportunity to do so. So I may be permitted to withdraw my motion."

The motion was by-leave withdrawn.

* Diwan Bahadur M. KRISHNAN NAYAR :—" Sir, I move

'that the allotment of Rs. 5,63,100 for Pay of Officers be reduced by Rs. 100'.

"My object in moving this reduction is to urge on the Government and particularly on my hon. Friend, the hon. the Law Member, the need for the

[Mr. M. Krishnan Nayar] [17th March 1926]

separation of the judicial from the executive functions. I referred to this question, Sir, during the time of the general discussion on the budget. The subject is a very old one, a very stale one, but nevertheless it remains as important now as ever. I stated at the time of the general discussion that this question has been before the country for about a century, that is from about 1838, when Sir F. J. Halliday wrote his famous minute on this question, and since then the Government themselves had occasion to consider this subject. I referred also to the memorials submitted by Sir Richard Garth and many other eminent judges and jurists to the Secretary of State in 1889, urging upon him the need for the separation of these two subjects, and the fact that the Secretary of State sent that memorial to the Government of India for enquiry and disposal. Then, again, I referred to the fact that Sir Harvey Adamson who was himself a judge for some years and who was afterwards a member of the Bengal Government wanted the separation, and subsequently to the report of the Public Services Commission, especially to the dissenting minute of Sir Abdur Rahim where he advocated a complete separation of these two functions, and lastly to the report of the Coleridge Committee which was appointed by this Government itself.

12
oon.

"The Coleridge Committee submitted its report and that has been before the Government for a long time, I believe, for about two years, and nothing has come out of it. The late R. C. Dutt showed that there would be no material increase in the cost if the separation is effected. As I said, the subject is a very stale one, an old one. Therefore I do not wish to refer to the huge volume of literature that has gathered about it. I noticed the other day, and I am very glad to notice it, if my hon. Friend has been correctly reported in the newspapers, in a reply which he gave to the Kumbakonam Bar Association, he spoke words to this effect, that the separation would soon be effected and there was opportunity to the younger members of the bar for getting appointments. I hope he has been correctly reported. If that is so, certainly my Friend is moving in the right direction. And in the Imperial Assembly, more than one member has referred to this question. For instance, there was a reference recently by the hon. Sir Alexander Muddiman, and before that there was a reference by his predecessor and what his predecessor said in the Council was that it was a matter for the local Governments to take up and for the local Governments to move in the matter and make recommendations to the Government of India and the Government of India would give effect to those recommendations. And my Friend himself was questioned by me and others in this Council many a time, and what he told us on those occasions was that this Government was in communication with the Government of India on this question. I hope something definite will be done by this Government and I hope that this Government will take a definite and firm stand and press this question strongly upon the Government of India. It is not likely that the Government of India will turn a deaf ear to such a request from this Government, seeing particularly that the Government is supported by such a large volume of public opinion. Practically, it is a question on which there is no difference of opinion. I do not think even Members of the Reserved half differ from us on this question. It has been referred to as the counsel of perfection, and so far as practical difficulties are concerned, as I said, there are no financial difficulties, and even if there are financial difficulties, certainly this is a matter which has to be looked into. I hope the Government will do everything in their power to effect this."

17th March 1926]

* The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—"Mr. President, Sir, I am glad to have this opportunity of making the position of this Government absolutely clear on this matter. For that purpose and with your leave, Mr. President, let me take the House into the history, very recent history, of this particular matter. In pursuance of a resolution in the Legislative Council in 1922, the Government appointed what is called the Coleridge Committee and the Coleridge Committee made a certain report on which the Government have come to certain conclusions and the report of the Committee and the proposals of the Government were placed before the Legislative Council during the budget session of 1924. A vote on the budget motion was taken, and that vote indicated, and the Government themselves said that they would take the vote of the House as indicating, that it was in favour of the majority report. Now, Sir, we have obtained the permission of the Government of India to place before this House the following facts, as till now all I could say was that the matter was under correspondence between the Government of India and this Government. This was considered by this Government as unsatisfactory. Therefore we have taken specific permission of the Government of India to say what has been happening. The Government of India informed this Government that the question of separation of judicial and executive functions should be treated as an all-India topic, and that the sanction of the Secretary of State should be awaited for the introduction of any scheme connected therewith. On the 22nd February 1925, the Government of India intimated that the matter was under consideration, and then we had certain resolutions sent in to us with regard to this very matter; and therefore on the 12th of August 1925, the Government of Madras made up their mind to remind the Government of India that we are waiting for an answer and should be glad to get the answer; and we wrote to them that we wanted to know in what stage the matter was and when final orders might be expected. On the 25th of August 1925, the Government of India's letter says: 'I am directed to say that the scheme for the separation of judicial and executive functions is still under the consideration of the Government of India and it is expected that the Local Governments will be addressed on the general question, at any rate, soon after the conclusion of the August-September session of the Indian legislature, if not before.' Then later on we wrote to them early in February asking them that this Government might be informed when the promised communication was likely to be received and we have got a letter, dated 1st March 1926, in which they say: 'In reply to your letter, dated 16th February, I am directed to say that the question is under consideration and that no definite date can be given.' That is where the correspondence stands. If matters stood there, it would of course look somewhat hopeless. But the position, however, has been stated to a certain extent accurately by the hon. Member from Malabar. Sir Alexander Muddiman from his seat in the Legislative Assembly has stated that the Government are exploring a way out and they are very seriously considering the passing of orders in the near future. Also in answer to certain questions in the Bihar and Orissa Legislative Council, it was stated that they have been informed that orders might very soon be expected; and all that we can say is that we expect orders very soon on this matter as it has been under discussion for a very long time and there are reasons to think

[Sir C. P. Ramaswami Ayyar] [17th March 1926]

that the decision may be expedited. All that I am concerned to point out is that the Government are anxious to put the matters in train and they will not lose time, as soon as the orders of the Secretary of State and the Government of India reach them to take steps upon the basis of those orders."

Mr. A. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—"Mr. President, I feel that the statement which has been made by the hon. the Law Member raises a very interesting and important constitutional issue. I am not surprised, Sir, at the dilatory ways of the Government of India with reference to this all-important question. They took years and years before they discovered that the question was of such importance that it ought to be solved as an all-India question, and now we are told that orders may be expected very soon. I do not want to indulge in the hope the hon. the Law Member has chosen to indulge in. Knowing the past of the Government of India and the nature of the correspondence that has dragged on between the two Governments, I do not see any justification for the expression of hope. But, Sir, I am faced with this situation, the question of the administration of the Judicial Department both on the civil side and on the criminal side is not a Central subject; it is a Provincial subject transferred to the control of the province. There are subjects which are Central subjects in which any authority that may be delegated to the provincial officers or heads of administration is afforded merely by way of delegation, merely as agents to the Government of India. But this is not one of those subjects. You will find, Sir, in the schedule to Devolution Rules that these subjects are classified as Provincial subjects."

* The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—"Item 30 of Schedule I, Part I, Criminal law, including criminal procedure, is a Central subject."

Mr. A. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—"Page 132, Item 17, Administration of Justice, including constitution, powers, maintenance and organization of courts of civil and criminal jurisdiction within the province, is a Provincial subject. My Friend has got a wrong quotation on this occasion. The more important thing is what is the constitution of the tribunal which has to be determined in these courts."

* The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—"The only important thing is the criminal procedure."

Mr. A. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—"The procedure is adjunct to the constituted court. But the vital thing is, the course adopted. The criminal procedure has been amended in the past. What we are concerned about on the question of the judicial and executive functions is really the question of separation of the functions; not the processual law, not the adjectival law to which my hon. Friend refers, but the very functions that ought to be exercised and the bodies which ought to exercise those functions. Surely, criminal procedure does not involve questions as to what sort of court should try these. The constitution of the courts is a Provincial subject. Therefore, I feel that if the Local Government has given in to the Government of India under the wrong idea that they are bound to carry on whatever the Government of India may dictate to them, they have done injustice to their own sense and what is due under the constitutional law. The classification is quite plain, namely, constitution, powers, maintenance and organization of

[17th March 1926] [Mr. A. Ramaswami Mudaliyar]

courts of civil and criminal jurisdiction within the province. What are we asking in this demand for the separation of the judicial and executive functions? We say that the same court ought not to be invested with the powers, both civil and criminal, both administrative and judicial. We say that a certain person ought to be merely trying only criminal cases and that he ought not to have revenue work also thrown upon him. Surely, the hon. the Law Member knows that in this very province experiments have been carried on from time to time. The appointment of stationary sub-magistrates is an instance in point. The hon. the Revenue Member knows how the scheme of stationary sub-magistrates was incorporated in this Presidency. This is to a certain extent giving in to the cause of those who advocate the separation of judicial and executive functions. There have been other courts similarly constituted by the Local Government where first-class magistrates have exclusive jurisdiction to try only criminal cases, having a sort of revenue functions attached to them. At this stage of the day, for the Government of India to say that the whole thing will be treated as an all-India subject and that orders may be awaited, merely means that they are putting off the solution to Greek Calends. I have myself very little hope that the Government of India will come forward with a satisfactory scheme in this respect. I only take this opportunity to impress once again the necessity of the Local Government asking the Government of India to treat this province and its case apart from the cases of other provinces. There is not the sameness with respect to the judicial administration in all the provinces. It will be a misleading factor if the Government of India were to take into its head that what obtains in the North-West Province shall be a guide for what ought to be in the Madras Presidency. There are backward tracts, there are scheduled areas, there are new provinces come into existence. I am not going to say anything against them, but I only plead that so well established an old province as the Madras Presidency with its own traditions of conducting its cases both on the civil side and on the criminal side might be judged on its own merits and the scheme introduced at an early date. I have very little hope from the statement that has been made by the hon. the Law Member that we can see a dawn of the new day when the separation of the judicial and executive functions will be an accomplished fact. I take this opportunity of emphasizing again the great necessity of doing away with the present evil system which is doing havoc in the country."

* The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—"Sir, with a great deal of what fell from the hon. Member from Chingleput I have no quarrel. But irrespectively of the Devolution Rules and the classification of subjects into Central and Provincial, the hon. Member is sufficiently a student of constitutional law to know that in the matter of the administration of Reserved subjects we are under the orders of the Secretary of State and the Government of India. This is quite irrespective of any question of delimitations of functions, and when I said that on the 22nd of March 1924, when we had certain proposals of the Coleridge Committee before us, the Government of India definitely told this Government, as well as other Governments, not to go on with their schemes, that schemes should not be placed before the Legislative Council without the sanction of the Secretary of State, that they (the Government of India) proposed to treat it as an all-India subject, that we were not at liberty *suo motu* to proceed further with the subject, and that, thereafter, the Government of India had been from

12-16
p.m.

[Sir C. P. Ramaswami Ayyar] [17th March 1926]

time to time addressing this Government—when I said all these, all that I was anxious to impress upon the hon. Member from Chingleput and other Members who might feel with him in the matter was that, so far as this Government was concerned, no pains had been spared to make it clear to the Government of India and to the Secretary of State that we were considering this matter as one demanding a speedy solution. It may be that I am optimistic in my estimate of the speedy solution of this question. If so, I am sorry, but nevertheless any prophecies as to when the development of the scheme of separation, or partial separation, of judicial and executive functions will come into effect have nothing to do with the main issue, namely, that, so far as this Government is concerned they have been told both by the Government of India and the Secretary of State not to proceed with this matter, but to treat it as an all-India matter and we are bound to obey them in the administration of Reserved subjects. That is the position which I am anxious to elucidate before the House."

* Diwan Bahadur M. KRISHNAN NAYAR :—"I understand from the hon. the Law Member that he is very anxious and is really in favour of the question of separation of judicial and executive functions. I do not want to say very much on this point because he was himself a distinguished ornament of the bar and he knows the importance of this subject. But having regard to what fell from him, namely, that he is anxious to give effect to the proposal of separation of judicial from executive functions, and also to strengthen his hands, I press this motion to a division."

The motion was put to vote and lost.

* Mr. K. SITARAMA REDDI :—"The motion that stands in my name runs as follows :—

'That the allotment of Rs. 11,700 for medical establishments be omitted.'

"Sir, this motion is intended merely to elicit information as to how sub-divisional establishments require special medical establishments for their help. I am not able to understand how the sub-collectors and revenue divisional officers who contribute to the expenditure under this head require this special establishment."

* The hon. Mr. N. E. MARJORIBANKS :—"These medical establishments are intended to tour with certain officials in the Agency tracts and they afford medical relief not only to these officials but to the people also when they go on tour. This medical establishment is mainly intended for affording medical relief to the people of those areas in which these revenue officials tour. I have got figures to show that the number of cases which the sub-assistant surgeons have dealt with in a year average about 2,000. Of course, we are opening dispensaries in some places in the Agency tracts, but still we find that some supplemental aid is necessary and the cheapest and the most convenient way is to give such relief through the medical officers when touring in those areas."

The motion was by leave withdrawn.

The Demand I that Government be granted a sum of Rs. 252.29 lakhs for the Land Revenue Department was put and carried and the grant was made.

17th March 1926]

DEMAND II—EXCISE DEPARTMENT.

* The hon. Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. PATRO :—"I beg to move that Government be granted a sum of Rs. 37.93 lakhs for Demand No. II—Excise Department."

* Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—"The motion which stands in my name runs as follows :—

'That the allotment of Rs. 20,000 for pay of officers be reduced by Rs. 100.'

"Sir, this subject has been recently discussed and I only want to draw the attention of the hon. the Excise Minister to some of the salient points involved in this question. I am at a loss to understand what exactly is the policy of the Government in regard to this question. I wonder whether they have any policy at all, although the Ministerialist party's resolution was to the effect that they should aim at total prohibition within a period of 20 years. From what I have been able to see, their policy really tends to encourage intemperance on the one hand and encourage importation of European liquor on the other. One glaring instance of this policy is the introduction of total prohibition in five taluks in Southern India. In these five taluks we are told that Government have not stopped importation or the sale of European liquors with the result that the sale and the consumption of European liquors have increased. I do not illustrate the subject by other instances. If really the Government were very keen about the introduction of a policy of temperance, not to speak of total prohibition, surely they would have stopped all sorts of trade in liquors, specially European liquors. In this connexion, I may draw the attention of the Government to the sale of liquors that is going on in clubs. I am at a loss to see how Government are allowing these clubs to sell liquors. What distinction is there between a shop-keeper and a club, I mean even an Indian club? Practically many of the clubs get liquors free of duty."

Mr. T. M. ROSS :—"On a point of order, Sir. Is the hon. Member correct in saying that clubs get liquors free of duty?"

* Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—"What I meant to say is that these clubs import liquor wholesale and they get their liquors paying only customs duty, and no other duty is paid by them just as it is paid by other shop-keepers. Here as well as in Bombay, the clubs have to pay only customs duty, whereas, supposing a shop-keeper in Mangalore imports liquor, he has to pay not only customs duty but also an additional duty in connexion with the sale of liquor. European clubs and European Missionary societies who import liquors are paying only one class of duty and that is the customs duty. In Bombay last year they passed a Bill whereby clubs were prohibited from selling foreign liquors without paying licence duties also. If ordinary shops which sell liquors are levied licence fees, I do not see any reason why clubs alone should be exempted from such payment. What I wish to say is that in the interests of Excise administration clubs should not be exempted from paying licence duties. I do not know the text of the Bill which was introduced in Bombay but I know the Excise Minister there did introduce a measure to that effect."

* The hon. Mr. T. E. MOIR :—"I am sorry the hon. Member does not remember what was contained in the Bill. But can he tell us what the policy is?"

[17th March 1926]

* Mr. J. A. SALDANHA:—"I may say this much: that clubs somehow or other have escaped from paying a duty, which shop-keepers are asked to pay. I only hope that the hon. the Minister for Excise will bring in a similar Bill in this Council just as it was done in Bombay."

* The hon. Mr. T. E. MOIR:—"Can the hon. Member tell us what the policy is? He cannot remember what is contained in the Bill. But we should very much like to know what it is he is advocating."

(A VOICE: You had better bring in a Bill.)

* Mr. J. A. SALDANHA:—"I have thrown out my suggestion for what it is worth. I may assure the House that I can bring in a Bill."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT:—"The hon. Member must address the Chair."

* Mr. J. A. SALDANHA:—"I am sorry I was not addressing the Chair I was addressing another hon. Member who was addressing me."

12-30 P.M. "The clubs should not be exempt from any form of taxes to which the shop-keepers are subject. Necessary legislation should be introduced in this House to tax foreign liquors in the same way as Indian liquors."

* The hon. Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. PATRO:—"Sir, I am sure the House has listened with great interest to what the hon. Mover has said. He has thrown considerable light on the very technical problem of the sale of European liquors with licence and without licence, with price and without price. It would have been more useful for this House and especially to the Minister in charge if the hon. Mover had given some definite facts as to the practice, which he said, prevailed in Bombay. Then we would be very willing to examine that practice and thereby get a lakh of rupees of revenue which according to the hon. Member is going for nothing. The hon. Member wants us to investigate into the matter. He has given us no hints to make enquiries whether licence fees are levied on clubs. Both as a measure of temperance and as a financial proposition, it may be worth investigating."

"My hon. Friend who takes a very keen interest in this matter is anxious that liquor of the proper quality should be supplied for consumption in South Kanara; he has never made a secret of it. I have placed the matter in the hands of the Commissioner who has already issued instructions to the manufacturers. I am glad the managing agent of the well-known firm is here; he has already taken steps in the matter. My hon. Friend admitted that there was improvement in the quality of the liquor now supplied to the people. He will have no more complaints to make this year as he made last year."

"As regards European liquors, I shall ascertain whether there is any such practice as alluded to by the hon. Member and if it is found to be possible and practicable I shall certainly adopt his suggestion. But for the information of the hon. Member, I may say that European clubs are required to pay fees like every other shop. They have to obtain a licence from the Commissioner under rules 9 and 10 of the Excise Manual. Any man may import foreign liquor on payment of the prescribed duty under the Indian Tariff Act. Section 13 of the Abkari Act permits the possession of foreign liquor by a person for his private use and not for sale. Imported

[17th March 1926]

[Sir A. P. Patro]

foreign liquor can be sold only under licence. Under Standing Order 10 of the Excise Manual, clubs other than those of a proprietary character are not bound to take out licence to supply liquor to its members. The rules apply to European as well as Indian clubs. Non-proprietary clubs are of course not run for profits. If there is any difference in procedure elsewhere which if adopted here would bring in a revenue to the Government, that will be investigated and given effect to not only as a step towards temperance but also as a financial measure. At present I may say that our practice seems to be a sound one. We have every control over the foreign liquor clubs, proprietary as well as non-proprietary."

Mr. J. A. DAVIS:—"Sir, I should like to ask the hon. Minister for Excise to make a declaration of policy as to the partial prohibition that he has introduced among the hill tribes in the Nilgiris. In the interests of the economic condition of the Badagas, the hon. Minister has introduced partial prohibition among them. The House recently passed a resolution that the goal of prohibition should be reached in 20 years. I was watching very carefully whether the Minister was going to treat the resolution sympathetically. Unfortunately, I was the only one on this side who supported the resolution that at least one shop should be abolished in this city. I am sorry to say that the Minister voted against the resolution. I take it that once the resolution is passed by this House, it is the duty of all of us to co-operate and move towards the goal. In spite of the special appeal made by the hon. Members of the Opposition, the hon. Minister would not consent to close one shop. It strikes me that he has no intention whatever of giving effect to the idea of total prohibition within twenty years. If it is his intention to give effect to prohibition in the twentieth year, I do not think the hon. Minister will be of much help to us. I would ask him now to make a definite statement of his policy towards the hill tribes considering their economic condition. I do not want to go into the question of the foreign liquor, because it is consumed by people who know their financial condition and their ability to pay and so on. But in the case of the hill tribes, I would request the hon. Minister to make a statement that he would go a little further in his policy of prohibition. I request him to give effect at least to some small extent to the resolution that was passed by the House the other day."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT:—"Does the hon. Member wish to press his motion?"

* Mr. J. A. SALDANHA:—"Sir, I should just like to explain what took place in Bombay last year." (The hon. Member began to read from the proceedings of the Bombay Legislative Council).

* The hon. the PRESIDENT:—"Is the hon. Member going to read from the proceedings of the Bombay Legislative Council? I think it would be sufficient if he would kindly state what the policy of the hon. Minister there was. That is all we are concerned with at present."

* Mr. J. A. SALDANHA:—"The Minister there brought in a Bill which was passed at one sitting though the non-official Europeans opposed it. The effect of the Bill was that clubs should pay the excise duty besides the customs and other duties, if any. These non-proprietary clubs import liquors direct from Europe and they do not pay any duty to the Excise Department for bottling and selling the liquor in their own premises to their members."

[17th March 1926]

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" Indian liquors do not pay any customs duty."

* Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—" Indian liquor is not sold in the premises. The shop-keepers complain that the clubs sell the liquor at a cheaper rate than they themselves could sell after having paid their duties."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" It is only to the members of the club that they can sell liquor."

* Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—" Yes, Sir. As the members increase, the import of foreign liquor direct by the club increases. There are two or three stages, one when the liquor is brought down in barrels, secondly when it is bottled and supplied to the members. The duty that is paid by the ordinary shop-keepers is not all paid by these clubs; hence is the complaint. Clubs must be placed on a par with the shops and made to pay all the duties so that there may be a check on the consumption and few more rupees of revenue might be got to the Government."

* The hon. Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. PATRO :—" Sir, with regard to the point raised by the hon. Member from the Nilgiris, I must say that even before the House passed the resolution in February last the Government had adopted a policy of temperance. The system has been revised with a view to see that the people are accustomed to the restrictions imposed by the department. The experiment has been going on for the past two years in the Nilgiris. During this time we have had to combat illicit distillation and sale of arrack. Clubs were formed ostensibly for the purpose of selling tea, but foreign liquor was freely smuggled in. Several difficulties had to be met; the staff had to be increased. We have done all these long before the resolution of the House was passed. We are taking every possible step to see that the rules framed by the department are not disobeyed, and that there is no abuse of the regulations. The experiment is intended to be tried over a period of three years and one year more has yet to elapse. At the end of the period we would take stock of the situation and see whether we could not take any further step in that direction. At this stage it seems to me that we cannot take any definite step in the matter before the experiment has run for the full three years."

* Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—" The most important point is to stop the sale of European liquors in the five taluks. I want to know whether the Government have taken any steps in that direction. I want an assurance from the Government on that point. The important point is that the Government should introduce the policy of total prohibition in the five taluks and should do something practical to stop the sale of European liquors."

* The hon. Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. PATRO :—" May I explain that the experiment which is going on in the five taluks is to see that there is no arrack or strong liquor available to the people of those localities? It is not said that we are going to abolish altogether the import of European liquor. We have been examining the question whether there has been any increase in the sale of cheap European liquors. If we are satisfied that there is any danger in that direction, then we will consider the question of how to combat it. But at the present moment it is not possible for me to say that the Government are going to cancel the licences given for the last so many years in that locality."

* Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—" My point is that the consumption of foreign liquor has increased. Licences are given only for a year. I want an

[17th March 1926]

[Mr. J. A. Saldanha]

assurance from the hon. the Minister that after the licence period is over, the importation of foreign liquor will be stopped. It is only then that the experiment will be a real and thorough one."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" The hon. the Minister said that he was watching the experiment."

* Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—" The hon. the Minister said that the licences were running their course. After the period is over, I want an assurance from the Government that they will stop the issuing of licences earnestly and try the experiment of total prohibition which is very important. We should like to know whether the experiment will be undertaken earnestly and carried out earnestly. Our suspicion is that this policy is undertaken only with a view to throw dust in the eyes of the public. It is only by putting a question that we got the information that there is an increase in the quantity of European liquors sold and consumed. We have not been given any assurance that after the licence period is over, the Government is in right earnest in carrying out the policy of total prohibition. My assumption is that the Government is not really earnest. I press my motion."

The motion was put to the House and lost.

* Mr. R. VEERIAN :—" I move

'that the allotment of Rs. 21,90,900 for District Executive Establishments be reduced by Rs. 100.'

" My object is to urge the adoption of measures to effectively put a stop to the sale of intoxicating liquor after the fixed hours through the secret doors in the licensed shops and to prevent chokra vendors from selling eatables exposed to dust, mud and flies. There are two principles involved in this matter. One is selling liquor after the closing hours and the other is the sale of liquor through the secret doors. If the hon. the Minister in charge will accompany me, I will point out to him that such things happen even within the City of Madras. Sir, I have seen often women dressed up like men entering the liquor shops after the closing hours. I found out this in disguise. I know it for certain that the tavern in the Seven Wells Street sells arrack, beer and other liquor after the closing hours through secret doors and windows. The taverns appoint two peons, one on one side and the other on the other side, to see whether any officers of the department come to inspect them. The peons go and tell the proprietor that a motor-car is coming and that they should be alert. They at once close all the doors and shut out all the people. In that way, things are going on. I hope the hon. Member in charge will kindly see that effective steps are taken to prevent such things. I do not find anything in the conditions of the sales. In the *Fort St. George Gazette* of the 14th July 1925 all other conditions except this have been mentioned. I find clause 9 is to the effect that no arrack shop or foreign liquor shop shall be opened before 9-30 a.m. Toddy shops in Salem town shall not be opened before 9 a.m. No other shop shall be open before sunrise. Clause 10 says that no shops shall be open after 8 p.m. except under special authority. Collectors may, at their discretion, order the closure of any shop before sunset and for sufficient reasons order the closure of any shop at any earlier hour if they consider that it is in the interests of the public. No shops can be open after 8 p.m. I do not find anything about secret doors. In almost

[Mr. R. Veerian]

[17th March 1926]

all tavern shops you will find such doors. There is no necessity to have secret windows and doors where they have main doors. I think that the inspecting officers take no delight in finding out these things. This is a very important matter and as long as we have such doors, I think there is every reason to believe that drunkenness will increase. I hope the hon. the Minister will at least issue orders to see that there are no secret doors.

"Coming to the other point, it is a great nuisance to allow the chokra vendors who sell eatables to sit outside the premises. Several respectable ladies find it very difficult to pass by the side of the taverns, especially at 6 o'clock. There is a great hindrance for traffic and for respectable men and women to pass by the street. The vendors never sit inside the premises and therefore all the drinkers congregate in large numbers around the eatable vendors. They should sit only within the premises to avoid such a crowd on the public pathway. They take delight in coming out, chit-chatting, dancing and falling on respectable persons with a view to molest them. They pretend that they are fully drunk. Such things are happening. It is necessary to put a stop to them. I think the hon. the Minister in charge will realize the difficulties and see they are put a stop to. This will not cost the Government very much. I cannot say that the hon. Minister has achieved anything wonderful in this direction. I hope that at least hereafter he will issue orders to prevent having such trap doors and secret windows and eatable-vendors outside the premises also."

* The hon. Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. PATRO :—"Certainly, I agree with my hon. Friend that I cannot work miracles; nor can I create wonders for him. It is a well-known fact that the excise problem is not one of to-day. It is not a problem that has been before the country only for the last six years. It comes from the days of our ancestors, from the days of the Soma juice and from the days of Chanakya. It has come in various aspects and in various forms. Therefore, it is not a surprise that I am not able to work any miracle; nor is it any wonder that more rapid progress could not be made, shown or demonstrated on paper for the purpose of appealing to the electorate that this could be done and that could be done. If solid work is to be shown and if substantial work is expected, the evil has to be put down steadily and gradually having in mind the conditions in which we are situated financially and socially."

"In regard to the particular question which the hon. Member has raised, I am one with him and say that there is no doubt that this rule is abused in certain places. We are conscious of this fact. The Excise administration is aware of the abuse of the rules relating to hours of sale. I shall give you an instance how the Excise administration has been taking steps to prevent the abuse of these rules. When it was brought to the notice of the Assistant Commissioner that in certain localities in the City of Madras the rule was violated, the Inspector of the circle and the Assistant Commissioner were instructed to see that the abuse was put down. The Inspector started in a motor-car without his uniform and had also a posse of his excise men without the uniform. While they went in one direction with a view to come round indirectly to the particular shop it happened that by the time they came there a motor-car engaged by the traders and drinking classes was already there at the shop. Not only one shop but two or three shops were informed of the approach of the officers and any possibility of detecting the

[17th March 1926]

[Sir A. P. Patro]

offence disappeared altogether. Nevertheless, the Assistant Commissioner and the Excise Inspector with the constables put up a ladder and they climbed up to the terrace. From the terrace they suspended ropes, got into the shop and found certain badmashes were still drinking. The Excise officers could not get them as the badmashes ran away on the approach of these officers. But the shop-vendor was prosecuted and punished."

* Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—"Were not the entrances being watched during the search?"

The hon. Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. PATRO :—"That is a question which will arise when the matter goes to a court of law. But for the purposes of administration what is done is to see that crimes are prevented. As soon as the crimes are brought to the notice of the department, the officers are very alert to take action in such matters; such steps are taken at great danger to the officers themselves. A few days back a very sad event occurred. A young man of 38, an Assistant Inspector who was a very able man, was stabbed to death while he was trying to prevent illicit distillation. He had to lose his life while discharging his duty to prevent excise crime and illicit distillation."

Rai Bahadur T. M. NARASIMHACHARLU :—"His head was chopped off."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—"The result is the same."

* The hon. Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. PATRO :—"Hon. Members will realize the great danger to the life of the Excise officers while discharging their duties. It is easy for us to make rules. We have prepared so many rules for the guidance of the officers. But in the execution of the rules there is great danger to the life of the officers. Another case which was brought to the notice of the Government by the Excise Inspector of the circle was that there was some abuse of the rule in the particular locality referred to by my hon. Friend. The Inspector started with a few constables and asked the help of the influential people of that locality in the matter of detection of the crimes. None would come forward to help them in the detection of the offences. Nevertheless, the Inspector of the circle and the constables discharged their duty in the midst of danger. They prosecuted the man and he was fined; and the shop was resold. The officers of the department are detecting crime even at the risk of their lives."

"Therefore, all credit should be given to the officers who have been discharging their responsibility with great ability in the midst of danger. In spite of that, to throw cold water over their efforts and to say that they have not done this thing or that thing seems to me not to realize the gravity of the problem. Therefore my hon. Friend will be convinced that the administration is not unmindful of the situation that exists now, and the department is taking every precaution necessary to combat the evils of illicit sale and illicit consumption. Under conditions 9 and 10 which my hon. Friend has also referred to, the hours for liquor shops are fixed in the abkari and opium licences between 9-30 a.m. and 8 p.m. and there is no reason to suspect that these hours are not generally adhered to. Under rule 3 of the general conditions applicable to abkari and opium licences, licensees have to keep their shop premises in a sanitary condition and all means of ingress and egress except the recognized one into the main street have also to be kept under lock and key under the seal of the officer of the

[Sir A. P. Patro]

[17th March 1926]

Excise Department. Therefore, the private doors which the hon. the Mover has referred to are not to be kept open. They are to be kept under lock and key under the seal of the officer of the department after the hour fixed in the licence. The inspecting officers of the department take suitable action whenever it is brought to their notice about the unsatisfactory arrangement of the shop or shop premises and also about any violation of the law. I submit to the House that the department has been doing its best in the matter and if there is greater co-operation on the part of the public in working out the rules properly and effectively the department will be very grateful. I pointed out a sad instance, where the department wanted to discharge its duty with the co-operation that was expected from the public. These are cases that occur here and there; but, on the whole, I say the department has been carrying out and enforcing the rules that have been prepared for their guidance."

* Mr. R. VEERIAN :—"Sir, I want to say only a few words. It is very well for the hon. the Minister to say that it is all due to the insufficient help rendered by the people to the department in detecting cases. We are quite prepared to render help, as far as possible, in putting a stop to these evil happenings. But we ought to be very careful. What would happen, Sir, if they come to know that such people would be sent to the other world in order to have eternal sleep there? They may not be willing to give us any help. Will these people be ready to go for eternal sleep there? No, Sir, they will think twice or thrice before they decide to go. So, unless police power is given to such people, I do not think they will come forward to help the department. Give them police help and then see whether they are coming to help you or not. That will be very reasonable instead of making a general remark that these people should render help as far as possible to diminish the crime. (Laughter.) Then, Sir, I only want to say that trap doors and windows should not be allowed. Why should there be holes in the wall, Sir? There is no necessity at all for them. With a view to issue liquor after the closing hours, they are having all these things. The officers must go and inspect where these things take place and then they must ask the vendors to close these things. It will be very easy to do so if they are given the power. There is no extraordinary thing about it. I only wanted the hon. the Minister to move a little bit faster. He is going as slowly as a tortoise. I say he should not move slowly, because the spirit of the day is not like that. I only want him to run faster as far as possible. I hope he will issue instructions to the department concerned to see that these secret doors and windows are closed and that liquor is not sold after the fixed hours. If the officers do not go suddenly to a shop but wait and see, instead of entering suddenly, they will be able to find these things out. They must go there, stand at a distance and see for themselves all the things that are going on."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—"Order, order. All this advice may be given to the Excise Commissioner. Is the hon. Member going to press his motion?"

* Mr. R. VEERIAN :—"I am not going to press my motion, but I think, Sir, that the hon. the Minister would like all these useful suggestions (laughter) so that he may communicate these suggestions to the department concerned. He may not be aware of these things. He may not be well

[17th March 1926]

[Mr. R. Veerian]

versed in all these things. I hope the hon. Minister will take these suggestions and issue instructions to the head of the department, and do the needful in the matter."

The motion was, by leave of the House, withdrawn.

* Rao Sahib R. SRINIVASAN :—"Sir, I move

'that the allotment of Rs. 21,90,900 for District Executive Establishments be reduced by Rs. 100.'

"My object is to draw attention to the illicit distillation of liquor and manufacture of toddy.

"Sir, I do not think that even after 20 or 30 years we can stop this evil of drink. What I have said the other day and what the hon. the Minister has been just now saying go to prove this statement of mine that drink cannot be completely stopped. If that is so, some method must be adopted to reduce the evil as much as possible. We have been told that by putting restrictions, as is being done now, the object can be achieved. But these restrictions have had the effect of injuring the drinker's health and of inducing the vendors to have recourse to mix with drink stuffs like ganja, kankarakoi, such other poisonous drugs and opium as well. It has been suggested that the duty on drinks should be high and the strength of the liquor should be reduced considerably. The vendor who wants to make as much money as he can seeks some poisonous drugs in order that the drink may be sufficiently intoxicating to draw his customers. Men who are accustomed to drink go there and take the poisonous stuff. Naturally, they get sick because of the stuff that is sold, and in this way many men are being killed. There is nobody to check it, and it seems that it cannot be checked. It is a serious matter. It is very simple to say 'Do not drink', but you must look to the welfare of such persons as well who got into the habit of drink. They too should be taken care of, for they are also subjects of the State and they should not be left to themselves.

"Now, I do not wish to be misunderstood, Sir. I was reported in the local papers the other day to have said that drink was necessary for the depressed classes. I hope, Sir, that the reporters are as correct as possible. As a result of such a report, many people came and asked me 'What, Sir, you have been saying that drink is necessary'. I had to deny the statement. But once the report goes out, it is very hard for any one to correct it. Though I did correct it, it has gone abroad. It has poisoned the minds of many people. That was not my object. My object was to urge that the drinkers should get good stuff for the money that they are paying. Supposing the price of ghee, for instance, goes high, it naturally happens that the quality gets adulterated, but all the same it cannot be said that consumption should be stopped on account of that, and I maintain that, like ghee, drink also is a commodity. What we want is good commodity for the money the drinkers pay. Let us not deceive them. Excuse my expression, Sir, I am not arguing for drunken brawls, nor am I arguing for any man who sleeps with a bottle under his pillow; nor am I speaking for any gentleman who goes about with a cork screw in his pocket and a Bible in his hand. I am only speaking of the men who are moderate drinkers and who wanted decent drinks after their day's toil. Let them go as gentlemen to a shop where there is drink, let it be a decent place, not a dirty hut like the one

[Mr. R. Srinivasan]

[17th March 1926]

which I came across the other day. But to sell adulterated stuff to such people is unreasonable. Then again, liquor should not be confounded with toddy. Liquor and alcohol, I admit, are intoxicating, but toddy is invigorating. Most of us will agree that it is so in the case of motherless infants and infants that are not in a position to take their mothers' breasts. Then again, it will be conceded that barren women beget children by taking toddy. Toddy is therefore not an imperious commodity as that of liquor. But I do not wish that every one should drink. Only those who are accustomed to it, who want it, must not be deprived of it. The practice of mixing ganja and other poisonous things which have a serious effect on health must be put an end to. Ultimately, the question comes to this: to sell a pure stuff for the lowest price and to do away with a very large controlling staff. It may be asked that having regard to the financial condition of the country how could the revenue be met? That is a problem to be solved not so easily. I am only suggesting that land revenue is very lightly assessed in stray villages, where landlords, who lease out their lands to middlemen and rack renters, always obtain a very high rent. Such lands might be over-assessed. Take that money out of them and give it to the public revenue. That is one way in which the problem could be solved. I do not want to take much time; but I shall conclude by saying that this is an idea which must be pursued by the Government. I do not mean to advocate or encourage drink; but, at the same time, let us see that some good is done to those men who are accustomed to drink."

* The hon. Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. PATRO:—"Sir, the hon. Mover who stands for moderate drink and has no patience with drinkers, with his large and wide experience has told us that the steps taken by the Government so far in regard to temperance and restriction of consumption, namely, reduction of hours of sale, reduction of the strength of liquor and abolition of the shops, all these have tended to increase illicit consumption and illicit sale. That is one view, I take it, which is put forward by Mr. Srinivasan; but we do believe, Sir, in placing restrictions on the consumption of liquor and in the reduction of consumption as early as possible.

"That is the policy which we have been pursuing, namely, the removal of facilities, wherever possible, for drink. This, the hon. Member says, has had the result of large illicit sales and illicit consumption. As a matter of fact, whether these conditions have directly resulted in illicit sales and consumption is a matter on which I am not prepared to agree with the hon. Member. All that I say is that we have been pursuing the policy, the drastic policy, of reduction of shops, enforcing the hours of sale and reducing the strength of liquor and also restricting women and children from frequenting these shops, all temperance measures among the drinking classes. The figures show however that there has been an increase in illicit manufacture of toddy within the last three years, ever since we have been enforcing the restrictions. In 1922-23 the number of cases of illicit manufacture of toddy was 6,623. In 1923-24 it was 6,427 while in 1924-25 it has gone up to 7,250. In the matter of illicit distillation of liquor similarly there has been an increase as well. In 1923-24 there were 2,123 cases, in 1924-25, 2,131, and so on. But these figures relating to excise crimes do not justify any inference that crimes are increasing abnormally. On the other hand, the steps that are taken to prevent illicit manufacture and illicit sale are in steady progress. I may, for the information of the House, give an instance to show how

17th March 1926]

[Sir A. P. Patro]

people resort to illicit consumption wherever we place restrictions and abolish shops. There is the practice growing in the rural areas. Two or three people join together and have a small mechanism by which they can brew without any limitation as to degree and get themselves drunk for a day or two. There is what is known as 'Sontiserugu' which is prevailing in the City of Madras and its neighbourhood by which dried ginger powder and babul arrack powder are strewn over a big heap of boiled rice, the whole thing is then mixed up and held over night and in the morning when the thing gets fermented, it is spread on a mat and when it dries up and gets hard, it is taken in handfuls with water. It is said to yield a good intoxicating drink. Several cases of this kind have been detected in the City of Madras and in the neighbourhood. There is therefore some justification for the hon. Mover to state that the steps taken for restriction of liquor and promotion of temperance should not result in illicit sale and illicit consumption. To fight against this evil, we have to increase the vigilance staff. And we want this House also to remember that unless the staff is increased, unless our hands are strengthened in the matter of detecting these cases with a large number of subordinate officers, it will not be possible for us to prevent it. Prevention is one thing that we are paying our attention to in the matter of drink. But prevention requires almost doubling the present staff. And according to the evidence that has been placed before the Excise Advisory Committee, we have to increase the staff three times and even four times if we want to effectively prevent the illicit consumption and illicit distillation of liquor. I am sure the House will support me when the motion comes before it for increase of staff for the prevention of excise crimes. I have every sympathy with the hon. Mover in what he has said and we have been taking the necessary steps in the matter of minimizing the evil which he has referred to."

* Rao Sahib R. SRINIVASAN:—"Sir, just a word with your permission to make my position clear to the hon. Members here. I have been drinking for forty years. I am not ashamed to say that. I am not a habitual drinker. I used to take drink occasionally whenever it is required. I can go without drink for years together. I remember in a foreign country where I was during the election time all the shops had been closed and my servant and others joined together, engaged a motor-car and travelled a long distance to have their drink. The case of these people as a whole must be considered. I feel for them and wish that they should be made to get for the money that they pay what is good for them, to claim which they have their individual right and privilege."

The motion was by leave withdrawn.

* Mr. A. CHIDAMBARA NADAR:—"I move
'that the allotment of Rs 37.93 lakhs for Excise Department be reduced by Rs. 1,000.'

"My object is to discuss the question of penalties and forfeitures. I should like to know, Sir, the total amount of income under the head 'Penalties and Forfeitures' from the southern districts, especially Tinnevely and Ramnad. For, Sir, I understand that the Nadars in these two districts are unwilling to tap for toddy and they are forced by the officers of the Excise Department to tap for toddy. And whenever they tap for sweet toddy they are prosecuted for illicit tapping and made to pay the penalty

[Mr. A. Chidambara Nadar] [17th March 1926]

Sir, this question has been agitated for the last three years and nothing has been done till now. Petitions have been submitted to the Collectors as well as to the hon. Minister but no steps have been taken to relieve the Nadars from the sufferings they undergo at the hands of the Excise officers. I hope the Government will take some steps in the matter and if the hon. the Minister will give an undertaking, I am prepared to withdraw my motion."

*The hon. Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. PATRO:—"Sir, I shall be very glad to enquire if there is any specific instance where any particular officer has forced people to tap trees against their wish. Certainly tapping is going on for sweet juice but there is the danger of the man drawing the sweet juice abusing the right by simply smearing the pot with a little lime when the juice becomes fermented and can be offered as toddy. There are therefore restrictions imposed and the department have to be very cautious in regard to them. If there is any particular locality where the officers are too rigorous in the matter, I shall certainly be very glad to ask the Commissioner to examine the matter and see that hardship is not caused to the people unnecessarily."

*Mr. A. CHIDAMBARA NADAR:—"The whole difficulty arose on account of the people joining together and passing a resolution not to tap toddy. When they refuse to tap for toddy the Excise officers in order to force them to do so bring in illegal prosecutions and levy a lot of fines and penalties. I should like to know from the hon. the Minister whether petitions were submitted to the Government on this matter."

*The hon. Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. PATRO:—"I am very glad to hear, Sir, that there has been such a consciousness among the community that they should not carry on the tapping trade. Such healthy spirit I would certainly encourage in any community. As regards applications or mahazars referred to, I may say that a particular petition came in connexion with one village. That matter was inquired into by the Commissioner and a report was received and we did not find that the allegations made were substantiated and the case had to be dropped."

*Mr. A. CHIDAMBARA NADAR:—"Perhaps in that matter there was no strong evidence to substantiate the case. If the hon. Minister will issue a circular to the officers not to unnecessarily harass or molest the people, I shall be glad."

The motion was by leave withdrawn.

Mr. T. M. NARASIMHACHARLU:—"Sir, I move

'that the allotment of Rs. 37.93 lakhs for Excise Department be reduced by Rs. 1,000.'

Sir, this is a token motion brought forward in order to discuss the policy of Government regarding Excise and to suggest that local option should be tried. Sir, ever since the Reforms were given effect to, and the Excise Department was handed over to the Minister, let us see whether any definite policy has been thought of, laid down or adopted by the Minister in charge of the department to minimise the evil, to reduce it and to making the people dry in the end. I am not unaware that the task is a very difficult task. As the hon. Minister has said, in a country which has been indulging in drink

[17th March 1926] [Mr. T. M. Narasimhacharlu]

for very many years, in fact centuries, it will be really difficult for any one person to chalk out a policy and to enforce it so as to prohibit drink altogether within a definite period of time. I no doubt see the difficulty of the task. But is it desirable on account of the inherent difficulty in it that we should not think of a definite policy with a view to get rid of this evil altogether within a reasonable distance of time? Are we to sleep over the matter and say that it is the Karma of ages, the Karma of our ancestors that they have imbibed this evil of drinking, that they have handed it down to posterity, and that we at this stage cannot do anything at all to minimise the evil. In my opinion, Sir, all the arguments that have been put forward by the hon. Minister for Excise simply amount to this: I feel helpless in the matter and therefore I cannot hope to do anything in the near future to minimise the evil.

"But if the Minister and the Members who are associated with him in the administration of this Government had only taken that opportunity when it existed and encouraged that opportunity, I think he would have been considerably helped in the wish or desire to make the country dry; I mean, Sir, the opportunity afforded by the non-co-operation movement. Whatever may be said about the question of non-co-operation itself, the movement had also its beneficent side, and that side they showed by propaganda work to the people, by proving that they were deteriorating both in their physique and in their economic condition by this drink. They were doing this propaganda work and they were telling the people about this, approaching them in persuasive terms; with arguments which were telling and clear they were inducing the people not to drink. At that time what did our Government do? I cannot say that what they did was to their credit. If they had only encouraged the people with the machinery at their command at that time and helped the people, and supplemented the efforts of the non-co-operators in this propaganda work, I think, Sir, the solution would have been long long ago made possible. Instead of that, the hon. the Minister for Excise and those who supported him have taken up a militant attitude against those who were engaged in that propaganda work. Even now it seems to me that it is not by the present policy of repression, of taking repressive action against the people for disobeying the Excise laws, that he can hope to minimise the evil of this drink. It is by propaganda work, by persuasion, by telling the people the evil of drink, by telling the people that they will deteriorate in their bodies, that they will become economically bad gradually, it is only by such means that you can bring the people to the side of the Government; and then it will be possible to introduce measures which will in course of time altogether remove the drink evil. I do not think the Government have even thought of pursuing such a policy of persuasion. Many people will come forward, voluntary workers will come forward to help the Government in the direction of telling the people and preaching to the people the good that will come in the long run by abstinence. The hon. the Minister says 'well, I have tried the question of prohibition in selected areas'. What do we find? He does not take the confidence of the people for his support, but he simply puts into force the fiat of his rules and ordinances in trying to enforce prohibition among certain selected areas. That won't do. He must have prepared the minds of the people beforehand, as to the beneficent effects of abstinence from drink. When the people's minds are prepared, then he can introduce any measure

1-30
p.m.

[Mr. T. M. Narasimhacharlu] [17th March 1926]

which is calculated in the long run to remove the evil of drink. He throws his seed as it were now on a barren soil without preparing the soil, without ploughing it, without making it soft, without manuring the soil, without watering it and thus making it fit for receiving the seed. What he now does is this: he simply goes and throws the seed on the barren soil and says, 'Well, I have thrown the seed. But it would not sprout at all!'

"Sir, the hon. the Minister has set up a deputation. Though there was a report from the deputation, nothing came out of the deputation. He has set up a committee, and from the report of the committee nothing has come up, and he has been trying his best, by repressive measures, by taking rigorous action, by putting his rules and law into rigorous force against people, to put it down. He thinks he can get rid of this drink evil by this action. I submit, Sir, he cannot. The only way successfully to eliminate drink altogether from the people is to help them to do so, and what work has he done till now?"

Mr. T. M. MOIDU SAHIB :—"On a point of order, I think there is no quorum now, Sir."

The bell was rung and there was found to be a quorum.

Rai Bahadur T. M. NARASIMHACHARLU :—"What has he done till now? He has not done anything in that direction. I would therefore suggest, Sir, that he should begin in the right direction and by so doing he will be able to win the confidence of the people. Recently we passed a resolution—that milk and water resolution of my hon. Friend, Mr. Krishnan Nayar—and however weak it has been, it has not been tried to be given effect to. In these circumstances, I think the policy he should adopt is the policy of inviting the co-operation and the confidence of the people to his side and then try to eliminate this drink evil. Having once prepared the minds of the people, this is what he should do. As regards local option, wherever people are prepared for local option, give them an opportunity of trying it. I think that is the policy pursued in America, and that is the policy that ought to be pursued by every right-minded Government. And in that direction, the hon. Minister has not made any advance. I hope he will take note of this way of persuading the people to his side, of preparing the soil and then throwing the seed in it. Then, he will see that local option will be very easy to be experimented upon, and it will prove successful. Already five precious years of his Ministry have been wasted, or rather elapsed, without bearing any fruit, and I submit, Sir, it is high time that he takes the right direction even at the present juncture."

The House then adjourned for lunch.

After Lunch (2-30 p.m.).

The House re-assembled with the hon. the Deputy President in the chair.

* The hon. Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. PATRO :—"Mr. Deputy President, Sir, the hon. Mover of this motion has characterized the policy of the Government as one of helplessness and he suggested that Government lost a splendid opportunity at the time when the non-co-operation movement was working for temperance, and that it was the duty of the Government to have co-operated with the non-co-operators and to have carried on the policy of temperance. In the matter of policy being helpless I wish very much

[17th March 1926]

[Sir A. P. Patro]

the hon. Member was present during the discussion of the Excise Policy on the Report of the Excise Advisory Committee. Therein I stated definitely the lines on which excise reform is carried on, that it was a progressive policy to restrict consumption and to remove facilities for consumption of liquor. It was a policy of raising the difficulties as many as possible in the way of liquors and to abolish as much as possible the temptations of drink. I described the measures by which we have achieved this result. In a few words it was a progressive policy of temperance reform (with a view to help the country for progressing towards temperance and what some others would be pleased to call total abstinence but at the same time I placed before the House all the facts to show that any time-limit that would be fixed in this matter is not practicable. There should be a large amount of co-operation from the people in carrying out the policy, that the revenue is not the only question that Government is anxious about, and as facilities are available for recouping the revenue Government would be very glad to carry on in a great measure the reform that has been introduced. It is needless for me to repeat what all I said on the occasion but I might assure the hon. Member that our policy has been one of progress in the matter of temperance. It is, as he realizes, a practical and a wise reformer he is—that there are difficulties in our way. We have to combat all these difficulties. While trying to overcome them we are also advancing the cause of temperance reform. The co-operation of the people we very much need. In regard to the second point which the hon. Mover adverted to, viz, that it is the duty of the Government to carry on propaganda work and persuasion work I wish very much that the hon. Member had shown some definite indication of that propaganda work and work of persuasion among the people from those that are interested in temperance reform. If Government failed to co-operate with them then it would have been a valid charge. With regard to the party he referred to, we felt ourselves unable to co-operate with the non-co-operators because it was a political factor that they wanted to make out and it was for political reasons that they carried on their work. If it were a social reform, if it were a social service, if it was actuated by motives of humanity for up-lifting the people and not for destroying existing things if it were purely a non-violent movement certainly it deserved the sympathy and support of every right-minded man. But it was not so. There was violence in their procedure and picketing was resorted to. I do not want to recite all the details that have come to our notice, or that have been reported in the press, and the ways and means adopted by that movement in order to achieve the end. We could not subscribe to the means adopted by them, however laudable may be the end and the object which they had in view. Therefore we differed. We did not want to encourage violence. If there was peaceful agitation, peaceful social reform, in a law abiding form, certainly they would have received my whole-hearted co-operation. Even then we tried to see if it was possible that we could work with them. But things were so changed and so altered that it was not at all possible for us to work in a constitutional way and hence, Sir, our difficulty in not being able to take advantage of the situation which the hon. Mover has adverted to. As a department we cannot carry on social reform work. We can encourage and support those social reformers who are working the cause. If they laid any difficulties in the way of social reformers it is a charge against the department. On

[Sir A. P. Patro]

[17th March 1926]

the other hand wherever it was possible for the public to help and co-operate with the department, the department has been taking advantage of it and helping the cause of reform. If there is any band of voluntary workers who would like to devote themselves for the cause of reform and temperance, not with a political end and a political view but with the object of working with the people for better ways, then the department is not averse to co-operate with them. The hon. Mover has not pointed out any direction where the department has erred or refused to co-operate. The only instance he pointed out was as I said not a purely disinterested one and hence our regret for not being able to co-operate with them. So the hon. Mover is not at all correct in saying that the policy of this department is one of helplessness. I repeat again and ask my hon. Friends to refer to the discussion that took place on the Excise Advisory Committee's report. It will convince him that the department has been endeavouring sincerely and earnestly to carry out excise reform. We are here to-day to state if there is co-operation on any side our work will be much facilitated. Then the hon. Member said that one of the ways in which Government can effect reform and can advance the excise policy is by local option. Here again he would have saved me and the House much time had he referred to the arguments that were advanced for and against local option as a measure of temperance reform. These have been discussed at length the other day and I would not repeat them again. This House had not accepted the motion on local option as an effective measure of temperance reform and therefore I am one with this House and I am bound to carry out what this House has recommended. Again, Sir, in another matter this House has said that while the House recommends that prohibition should be the goal of Excise policy, a certain period should be fixed within which this goal should be reached. At the same time, Sir, wisely and in a business-like way this House has suggested that *pari passu* along with temperance reform there should be a Committee—the Finance Committee—to devise ways and means of recouping the loss of revenue and bridging the gulf that will be created by following this policy. Therefore we have decided to ask the Finance Committee to go into the matter and suggest ways and means by which the gap may be filled and as soon as their report is reached we wish to proceed with the resolution. Before even giving effect to that resolution, Sir, we have already discussed how far we can give effect to local option in the matter of advisory committees and licensing boards. The licensing board, as it is, is only limited to the City of Madras, but we are extending the scope of the board to all big cities in the Presidency. We are also extending the power of the board in the local areas. It means that the opinion of the local people interested in temperance reform will be consulted, that their sympathy and support will be enlisted in carrying out the Excise policy and that there will be Members, non-official Members, to advocate their views on the Committee and thereby bring pressure on the Government. We have also given power to these licensing bodies and we have seen that the Excise Commissioner should not brush aside the views of the licensing board. Power will be given to approach Government ultimately. These are the lines that I have indicated in the address the other day and these are the lines on which we are trying our best to see that the licensing board and the advisory committee are reformed. This, Sir, I submit is a step towards what my hon. Friend terms as local option because the opinion of

[17th March 1926]

[Sir A. P. Patro]

the non-officials there is considered. These bodies are to consist of a majority of non-officials. Therefore in an indirect form we have been trying to introduce the principle of local option though in a limited form. Thus, there is nothing which we have not investigated which would be useful to help in carrying out our Excise policy and therefore I hope the hon. Member will now be satisfied that we have taken steps in the direction of local option."

Mr. A. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—" Mr. Deputy President, Sir, I am glad I have this opportunity taking part in a debate on Excise without adverting to the extraneous considerations, political and otherwise, which have so far disfigured the debates on Excise policy. I feel I am more free to-day to talk as a temperance reformer and as one who is interested in the cause of promotion of temperance and it is purely from that point of view that I am going to make a few observations. I am glad to see that the hon. Minister is going to adopt the recommendation that has been made by this Council a few weeks back. I am glad to be assured of that position. I am glad also that new licensing boards with non-official majorities in many cases of an elected nature are surely going to be inaugurated and we have definite assurance that the recommendations of these boards will not be brushed aside, as they have always been in the case of other boards that have till now been in existence. I am sure that the licensing boards have not always given advice purely from a temperance point of view. There are movements to which reference has been made by the hon. Mover of the resolution which came into existence quite recently and which are supposed to give an impetus to the cause of total prohibition. I do not want to speak more on the movement except to express that the people connected with it were not actuated solely by humanitarian motives and that it was brought into requisition simply to level general charges against the Government.

" We, Sir, to-day are speaking in a different atmosphere, where there is no need to advert to those movements. The other day, speaking on this debate, I referred to what I call the theory of counter-attractions. I had not, owing to physical reasons, the opportunity of finishing my speech that day. But I do not propose to take up the thread of that speech. I just want to ask the hon. the Minister for Excise whether he has given any consideration to the question of the important part that counter-attractions play in the cause of the promotion of temperance. I know in many countries they form a very important part. Apart from what these advisory committees are able to do, and apart from local option that may to a certain extent be brought into play by means of these advisory committees, the cause of temperance has to a very large extent to be promoted by the propagandist temperance reformer, the member of the Total Abstinence Fraternity, and other organizations of temperance work. The work of the temperance reformer perpetually goes on and never ends even if you carry into effect total prohibition. I am firmly led to believe this by what I have already observed elsewhere, by the lessons taught to us by America, that the temperance reformer must be always busy and the temperance man must be prepared to carry on his work. The Government therefore would be well advised in harnessing those forces and trying to help the cause of temperance.

" With reference to the theory of counter-attractions, one aspect of affairs strikes me, and that is the idea of having canteens. I know there

[Mr. A. Ramaswami Mudaliyar] [17th March 1926]

were canteens in this city, one somewhere in Mount Road. I do not know what has come out of it. I see it is closed. I was told quite recently there was a canteen also near the Elephant Gate. I do not know what happened to that; probably it has been closed. Now, the theory of running canteens is not a new theory. It was very much in vogue during the war and shortly after the war was over, and in several countries canteens find a definite, prominent place in the social organization, and they are to a very large extent used as a counter-attraction to wean the drunkard from the temptations of taking to drink. I believe myself that running a canteen is one of the easiest ways of accelerating the process of taking away the temptation from the drunkard. As I said elsewhere, I do not very much believe in taking away the saloon from the drunkard as in taking the drunkard away from the saloon. The work that has to be done by those non-officials who are exponents of the cause of temperance is the work of organizing society, of doing their propaganda, of infusing into the mind of man the evils of drunkenness, and of taking away the temptation of approaching the saloon if a saloon should exist somewhere or other. That is my stand. As to the other task to which the temperance reformer should divert his attention, viz., of removing away from the land all liquor shops, of closing down beer shops and taverns, I quite recognize that is also a direct task, that the number of shops should be reduced and in fact our resolution has referred to it. But I want this afternoon to emphasise the other aspect of affairs, that it is essential to take away the man from the saloon and you can only do it by trying to put before the man some attractions which will serve as a relaxation to the hardworked man. I was talking about canteens, and I say that if the Excise Minister wins the confidence of the hon. the Finance Member -- I am sure he will join us in such a cause; you can do something by way of counter-attractions, and the temperance organizations can be induced to take up the running of canteens, and with the aid of a grant from the Government they can run these canteens at a cheap price. It would be a great help to the temperance organizations and temperance associations who are anxious to alienate the drunkard from the temptations of the saloon. I am not talking merely hypothetically. Because, I know it has been done with success elsewhere, and I am certain, Sir, with what little knowledge I have of temperance institutions either in this city or in the mufassal stations, where they exist, that they will take up this work much more readily and much more eagerly, if only the helping hand is given by the Government. After all, Mr. Deputy President, every body has said repeatedly in this Council that a great amount of revenue of this province comes from excise, nearly half, or very nearly half, and it seems to me that it is only fair that a portion of that revenue should be utilized for ameliorating the condition of those classes, the labouring classes, who pay that revenue. It seems to me that it is nothing out of the way, nothing which will offend financial proprieties or canons on which the hon. the Finance Member is so keen. If I were to make the suggestion, a portion of that revenue might be allotted for providing counter-attractions. I make this definite suggestion, because, if a temperance organisation comes up and asks for a grant to run a canteen provided the Government is satisfied about the position and the status of that temperance association, provided they are satisfied that they will subject themselves to all sorts of checks by the Government in this matter, provided

17th March 1926] [Mr. A. Ramaswami Mudaliyar]

they are satisfied that this temperance association is composed of gentlemen who are interested in temperance and who will conduct these affairs properly, I feel that both the hon. the Minister for Excise and the hon. the Finance Member could not find a better use of some of that money than to give a grant to these associations for running such canteens.

"Then again, Sir, there are other ways by which propaganda work can be carried on by the temperance worker, the question of magic lanterns, the question of exhibitions and things like that. It might strike an eager reformer that what I am suggesting is a very slow laborious process, that it will take decades before the millennium is reached. I cannot think of reforms which will at once solve everything. Reforms no doubt come before we are aware. It is impossible to act the prophet and indicate the duration of time with reference to any particular reform. Somehow we move slowly in the beginning but it does not follow that that will be the rate of progress for all time, and that we will reach the end also very slowly. It is a geometrical acceleration very often in these matters. The first steps may be slow, but later ones may be very fast. It is a geometrical progression and not an arithmetical progression. I do feel that from the point of view of the temperance reformers and from the point of view of the Government also it will be realized that it is a very necessary and essential thing to do. The temperance worker now cannot do anything. He cannot do any substantial work himself. He has not got the funds at his disposal. You may say charity must contribute. But charity has a hundred different tasks to do, and it is not always possible to depend on charity for this purpose. Therefore the temperance man looks to the Government, and before he is able to make the Government close these shops, to make the Government restrict the consumption of liquor, he has no other outlook to which he could extend his energy in the cause of temperance, and the Government stand to gain to a certain extent if they spend their energy in other directions, and allow the temperance worker to run the canteens and to provide for some kind of counter-attraction or other. I hope that the hon. the Minister for Excise and the hon. the Finance Member will consider this aspect of affairs."

* Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR:—"I am rather glad to see that the hon. Member for Chingleput has from this side of the House been saying those things which many Members on this side have already been saying. I hope, Sir, he will end by saying other things as well with even more vehemence than any of us. I wish I could share the pleasure he felt when he said that the hon. the Minister has definitely undertaken to give effect to the resolution of this House. I wish, I say, Sir, I could share that pleasure, because experience has shown that such promises have ended in disappointment. I wish to take this House through the history of the question. It was in August 1921 the hon. the Minister agreed to examine the question of how consumption in intoxicants could be reduced. He promised then, Sir, to refer this question to a Standing Committee. That was in August 1921. But he took no immediate steps whatsoever to appoint a committee. After a delay of four months he appointed a committee. But that committee was not a standing committee but it was an advisory committee. Sir, there is a difference between an advisory committee and a standing committee. A standing committee has more powers, and is responsible to this House to a greater extent than an advisory committee. But even the

[Mr. A. Ranganatha Mudaliyar] [17th March 1926]

he did not refer this question of bringing about a reduction in the use of intoxicants to that committee. In February 1922, I asked the hon. the Minister as to what he had done in this advisory committee and what work it was doing. He said that it would be convened whenever the Secretary thought fit, and there the matter ended. In March, Sir, I complained that this question had not been referred to the advisory committee though it was nine months since he promised to do so. Then the hon. the Minister said that he was going to constitute another committee presided over by Sir Charles Todhunter and that he would refer the question to that committee. Another five or six months again passed, Sir, and nothing was done. We do not know whether he approached Sir Charles Todhunter to preside over the committee, or asked others to be members of the committee, or whether they, when invited, accepted or declined the invitation. But after five or six months, he deputed a Special Officer to go into this question, and we had Mr. Strathie's report as a result of that and afterwards Mr. Shanmukham Chettiyar was associated with Mr. Strathie to tour about the country and make suggestions, as to how the excise administration might be improved. They sent their report in November and the report was not made available to this House immediately. Sir, in January, i.e., about two months afterwards, Mr. Saundara Pandiya Nadar asked the Minister whether he would make the report submitted by Messrs. Strathie and Shanmukham Chettiyar available to us, and the answer was that he would do so in due course. Will, Sir, another two months elapsed, and during the budget debate the Minister was again asked whether he would make up his mind and let us have the report, and he said then that he would place it before this House. Sir, I do not want to use exaggerated language to express our dissatisfaction with the policy pursued by the hon. the Minister. I shall simply quote the words of Sir R. Venkataratnam Nayudu, who, at least, cannot be accused of any bias against the Ministry. He pointedly denounced the lethargy of Government in the following words:

'Sir, we have had the hope that with the change in the system, with the inauguration of the Reforms, with the installation of a Ministry composed of the representatives of the people this anachronism would disappear, and the Government view point would be brought into line with the view point of the nation. But I find, Sir, after two and a half, certainly very busy, years we are told that the high licensing system which has been in vogue is the only salvation for the country.'

'That was the way in which he deplored the lethargy of the Government. He went on to say

'I venture to urge that a change must come; that Government must be prepared to adopt another standard. Our Government should not fight shy of this good chance.'

'Mr. Shanmukham Chetti expressed his despair in similar language and concluded by saying that in the matter of excise policy, the House was between the deep sea and the amiable gentleman on the other side.

'Two months later, in May 1923, the hon. the Minister asked the advisory committee to meet in Ootacamund; the committee chose some witnesses for examination and a date was fixed for their appearance. August 9 and 10 were fixed for the witnesses to appear. Witnesses did appear on those days. But did the Minister offer to examine them? On the other hand, his Secretary, Mr. Thangavelu Pillai, brought forward a motion that the witnesses need not be examined and they might be sent back home, and they were accordingly sent back. That is the history of the question as happened in the last Council and may be verified from the records, and the present House

[17th March 1926] [Mr. A. Ranganatha Mudaliyar]

is very well aware of what the Ministry has been doing in regard to this question during the last two years and a half. Sir, I would not complain if the Ministry is really unable to do anything. I want them to go into the question dispassionately and honestly and come to a conclusion as to what things could be done. If it says that it is impossible to do anything in the matter, let it say so. We are not so unreasonable as to expect the Minister to do the impossible. But my complaint is that the Minister has never tackled the question seriously, he has never been earnest. I would conclude by saying what he did in the end. At a meeting of his own party men, a resolution was passed fixing ten years as the limit within which the goal of prohibition should be reached, and yet he would not make himself responsible for that proposition in this House. My hon. Friend from Chingleput referred to the licensing board and the Minister also referred to that. My Friend from Chingleput hoped that the Minister would not treat the new licensing boards with the same scant courtesy as he did the former boards. One must be thankful for this confession, belated though it be from the other side. But what about the new licensing board? What is its constitution? The Minister speaks of the non-official majority on the licensing boards. Who are the non-officials, how are they elected? Are all of them elected by representative bodies? No, Sir. The board would consist of people nominated by the Minister or the Government, so that these non-officials . . .

Mr. A. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—"I have very carefully read the report of the advisory body. It is not so. In some cases it is by election, and only where you cannot have an electoral college formed for the purpose of sending elected representatives, Government has taken the power of nomination. At least that is the recommendation of the Board."

* Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR:—"The report is there: the recommendations are there. Take the composition. What is its total strength? How many officials are there, how many of the non-officials are nominated, and how many of them elected? You will see that my statement will be borne out that officials and non-officials combined are more than the elected members. Can you expect good to result from such a constitution? Unless this House is more alive to this question than it has been in the past, unless the electorate outside takes greater interest than it has till now in this problem and brings more and more pressure on the Government, there is no hope of this question being solved to the satisfaction of the poor people for whom my hon. Friend from Chingleput spoke so eloquently."

* Mr. J. A. SILDANHA:—"I thought this question has been threshed out to a considerable extent during the recent debate. The hon. the Excise Minister spoke to-day his old platitudes and he indulged in a long speech with attacks upon the methods of non-violence and other measures of the political party, points which were very controversial and which he would have been well advised to have avoided. But as he indulged in unnecessary criticism on these points, I am afraid we shall have to enter into more details. I would only show by quoting extracts from the administration reports how little endeavour there has been on the part of the hon. the Minister on a real temperance policy for which credit has been taken by the hon. the Chief Minister in his speeches on the decrease of consumption as having been due to the deliberate efforts of the department. But the reports of Government belie this statement. I refer first to the reports of 1923-24. 'With

[Mr. J. A. Saldanha] [17th March 1926]

the exception of certain agency tracts, there were no changes. The number of shops opened increased from 5,917 to 5,932, but illicit consumption of country spirits fell from 100,575 proof gallons to 100,528 proof gallons. The decrease in consumption was due mainly to unfavourable season and economic distress in some districts, etc. Then as to foreign liquors, for 1923-24, there was also an increase in the import; the quantity of foreign liquor increased by 45,878 gallons. The quantity of locally-manufactured foreign spirits issued during the year was 9,246 proof gallons as against 10,392 in 1922-23. Then in the report for 1924-25 it is stated that the number of shops opened fell from 5,932 to 5,915, and licit consumption of country spirits decreased from 100,528 proof gallons to 100,468 proof gallons. The decreased consumption was due to a certain extent to unfavourable seasons and economic distress in various parts of the Presidency. Then, it refers to arrack shops in five taluks in the Presidency and says that prohibition of liquor to hill tribes except on medical certificates was also a contributory cause, and so on. No mention is made of the increase in the consumption of European liquors. Well, there was an increase in the consumption of foreign liquor in these five taluks, and we have got no assurance from the hon. the Minister that when the present licences are run out they will not be revived. Then, in the present year—I have not the detailed report for 1924-25—we are only favoured with old reports. It was placed on the Editors' Table last week though Government reviewed it long ago. We are not in a position to refer to the reports for 1925-26. Last year also there has been economic distress. If there is any fall in the consumption, I am sure it is due to the economic distress, the poverty of the people, not to the conscious efforts of the department. I am sure there is no conscious effort. Reference has been made by Mr. Veerian to the employment of certain classes of people. I referred in the beginning of the debates on the excise policy to the practice prevailing in certain districts, Vizagapatam or some other place, and now I refer to what I know to take place in South Kanara, the northernmost taluk, where women are employed for the sale of toddy and liquor in the shops. The rules allow women of the family to sell liquors. I cannot understand why in India women should be allowed at all to sell liquor."

* The hon. Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. PATRO :—"It is always the shopkeeper, the owner of the shop or his wife and not any other women."

* Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—"Wife is a very indefinite term in western districts. In South Kanara, among the lower classes there is no such thing as marriage. That is what the High Court have held. With that idea prevailing, there may be not one wife but several wives to a man and there may not be wives at all. So I say that the employment of women is a direct encouragement to sale. Thus there has not been any direct encouragement in reducing consumption."

The hon. the DEPUTY PRESIDENT :—"The point is that the wife should not sell toddy or liquor."

* Rai Bahadur T. M. NARASIMHACHARLU :—"Mr. Deputy President, Sir, this is a subject on which there should be constant dinning. Unless there is constant dinning, the Government will never move. I mention this because the hon. the Minister said that at the last debate I was not present, otherwise I would never have raised it again. Whether I was

17th March 1926] [Mr. T. M. Narasimhacharlu]

present or not this is a subject on which there ought to be constant dinning unless and until we reach the goal that we long for. The hon. the Minister said that the efforts made by the Government are of a progressive character tending towards abstinence, but I was unable to see how those efforts have tended progressively to the attainment of our object. On the other hand, the facts and figures show, taking them for the last ten years, that in spite of the efforts of the Government to reduce consumption, in spite of the efforts to reduce the facilities for illicit distillation, both these things have been running up and they have been producing enormous revenue. Added to that, as my hon. Friend (Mr. Saldanha) said, European liquor has been increasing in quantity year after year, though at the same time my learned Friend assures me that the quality has not improved. If as a result of these series of efforts to reduce consumption and minimise the chances of illicit distillation, we find that the result is not satisfactory, how can the hon. the Minister say that the policy he has been pursuing is the proper one to put down drink and to attain the object of total abstinence from drink? I think this is a simple thing which will appeal to every simple mind unless that mind has been in a way perturbed by the drink itself. Now, I ask, is it or is it not a fact that in spite of the best efforts we are still in a worse position? If that is so, it is high time that the Government gives up the present policy and adopts another policy. The hon. the Minister also told us that he has been seriously trying to give effect to the recommendations of the Committee and as a step towards this he is trying to introduce licensing boards or the advisory boards—call it by whatever name you like—in the mufassal also, so that their opinion will be treated with very great respect, though he does not assure us that they will be given effect to absolutely without being set aside by the Excise Commissioner or by the Government.

"Well, Sir, if that is the only way in which he is going to introduce local option, then I submit that he is not pursuing the right policy, the right method, to speak gently about it. My submission is that we have failed in our past efforts and let us therefore evolve a policy which will attain our object. The suggestion that I wish to make—if I begin to go into details it will occupy very much of my time and I am afraid the time allowed for me will be over—is that Government should begin propaganda work in all the villages, either through the existing agencies, or creating new agencies or by helping the existing temperance agencies. They must send out people to each and every village and tell them, not in an authoritative way or Governmental way, but in a mild way that they should leave off this drink habit, that they should not allow their wives and children to take to drinking which leads to deterioration of their health and economic condition in general. I shall also lend the Government the assistance of the health officers at my command, and I have no doubt that all the presidents of district boards will do likewise in helping Government in this propaganda work. They must prepare the ground in this way, and after preparing the ground introduce the question of local option asking people to give their votes as to whether they want drink or not. If they do this then the Government will be able to find that in a very short time it will bear very good results. No doubt they may say that Mr. Narasimha Charlu is saying several things without knowing what he is saying (voices 'No'). Sir, what can I do here except saying with all the powers at my command what I have to say? I can give only that advice and I have no more power than that. I

3-15
p.m.

[Mr. T. M. Narasimhaacharlu] [17th March 1926]

submit let them consider this method and try it. If they take the people more into their confidence, the people instead of cursing them will bless them in the long run. I would ask the Government that inasmuch as they have failed in their present policy, they should try to pursue the policy which I have indicated above if they want to evolve the right policy."

* The hon. Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. PATRO :—"Sir, one or two allegations which the hon. Member from Cuddapah has made in the course of his speech are so sweeping in their nature that I think it is my duty to say that they are not well founded. He has stated that the country is now in a worse position than it was in previous years. That is an allegation which is not supported by facts and figures. On the other hand the consumption of licit liquor has decreased by about 5 per cent. There is an increase of revenue for the reason that we have raised the price of liquor to place it beyond the reach of the drinker. It is to make it costly, to make it difficult for the people to drink, that the price has been raised. If there is an increase in revenue there has been a decrease in consumption of liquor."

Rai Bahadur T. M. NARASIMHACHARLU :—"It is due to economic causes."

* The hon. Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. PATRO :—"The consumption has not risen. It is a very great thing for any country to be proud of, viz., that there has not been any progressive increase in consumption of liquor. That is a concrete fact which temperance reformers forego in their enthusiasm in discussing this problem."

Rai Bahadur T. M. NARASIMHACHARLU :—"I do not say that by quantitative test the consumption has increased. But I say the decrease is due to inherent economic causes."

* The hon. Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. PATRO :—"May I submit that is no personal explanation."

The hon. the DEPUTY PRESIDENT :—"It is rather for me to decide."

* The hon. Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. PATRO :—"There has not been any increase in the consumption of liquor. The quantity of drink has fallen by about 5 per cent. This, Sir, is a thing which any Government can be proud of."

"Then again he has referred to the steps to be taken by the Government in helping temperance reformers. He has advised the Government that they should convert themselves into a body of social reformers, that the whole of the Police and other departments should undertake to carry on propaganda work and that he will be so kind and generous as to place the services of the health officers of the local bodies at the disposal of Government so that the former may co-operate with the officers of the Revenue Department and the Police Department in carrying on this propaganda. It is a proposition which, if seriously analysed, will be found not only impracticable, but shall I say (Here the speaker paused)."

Rai Bahadur T. M. NARASIMHACHARLU :—"Absurd."

* The hon. Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. PATRO :—"Yes. In regard to the statement that if there is co-operation of the people we can progress more rapidly, it is that that I have been asking for time after time on the floor of his House. Has there been any institution, any organization in the rural areas which has been working day in and day out and which has been

7th March 1926]

[Sir A. P. Patro]

disinterested in devoting itself for the cause of temperance? Is there any organization which visited the people in various villages sat with them on their pials and enquired into their condition and talked to them heart to heart purely in a spirit of humanitarian friendship and not with any patronising air or political end? Has there been any such work? If there is any such work in particular areas, certainly the Government will co-operate with such people and then it will be a case for consideration whether local option cannot be introduced in that area as advocated by the hon. Member from Cuddapah. In the absence of such a work and in the absence of any indication of such a work, it seems to me too much to ask that Government itself should be converted into a social reform organization. I am sorry I cannot accept such a proposition. The policy of the Government is one that is directed to the restriction of consumption and thus advance the cause of temperance reform, and it has been effectively done."

The motion was put to vote and declared lost.

A poll was demanded by Mr. Saldanha which was taken and the House divided as follows :—

Ayes.

- | | |
|-----------------------------|--|
| 1. Mr. D. Manjappa Heggade. | 4. Mr. A. Ranganatha Mudaliyar. |
| 2. " J. A. Saldanha. | 5. Rai Bahadur T. M. Narasimhaacharlu. |
| 3. Dr. P. Subbaiahyan. | 6. Mr. Abbas Ali Khan. |

Noes.

- | | |
|--|--|
| 1. The hon. Sir C. P. Ramaswami Ayyar. | 22. Diwan Bahadur P. C. Ethirajula Nayud. |
| 2. " Mr. N. E. Marjoribanks. | 23. Rao Sahib P. V. Gopalan. |
| 3. " Khan Bahadur Muhammad Usman Sahib Bahadur. | 24. Mr. L. C. Guruswami. |
| 4. " Mr. T. E. Moir. | 25. Rao Bahadur K. Krishnaswami Nayudu. |
| 5. " Diwan Bahadur Sir T. N. Sivag-nanam Pillai. | 26. Mr. R. Madanagopal Nayudu. |
| 6. " Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. Patro. | 27. Honorary Lieutenant Madurai. |
| 7. " the Raja of Panagal. | 28. Mr. C. Muttayya Mudaliyar. |
| 8. Mr. F. B. Evans. | 29. " B. Obalesappa. |
| 9. " G. T. Foag. | 30. " G. Premayya. |
| 10. " V. Pandrang Row. | 31. " P. Sagaram. |
| 11. " F. Noyce. | 32. Diwan Bahadur M. Krishnan Nayar. |
| 12. " Abdullah Ghatala Sahib. | 33. Mr. P. T. Rajan. |
| 13. " S. Arpudaswami Udayar. | 34. Rao Bahadur P. Raman. |
| 14. Rao Sahib T. C. Tangavelu Pillai. | 35. Rao Sahib B. Srinivasan. |
| 15. Mr. K. Prabhakaran Tampan. | 36. Mr. K. Sitarama Reddi. |
| 16. " J. A. Davis. | 37. " Chavadi K. Subramanya Pillai. |
| 17. Rao Bahadur C. Natesa Mudaliyar. | 38. " R. Veerian. |
| 18. " M. C. Raja. | 39. Rao Sahib P. V. S. Sundaramurti. |
| 19. Mr. P. K. S. A. Arumugam Nadar. | 40. Mr. B. Ramachandra Reddi. |
| 20. Rao Sahib S. Ellappa Chettiyar. | 41. Khan Bahadur Haji Abdullah Haji Qasim Sahib. |
| 21. Mr. A. Ramaswami Mudaliyar. | 42. Mr. T. M. Moidu Sahib. |
| | 43. " Qadir Muhiddin Elyas Khan Sahib. |

Ayes : 6.

Noes : 43.

The motion was lost.

The motion that Government be granted a sum not exceeding Rs. 37.93 lakhs for the Excise Department was put to the House and carried. The grant was made. 3-30 p.m.

DEMAND III.—STAMPS.

* The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—"On the recommendation of His Excellency the Governor I move

'that Government be granted a sum not exceeding Rs. 5.35 lakhs for Stamps'."

[17th March 1926]

* Mr. K. PRABHAKARAN TAMPAN :—" I beg to move

'that the allotment of Rs. 5,200 for the Presidency town be reduced by Rs. 100'

"My object in bringing forward this motion is to discuss the question of the reduction of stamp duty on instruments. I have also given notice of another motion which appears further down in the list to reduce the court fees to the old rates. At the time when these fees were increased we were led to believe that they would be of a temporary character and that as soon as the financial condition of the Presidency improved they would be reduced. More than half of our contribution to the Central Government has now been restored and it is therefore high time that the Government had considered the desirability of reducing these fees. It is this kind of taxation that directly affects the poor ryots. They are in needy circumstances and have often to borrow and are mulked with the cost of the stamps and registration fees. The Courts also invariably give the costs to the plaintiff and thereby the poor people are made to suffer.

(At this stage the hon. the President took the chair.)

"Inasmuch as our finances have improved now it is high time that the Government take into consideration the reduction of both the stamp fees."

* The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—" I should like to know whether both the stamp duties and the court fees are going to be discussed together? "

* Diwan Bahadur M. KRISHNAN NAYAR :—" Sir, I wish to support this motion. The increase in the court fees and the stamp duties was made in the year in which there was a deficit of 106 lakhs. The discussion in the House on those two Bills for the enhancement of the court fees and the stamp duties showed clearly that it was the wish of the House to have these duties and fees only so long as there was a deficit and the Government were in financial difficulties. It will also be remembered that there was then a decided fall in the abkari revenue brought about by picketting of shops. Strenuous efforts were made by this House and by the hon. Mr. Moir, then Finance Secretary to this Government, to get a reduction in our contributions to the Imperial coffers. The success of those efforts was not then in sight. Under the circumstances the fees were enhanced by about 50 per cent. I speak subject to correction when I say that Sir K. Srinivasa Ayyangar and Sir Muhammad Habib-ul-lah stated that the enhancement was only temporary and that the rates would be reduced to their former level as soon as the financial condition of our Presidency improved. As a matter of fact, though there is a deficit budget this year our contribution to the Central Government has been released to the extent of 183 lakhs of rupees as a result of the vigorous fight put up by our Finance Member, Mr. Moir, in the Legislative Assembly. Therefore it seems to me that there is no justification whatever for the continuance of the present rates of duty. These high rates press very heavily on the poor litigant public and as a consequence they have to borrow money and pledge their property. I submit that it is very desirable and necessary that the stamp duties and court fees should be brought down to their original level."

* Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—" Sir, the court fees and the stamp duties have come to stay. It would tax the brains of the Government to abolish them

17th March 1926]

[Mr. J. A. Saldanha]

and find out that income from other sources. But some relief must be afforded to the poor people from the heavy taxes in the form of court fees and stamp duties.

"The Indian Taxation Enquiry Committee has gone very carefully into the subject and I hope the Government and the hon. Members of the Legislative Council would study the report of the Committee very carefully and see whether the remedies suggested therein are sound and how far they could be taken advantage of by our Province. I am personally of opinion that the suggestions there are very sound. Our own Secretary to the Legislative Council has spent a lot of labour and his suggestions appear to me to be based on a very sound principle. We are indebted to him for his valuable suggestions and the share he has had in the moulding of the report.

"One or two matters have been overlooked in the past. Plaints in the Panchayat Courts are not liable to pay any fees at all. Hence there is a good deal of abuse of this freedom of litigation. Suits up to the value of Rs. 50 are free from any fees. In this connexion I am anxious to see that some fees are charged for these plaints also and the amount realised be utilised to pay the actual charges incurred by the Panchayat officers in travelling to their posts of duty. Sometimes they have to walk long distances in order to attend the courts. I do not want that we should levy more than one-third of the fees levied on suits in the ordinary courts: it may be even one-fifth or one-tenth. But some fee should be levied and the Panchayat officers should be paid at least the actual cost incurred by them in travelling such long distances. Of course the present system of law and the way in which it is administered encourages litigation and increases the cost of litigation. There are, of course, many kinds of dilatory methods. The vagueness of our laws is another source of much litigation. I expected that the Laws Delays Committee would discuss these matters carefully and that Government would take action on the recommendations made by them.

"The report is somewhat unsatisfactory on many of these points and leaves matters in the old state of inordinate delay. Neither the Government of India nor the Local Government have as yet taken any action. I am not aware of any action taken at all by either Government to remedy the state of things which is a great discredit to our judicial administration. One has only to get entangled in litigation in a court of justice to realise how costly litigation is, apart from the high fees that have to be paid to pleaders on account of numerous adjournments. The cases are adjourned from day to day, month to month and year to year, and there are endless delays. I would suggest that some drastic action should be taken first of all to put a stop to delays and to the costliness of litigation."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" The hon. Member is going into a very large question, the question of the law's delays."

* Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—" I incidentally referred to it. What I wish to bring to the notice of the House is that every delay costs the litigant. You have to put in so many applications, and every application has to be stamped. That is another source of revenue. There are courts which insist upon putting written applications—the object being to increase the court fees—when the applications can be heard orally; I myself allowed oral applications

[Mr. J. A. Saldanha]

[17th March 1926]

freely. (Laughter). There are any number of applications that can be made orally if the Judge has patience to hear the pleader or the applicant. But there are Judges and I think the majority of them insist on written applications being put in. Written application means stamping of 4 annas or 8 annas. To a great extent, every application has got to be stamped. I have brought to the notice of the Government and I think the Judicial Committee had dealt with the question of the great rise in the expenditure of litigation by a number of applications being put in if there are any adjournments. I incidentally referred to this matter. Serious steps have to be taken in this matter. I am sure the hon. the Law Member and this House will put their heads together and see how they can relieve the present state of things and lessen the cost of litigation, not to speak of delays. I have already drawn the attention of the Government to the fact that litigation is much simpler and less costly in the continent than in our province. If the hon. the Law Member had studied the subject from works—unfortunately such works are not in our library—he would find that there are various ways to lessen the enormous cost of litigation specially by reducing court fees. I might point out to the House that there are no high court fees levied at all in the continent. People in civilized countries such as France, Germany, etc., get on without having to pay high court fees. That is because litigation is very simple there. Litigation is costly in India and full of delays. In order to meet the cost of the administration, court fees have to be levied. What I understand from books is that litigation in the continent is simple and that there are very few delays and very little expenditure of public money. Under the present circumstances poor people suffer most. England is a worst example we have. England has led the way to the enormous cost of litigation. Litigation in England is very costly. We have copied the Anglo-Saxon example with the result that litigation in India is enormously costly."

*The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—" Mr. President, Sir, may I, with your leave, try to deal with some at least of the many points so comprehensively adverted to by the previous speakers? It is not my purpose now to compare the systems of the administration of law in the continent of Europe and in England. Of course, erudite lawyers, like the hon. Member from South Kanara, would recognize the inherent difference between the systems of the administration of law which prevail on the continent of Europe and in England and also the doubtful advantage of the administrations of law in France and Germany in not having law reports to be quoted. I take it that the hon. Member is aware that codification of the law there has proceeded to the extent that practically no precedents are allowed to be quoted. The Germanic Code or the Code Napoleon is the ultimate authority and what remains is only a question of its construction. The system here is quite different. The system depends for its efficiency upon a highly-paid judiciary. So far as the French and Germanic systems are concerned the Judges are some of the lowest paid officers of the hierarchy of the State. They are really quasi administrative in character. Of course there are the Counts of Cassations in which the functionaries are highly paid. But the whole system of administration in France and Germany is different. The precedents and the value that is paid to precedents of reported law cases are not similar in England and Europe. I do not suppose my hon. Friend asks me to follow that system."

[17th March 1926]

* Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—" Why not ? " (Laughter.)

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—" My hon. Friend was referring to the quoting of precedents. I may tell him that even in the earlier history of Indian Judicature under the old system and mediæval systems there were precedents allowed, and we had exactly the same system as is pursued in England and in the old days these were the *pradvivakas*. Lawyers would know of course the origin of fatwas given by pandits, kazis and moulvis. I do not wish to take much of the time of the House. The whole continental system is different and we cannot advert to it with any use.

" Let me next deal with the question of stamps and court fees, and let me pay a tribute at this juncture to the very careful report of the Taxation Committee on this matter. I may say that the report of the Taxation Committee has made a great advance in the whole matter of the system of taxing instruments."

* Diwan Bahadur M. KRISHNAN NAYAR :—" Is the report available for sale ? "

* The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—" Yes, Sir. I may touch the main points and I may point out at once that the Committee have come to the conclusion that the whole system of taxation with regard to bonds must be changed. They have come to the conclusion . . . "

* Diwan Bahadur M. KRISHNAN NAYAR :—" Are copies of the reports available for sale at the Government Press, Madras ? "

* The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—" Yes, Sir. They have come to the conclusion that the duty on documents of indebtedness, bonds and mortgage deeds should be reduced as soon as circumstances should permit. The recommendations of this Committee go far beyond any kind of undertaking given in this House. They want to arrive at a definite system of taxation so far as transactions and litigation are concerned on certain general principles and in order to illustrate those principles they arrive at these conclusions :

" The duty on documents of indebtedness such as bonds and mortgage deeds should be reduced as soon as circumstances permit. The distinction drawn between documents by which possession is given and that by which it is not should be removed. The rate charged on conveyances should be reduced to 2 annas. The duty on deeds of transfer should have regard to the value of the rights actually transferred."

" I may say in general that it is recommended that the distinction for purposes of duty between documents that are attested and those that are not, should be done away with and also that it should not be optional to the parties to fix values for purposes of duty other than the true values. The result will be that while they come to the conclusion that a certain amount of taxes is fairly and legitimately leviable on transactions such as bonds, mortgage deeds, etc., they arrive at the conclusion by which the duty on some of the ordinary transactions dealt with in the schedule will have to be revised. That is so far as transactions are concerned.

" As to court fees, the line that they take is even more noteworthy. They have done me the honour of adopting one of the suggestions that I made during one of the meetings of the Legislative Council that there ought to be a distinction drawn between what may be called luxury suits which

[Sir C. P. Ramaswami Ayyar] [17th March 1926]

ought to be made liable to a high scale of fees and other suits relating to ordinary transactions on which the fee should be fixed as low as possible. They have come to the following conclusion on this matter: That the pitching of the scale of fees in the Court Fees Act and the schedules thereto need a thorough revision by an expert committee. Section 7 of the Bill should be recast and a schedule should be prepared similar to that in the Indian Limitation Act, of suits and appeals which commonly arise in civil courts with a method of valuation prescribed for each. They also make a very useful provision, namely, that in certain cases where poor men may not be able to pay the whole of the court fees at once, a proportionate court fee should be exigible on the institution of the suit, i.e., one-third or one-half should be paid along with the plaint and the balance should be recoverable at the conclusion of the suit. Moreover they arrive at conclusions which are adopted in some courts here, for instance, the Presidency Court of Small Causes. Supposing a certain fee is paid at the institution of a suit and the suit is settled before issues are framed or before any trial takes place, there must be a refund, to a certain extent, of the fees. These are very large recommendations and we suggest that the whole matter should be considered by expert committees. We expect the orders of the Government of India on this matter and it is possible that they will have an all-India Committee sitting on this matter because the Court Fees Act and the Stamp Act are of all-India incidence. From many points of view it would be embarrassing to arrive at one set of rules for one Presidency and another set of rules for another Presidency, for this reason that, supposing it is cheaper to institute a suit in Madras than in Bombay, naturally the cheaper province would be preferred for instituting the suit if other conditions permit. Similarly if it is less costly to execute a document in one province rather than in another, steps would be taken by ingenious-minded people to see that the transaction is entered into in the cheaper province. From that point of view it may be more useful to have an all-India Committee and recommendations. Whether the Government of India are going to appoint an all-India Committee to deal with the question or will ask us to proceed independently with special reference to the conditions of this province we do not know. But that is how the matter stands.

"In regard to court fees, I may say that, so far as this Presidency is concerned, the question of revising them was again mooted in the last year's budget debate. The High Court was consulted in the matter and the High Court obtained the opinion of the Judges, of selected Sub-Judges and District Munsifs and of Bar Associations. There was much diversity in the opinions expressed and the final conclusion is this: The conclusion suggested by a perusal of the report appears to be that there is no evidence that the Act of 1922 has led to denial of justice. It is possible that in a few cases the increase has been very heavy. One such important class is and suits as pointed out by many of the Bar Associations consulted. That is the gist of the report. The points of view suggested by the report of the High Court and of the Bar Associations are not different from the points of view taken by the Taxation Committee. The whole question of the incidence of stamps and court fees will have very soon to be examined and on behalf of the Government I can only undertake that such examination will take place without any avoidable delay."

17th March 1926]

* The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—"I should like to say, Sir, that last year in the course of the budget debate

* The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR:—"There was one suggestion, Sir, a revolutionary suggestion, if I may so characterise it, about the village panchayat courts, made by my hon. Friend Mr. Saldanha. What he said was that the village courts do not now exact any institution fees and he suggested that they should levy a fee. I may say that the whole object of relieving these courts from that necessity was to popularize these courts, to make people having small demands to go to these courts in preference to other courts, and I for one cannot consent to discourage any one from going to these courts."

* The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—"Sir, last year during the course of the budget debate, the then Finance Member repudiated the idea that additional stamp duties were levied by giving an undertaking that these measures would be only temporary. Whatever may be the idea, Sir, that has led the Council to pass those two Amendment Bills, the question is: Is our financial condition at the present moment so very rosy as to think of going back upon our stamp and court fees duties? The budget has yet to be balanced and I should also like to point out that the most important nation-building subject is that of ameliorating the condition of the depressed classes. If Government had more money at their disposal, I am sure they certainly would have done much better in the way of extending the activities of the Labour department to more districts than two. Under these circumstances, Sir, I think Government will not be justified in trying to reduce the stamp duties at the present moment; but I can assure the House that when more favourable circumstances occur, i.e., when our financial condition is more favourable, or when the Government of Madras are called upon to consider the recommendations of the Taxation Committee, Government will take that opportunity to examine the question of revising the stamp and court fees duties."

Mr. K. SITARAMA REDDI:—"Sir, I beg to associate myself with the observations that fell from my hon. Friend Mr. Krishnan Nayar. When these Bills were introduced I believe three years back, we were distinctly told that they would be temporary measures and that as soon as the finances of the province improved, there would be a reduction in the court fees and stamp duties. In spite of the fact that we have had a remission of two crores of rupees nearly, we are not faced with an easing of the situation in this direction. The hon. the Home Member may say that if more funds were available, the Labour department would be favoured. Another member probably may say that if more funds were available, another department of his would be favoured. All these may not weigh with an ordinary ryot. It is a very hard thing for a ryot to pay, especially as the Law Member said, on bonds indicating ordinary transactions such as debt bonds or mortgage bonds, which tell heavily upon these people. With regard to the court-fees duty, I know instances where people have been afraid of getting into law courts because of the heaviness of the initial court fees that they will have to pay. They generally go on renewing their bonds even though they know that there is no likelihood of getting their money from the debtors, and after all, what is the result? Probably justice is denied to them in the course of

[Mr. K. Sitarama Reddi]

[17th March 1926]

some years; the debtor becomes more and more insolvent and the creditor, not expecting any relief or not being able to pay the whole fees even for the institution of the suit, loses in the end his own money. With regard to the recommendations of the Taxation Committee referred to by the hon. the Law Member, may I suggest one remark—I do not know if the Taxation Committee have dealt with this question—I see that in the High Court of Madras, the initial fee, whatever may be the value of the suit for the purpose of court fees, is Rs. 30."

* The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—"That was so until last year. They have since revised the fees. It is now Rs. 150."

* Mr. K. SITARAMA REDDI :—"And even in cases where the subject-matter is about crores of rupees, the initial fee is Rs. 150, whereas in the case of a mufassal suit the court fee is, I believe, levied on the value, i.e., Rs. 3,000. The maximum is Rs. 3,000. I would suggest that in the case of suits in the mufassal courts, the system that is prevailing in the metropolis courts may be introduced. I would also suggest that in cases where suits are decreed *ex parte* or where suits are settled before the settlement of issues, this initial fee may alone be insisted on and not the full fee that is now demanded. A party now goes to a court and on the next hearing day he gets the suit settled; but all the same he has to pay full fees irrespective of the fact whether the court has spent any time over it or not. I would suggest that this question may be taken up by the Government and the system that is now prevailing in the Madras courts may be introduced in the mufassal courts also."

Rai Bahadur T. M. NARASIMHACHARLU :—"Sir, I wish to confine myself to a few aspects of the question because other points have been dealt with by the previous speakers. In the case of court-fees, in my opinion, the present incidence is very arbitrary, anomalous and, I may also say, inconsistent. For instance, take the case of immovable property, lands. An acre of land may be worth Rs. 2,000. Its land assessment—take it as a ryotwar land—will be say Rs. 10, and the court fees is levied at present on Rs. 100 i.e., about Rs. 11. Suppose I have to institute a suit on a bond against a person from whom I may not after all be able to recover anything. That is a different matter so far as the Government are concerned. In that case, I suppose I have to institute a suit for Rs. 2,000. I have to pay the full stamp duty at the rate of Rs. 11 and odd per hundred on the Rs. 2,000

Diwan Bahadur M. KRISHNAN NAYAR :—"Does my friend want an increase?"

* The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—"I would strongly advocate a perusal of the report as this very case has been dealt with exhaustively in that report."

Rai Bahadur T. M. NARASIMHACHARLU :—"I will come to that. My submission is, whether I recover my money or not, I pay very heavy stamp duty. In the case of money suits, lower denominations might be ordered. At the same time, as the hon. the Law Member has said, some initial fee may be taken and the other portion of the fee may be levied at the time of the suit, because when once the question of settlement of issues comes, then there will be a contest. Prior to that stage there is no question of contest,

[17th March 1926] [Mr. T. M. Narasimhacharlu]

and therefore parties might be asked to give only one-third fee or half-fee. That will greatly reduce the burden on the poor people. After all, Sir, suppose a money-lender has to file suits against his borrowers. These borrowers are all poor people in villages and if heavy court fee is levied from the lender, no doubt he pays the money from his pocket because he knows all well that this money is recoverable from his debtor. So, ultimately who is the person that suffers? It is the poor man who is driven to the necessity of borrowing and who in addition to his not being able to pay the debt itself is asked to pay a heavy court-fee, heavy fee for the vakils and in the case of applications and other things, increased court-fees. I think, Sir, after all it is the poor people that suffer, it is not the money-lender that suffers; because he gets his money back from the property of the borrower. The Government do not see that aspect of the question at all. I submit, therefore, that the incidence of court-fees, how it should be levied on immovable property, how it should be levied on purely money suits, all these things must be revised thoroughly and relief must be given to the poor people who are compelled to borrow on account of their family difficulties. We are now having an Act of 1870. When we last revised it, we revised it only to increase the fees and not to relieve the poor people from the burden that they have been groaning under. We are now nearly sixty years in advance of the year 1870 and till now the Government have not at all taken the trouble to do the proper thing to the people. Now the hon. the Law Member says: 'Well, we have got the Taxation Enquiry Committee's report, we shall have to see whether an all-India Expert Committee is going to be appointed hereafter, what they are going to do, and after that, an all-India legislation should be undertaken' and all that. I think, Sir, it makes the heart of the poor man throb very very severely when he hears such a thing. That means that the Government are saying: 'We won't take any action now. The Committee report is now in our way. Therefore let the poor people continue to suffer.' I submit, Sir, the poor legislature has got the power to revise the fees at least in the case of with this people. I submit the Government of India will never find fault for it, I Government. On the other hand, the poor people will thank their Committee thought that he would be the last man to take shelter under that report, is not a tee's report and to shelve this question for ever. That report sort of curse; blessing to us, to the poor people; but I think it seems to be given to the people. I submit, therefore, that he should not use these fees were increased report, but begin to fulfil the promise given when the people deserve his sympathy and to see to it in right earnest. Well, the poor man. I submit that in many pathy and therefore it should be given to the cases relief is already overdue.

earned, he knows perfectly well. So far as the non-Judicial stamps are concerned, money. As the law says—that it is the case of the poor people borrowing money. Sir, to tax the poor people and it is the practice also—it is the poor people. Sir, to tax the poor people on bonds or on promissory notes. I think any benefit from them is a sin. in so many ways and then to try to tax the poor people. Let them not take Every day the Government shut the question for ever. Let shelter under that report and take no relief to the people. That is my submission, Sir, and I hope it won't be of any use.

[17th March 1926]

* Mr. Chavadi K. SUBRAHMANYA PILLAI:—"Mr. President, Sir, the Stamp Act and the Court Fees Act were amended in 1922 and this House gave the seal of consent on the clear understanding that it was meant only to relieve the financial needs of the Government in those abnormal times when their financial position was not very hopeful. We are now having our normal revenues for the past four years. The rise in the court-fees and stamps has affected the poor men very much. This may, if necessary, be investigated immediately and an amendment Bill be brought forward as early as possible. I think it is our duty to restore the old rates when we are sure that there is no justification for the increase. I would therefore request the hon. Members to realize the difficulties of the poor men and restore the old court-fee rates and thus redress their grievances. The price of the copy stamp papers has been increased to annas three from annas two. The increase has also affected the poor men, for, even the very poorest men have to take copies of the records in favour of or against them. This may also be considered and the old rates restored."

* The hon. Mr. T. E. MOIR:—"Sir, I have of course no intention of objecting to or protesting against any revision of either non-judicial or judicial fees or duties if it be the case that under the existing rates certain classes of transactions or certain classes of documents are treated unfairly as compared with others. And that is a matter which my hon. Friend the Leader of the House has said will naturally come under examination when we have the opportunity of dealing with the report of the Taxation Committee. I have further no intention of exploring the dark places of the judicial system, of which my hon. Friend, Mr. Saldanha, was once an ornament, nor am I competent to pass any opinion on his suggestion that the remedy in cases where the duties fall severely upon those who go to the law court rests largely either in their own hands or in the hands of those who represent them in the courts. But I do not wish the House to be under any misapprehension that so long as the House keeps before its mind certain lines of policy the removal of these duties or their reduction will in any immediate future become a matter of practical politics. In the year 1921-22, the year previous to the increase in the fees and duties, the total revenue derived from them was Rs. 186.35 lakhs and in 1924-25, the last year for which we have the complete figures, the total revenue was Rs. 233.17 lakhs, an increase that is to say in three years of Rs. 46.82 lakhs under both items or roughly speaking an increase of 25 per cent. Hon. Members of the House who were present at the debate on the proposal to increase the duties will remember that it was anticipated that in the first year alone there would be an increase of Rs. 70 lakhs, that the new revenue would supply our deficit to the extent of Rs. 70 lakhs. Personally I greatly regret that we did not get that seventy lakhs, and that our anticipations have not been realized. My position to-day would be very much easier if I had besides the 46 lakhs, the additional revenue which we would have had if our hopes had been realized. Does any Member of the House, bearing in mind the many policies to which the House stands committed, measures for social improvement, for education, for improved condition of works of irrigation and in a thousand other ways, really suppose that it is a practical proposition to-day to surrender nearly 47 lakhs of our revenue? We can do so on two conditions. One is that alternative revenues are provided. The other is that we reduce our expenditure by the extent of this 47 lakhs. I go the hon. Member, Mr. Krishnan

[17th March 1926]

[Mr. T. E. Moir]

Nayar, in referring to the reasons which were put forward at the time when the duties were enhanced mentioned the position of our excise revenue at that time and the inroads which had been made upon it by a certain campaign. The suggestion is, I think, that our position in respect of these revenues is now different. If so the hon. Member seems to be labouring under a misapprehension. As I have explained in my budget speech, our revenues under that head are showing a steady and progressive decline and we have only to-day heard a debate in which the demand was made that measures should be taken to expedite and increase that decline. I am sure therefore that the hon. Member cannot plead any anticipations in connexion with the excise revenue as a ground on which he could base his demand for the reduction of these duties to the level at which they stood two or three years ago. Personally I am afraid that unless much greater financial good fortune is going to accompany us in future years—I cannot however see any evidence of it—we must regard the increase in these duties as one of the sources from which we are going to meet the demand for increased expenditure on the one side and for the abolition of certain sources of revenue on the other. It may be that the existing scales of duties can be modified, or re-arranged so as to deal with cases of real hardship. But I am afraid that I shall have to consider very carefully any proposals for this end lest any re-adjustment which we are going to make should result in a further inroad into our very inadequate revenues."

Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR:—"Sir, I would never have intervened in this debate but for a remark that fell from the lips of the hon. the Law Member. The hon. Member said that he was against the institution of any fees in the panchayat courts when admitting cases to their file because he thought that that would discourage people from going to those courts. I am one with him when he says that nothing should be done to discourage people from availing themselves of these village courts. But my point is that the present system does not really lend itself to the free use of these courts by the people and for this reason the panchayat courts are in the position of a man on a steed the reins of which are in another's hands. These panchayat courts are to be helped by the village officers and the village officers are not amenable to any influence that may be brought to bear on them by the panchayats. There are the processes to be served, the decrees to be executed and for all these they want some establishment. The hon. the Law Member would turn round and say that he is willing to give them the necessary establishment provided they have about nine hundred cases on their file. Does he want these courts to foment litigation, to ask for cases to be brought to their files whether there is legitimate reason for such a course or not? Otherwise how can they produce, each one of them, nine hundred cases on its file and so secure the services of an officer? That is the difficulty, Sir. In my own district, I know of one court at the headquarters at Bellary which collected a fee for every case that it took on its file on its own initiative. With that money it found a man to carry on the work connected with the court and so long as it was collecting these fees, the court was popular. There was some satisfaction in the minds of the people; but when this practice came to the notice of the Collector, he had to make a reference to the Government and ultimately to prohibit the levy of these fees. The result was that the establishment which the court had entertained temporarily was disbanded

[Mr. A Ranganatha Mudaliyar] [17th March 1926]

and there was none to carry on the work and people ceased to take cases to its file. It was the same in regard to the court at Rayadrug. The hon. the Law Member in reply to one of my questions admitted that there was a heavy pendency on the file of that court. If the hon. the Law Member would give them the necessary staff to carry on the work and make satisfactory arrangements for the despatch of work or give them the power to levy a nominal fee of As. 8 or Re. 1 per case, and allow them, with the proceeds of such levy, to entertain the necessary staff to carry on the work, I think, Sir, that the courts would work satisfactorily. My hon. Friend Mr. Saldanha's proposal, it seems to me, is not so revolutionary as the hon. the Law Member tried to make out. I think, Sir, there is very good reason behind the remarks he has made, and I think it is a matter which must engage the serious consideration of the Government. Otherwise these courts, I am very sorry to say, are not likely to serve the purpose for which they have been intended. Perhaps, if the hon. the Chief Minister brings in his Bill with reference to the village panchayats some steps will be taken in the direction of giving these courts the necessary machinery to carry on the work; but as I have said, it is a matter for the future in the lap of the Gods."

* Mr. K. PRABHAKARAN TAMPAN :—" Sir, I have only a few words to speak by way of reply. We had the pleasure of hearing on this question three hon. Members on the Treasury Bench. The hon. the Finance Member dealt with the financial aspect of the question. I am a very bad financier myself, and I don't feel competent to criticise him; but I may assure the hon. Member that if the court fees were moderate enough, side by side with the increase in the file, there would have been, under normal conditions, an increase in the court fees. The hon. Member has said that there was only about a sum of 47 lakhs by way of increase after the amendment of the Stamps and Court Fees Acts. I am one of those who believe that even if the old rates were continued, the income from stamps would certainly have improved. As regards our inability, judged from the view point of our wants, I may say that relief could have been given in this matter, if we had confined our building programme to a definite amount and got some savings thereby. We find about 135 lakhs of rupees or so allotted for Civil Works. I did not have the patience to go through the several items of proposals for building quarter for officers, etc."

* Diwan Bahadur M. KRISHNAN NAYAR :—" On the whole, the allotment goes to one crore and thirty-eight lakhs."

* Mr. K. PRABHAKARAN TAMPAN :—" I therefore feel confident that if only our programme was limited to a definite amount, we should have effected some savings."

"The hon. the Law Member said that in view of the Taxation Committee's report we can afford to wait. Sir, I have a vague memory that he assured us more than once in the Council that except in respect of declaratory suits without any prayer for consequential relief, a reduction would soon be made."

* The hon. Sir O. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—" I instanced that as one of the class of suits which I classed as luxury suits, that is, suits by reversions

17th March 1926] [Sir O. P. Ramaswami Ayyar]

declaratory suits and such litigation. In such suits, the court fees might well be heavy, whereas suits for the recovery of money on bonds might pay less."

* Mr. K. PRABHAKARAN TAMPAN :—" Something like that. I thought he was satisfied that a reduction of stamp duties could be made in all other kinds of suits. If he feels with us in that matter, it is up to him to remedy the state of things. My hon. Friend Mr. Usman Sahib said that the conditions of finance are not rosy and so on. What I have to submit to him is this. In respect of court fees it is only suits of the value of Rs. 500 or so that are affected by the new Bill, whereas with regard to duty on instruments, even loans of Rs. 10 and Rs. 15 have got to be stamped with the enhanced fee. If he will fix the minimum at Rs. 500 or Rs. 1,000 for instruments also, the poor people will very much be benefited. I request him to consider that aspect of the question, if there is likely to be some delay in considering the question of amending the Act so that some relief might be given at least to those people who transact below Rs. 500. With these few words, if you will permit me, Sir, I beg leave to withdraw my motion."

* Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—" May I say, Sir, that I have got my motion on which I spoke?"

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" The hon. Member did not move any resolution. He spoke on Mr. K. Prabhakaran Tampau's motion."

Rai Bahadur T. M. NARASIMHACHARLU :—" Have we got power to withdraw a motion without the approval of the House, Sir?"

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" I do not think any other Members than Mr. Prabhakaran Tampau moved any motion. They spoke on his resolution."

Rai Bahadur T. M. NARASIMHACHARLU :—" He never consulted us before withdrawing."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" It is not necessary."

* Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—" May I say one word on this point? We do not find it necessary to mention or repeat every point we wish to press. When I gave a motion, intending to raise some points, and wanted the motion to be put separately, I should have the right of reply. But only because I did not unnecessarily reiterate the points already mentioned, I should not lose that right."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" The hon. Member may have intended to move, but as a matter of fact, he did not move his motion. I was following his speech carefully and he spoke simply supporting Mr. Prabhakaran Tampau's motion."

* Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—" Would one be right therefore in presuming that the discussion hitherto centred only on the motion of Mr. Prabhakaran Tampau and that it would be open to those who spoke on his motion to move their resolutions now?"

"The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" Not now. When I called them, they had the option of moving their resolutions or merely speaking on Mr. Prabhakaran Tampau's motion. When I called them it was their business to move the resolution or only to speak in support of Mr. Prabhakaran Tampau's resolution. Has the hon. Member (Mr. Prabhakaran Tampau) the leave of the House to withdraw his motion?"

[17th March 1926]

The House signified its approval and the motion was by leave withdrawn.

The Demand No. III for a sum not exceeding Rs. 5.35 lakhs for stamps was then put and carried and the grant was made.

DEMAND IV—FORESTS

* The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—"Sir, I beg to move

'that the Government be granted a sum not exceeding Rs. 45.26 lakhs for Forests.'

* Mr A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR:—"Sir, I beg to move

'for the reduction of the allotment of Rs. 70,700 for general direction by Rs. 101.'

"My object, Sir, in tabling this motion is to invite the attention of the hon. the Home Member and of the House to the way in which forests, I mean the ryots' forests, are at present administered. Sir, the Government are committed to the policy that what are called ryots' forests should hereafter be entrusted to the management of the villagers and that experienced and expert officers like the Forest officers should not be employed for such petty forests. Now, Sir, I want the Government to bear in mind a few principles in regard to the administration of these forests. They must see whether their policy meets with the approval and satisfaction of the villagers concerned. Are they more contented under their present system of administration than under the old one? They must also consider whether the terms on which they allow these forests to be managed are attractive enough to induce honest people to come forward and take up the management of these forests. And they must also see whether ultimately these forests do not suffer by the change in the administration. Judged by these principles, I am afraid that their present system leaves very much to be desired.

"First of all, as regards the amount of rent which the Government are fixing for these forests, I want to say this. When these forests were under the control of the Government they had their costly machinery to administer them. They had certain rules under which they were levying fees at so much for a cow or an ox, so much for a sheep, and so much for a buffalo. They must be in a position now to know what amount they were deriving from these forests when they were under their management. They should also be in a position to say what they cost them at the time they were managing these forests, the establishment they employed, the rates at which they paid them and the other expenses they incurred. Now, I want the Government to state really how much they were gaining from these forests when they were controlling them. With reference to what they were obtaining for all those years, I contend that they must fix the amount at which they lease forests to the villagers. If the Government at the time they were managing these forests were not getting any income at all, I think they would not be justified in demanding a high amount for these poor forests. If they were getting, say Rs. 10, for over a thousand acres, I say it would be wrong on their part to demand a rent of Rs. 300 for it simply because they are not managing these forests now but somebody else is managing, or is forced to manage them. This is the first point.

"The second point is this. You must use your discrimination and try to get the best people to manage these forests. At present it is practically the

[17th March 1926] [Mr. A. Ranganatha Mudaliyar]

panchayat officer or one or the other of his men who selects the people to manage the forests. He meets, during a very rapid march, some interested people and comes to an arrangement with some of them, fixes the amount and disposes of the matter straightaway, so that they are allowed to manage the forests for two or three years without the people concerned being given an opportunity to satisfy themselves whether the persons selected by the officers are really best fitted to manage these forests. I should therefore suggest that when they form these forest panchayats, they must convene a meeting of all the people of the village and assemble them all in one place, and ask them to choose five from among themselves. I am willing to give the Government officers discretion to reject any one of the persons nominated for satisfactory reasons. But I think the people should be associated in the selection of the members of the panchayats. The lease amount, as I have already said, should be more or less nominal, and certainly not anything more than what the Government were getting when they were themselves managing these forests. And again at present the Government prescribe that there should be so many watchers, that there should be so many guards, that there should be such and such a clerk, and when all these are appointed what their rates of pay should be. I say that they need not interfere so much with the internal management of the forests. What does it matter to them how many people are employed or at what rates of pay they are paid? Should not the panchayats be allowed to freely manage their forests according to their convenience and in the best way they please? All that you need insist on is that the forests should not suffer by the change of management. If all the five panchayatdars should take it into their heads that they should themselves visit the forests and see that the forests do not suffer, what does it matter to you? Why should they employ some paid agency to do this work? Again, you must not impose conditions which are impossible of fulfilment. The Government say, for example, that there should be no goats at all entering these reserves. I am not one of those who say that goats should be allowed to go freely into the forests. They do cause damage to the forest, but at the same time there is no gainsaying the fact that every flock of sheep should have some goats to lead them along. Say, 5 per cent of the flock may consist of goats. What is the good of imposing conditions which the Government, myself and all those who know anything about the subject know perfectly well are never fulfilled? So, I say that you must make a few simple rules which are effective and can be easily worked. It is with that idea that I have initiated the discussion on this subject."

* Mr. J. A. SALDANHA:—"Sir, I have got a motion on the same point later on in the agenda, No. 199."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT:—"Is the hon. Member now going to speak on that motion?"

* Mr. J. A. SALDANHA:—"No, Sir, I shall speak on it later on. But now, I only want to support the motion just now moved by Mr. Ranganatha Mudaliyar."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT:—"I think we will save time if we allow the Government Member in charge to speak."

* The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—"Sir I would just like to point out that these panchayats have been recently

[Mr. Muhammed Usman Sahib] [17th March 1926]

formed, and we are awaiting the results of their working. I am prepared to examine the questions that have been brought forward by way of this motion. I intend to examine all the points raised now in the the Forest Advisory Committee. If my hon. Friend is willing to accept this assurance, he may withdraw the motion now. I may again repeat that I intend to bring these points before the Forest Advisory Committee and come to some definite conclusion."

* Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—"I do not know, for example, during the past one year or two how often the Forest Advisory Committee did really meet. I do not say that the hon. the Home Member is to blame, but some of the members of that committee did not perhaps attend. I am not concerned as to who is responsible for the committee not meeting. . ."

* The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—"With regard to the Forest Advisory Committee, I may say that I have been calling the meeting a number of times, but was very much disappointed to find that the members did not attend it. I shall convene a meeting very early and discuss all these points."

Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—"I do not know nor do I care to know who is responsible for the delay. Here is my grievance which I have explained and I am a poor man, and I cannot afford to be at the whim or convenience of these people. I am suffering seriously, and I have a right to expect the Government to take up this question very soon, whether they choose to do so by themselves or in consultation with the committee. And I would urge that the hon. the Home Member should put a little more driving power into this branch of the administration."

The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—"I cannot put pressure on the members, Sir, or compel them and I do not know how he wants me to use this driving power."

Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—"There is no sanctity, Sir, in regard to any person here as far as the work is concerned. The work must be done and the necessary relief afforded to the sufferers. It cannot be delayed for others' convenience; if it is the non-official, he must be brushed aside, and if it is the official, he must be equally brushed aside. I do not see why the hon. the Home Member and others should fight shy of tackling this question. I do not see where his partiality or hesitation comes in. After all, it is the people who are concerned in the matter, and he is administering that branch of administration. So I do not think other irrelevant consideration should be allowed to stand in the way of justice being done to the people who are suffering. With these words, I withdraw the motion, Sir."

The motion was by leave withdrawn.

* Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—"I beg to move.

'that the allotment of Rs. 1,60,000 for forest produce removed by private agency be reduced by Rs. 101.'

"In doing so I request that the Government would permit the removal of head-loads of grass and fuel free and cart-loads, on permits of six annas per cart. I know that after some agitation Government have agreed to the removal of head-loads of grass. They have not done so with regard to fuel. I think the forest officers are agreed that if they allowed the dry fuel to

[17th March 1926] [Mr. A. Ranganatha Mudaliyar,]

remain on the soil without being removed there is some risk attending it. If so, why should they not allow the free removal of head-loads of fuel? Again, the Forest Department imposes certain conditions in regard to the removal of these things which are impossible of fulfilment. The legislature seems to be very busy with making laws which nobody can fulfil. The people who are allowed to take out fuel are not allowed to carry a small axe or blade. Can they break with their own hands wood which is three inches thick. There are the agencies of the department who can look after these forests and see that there is no undue damage of these forests. For the removal of green manure in other districts one rupee is charged. My district is not in any way better than Chittoor. Why should they not allow the same rate in the case of the Bellary district? It is to invite the attention of the Government to these grievances that I have tabled this motion."

* The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—"With regard to leaf manure, Government have called upon the Chief Conservator and the Director of Agriculture to submit a report on this question. We have also asked the Chief Conservator to consult public opinion. When that opinion is received by Government the question of seigniorage rate will be considered by Government as my hon. Friend has suggested. Before that I regret I am unable to do anything. As for the head-loads of grass and fuel, it is a matter for the forest panchayats and it is left entirely to their discretion."

* Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—"I wish the hon. the Home Member recognizes facts before he makes a statement. Does he mean to say that the forests have been or will be handed over to the panchayats before a few months? There are any number of forests. It is two years since the policy was inaugurated and how many forests have been given to the panchayats? At this rate how long will it take to hand over all the forests? Until then should the people groan under the same disabilities? I do not know why Government should hesitate to do what is asked of them so long as they are responsible for the management. The moment these things are transferred to the panchayats it is for the people to go to the panchayats. But till then should they continue the present unfair system when they are responsible for the management, when the machinery is theirs and when the forest administration is theirs? I am most surprised at the attitude of the Government and I cannot say anything more. Because the Government hope to transfer these forests to the panchayats in the course of a century should we keep quiet until then? A more astounding and unfair proposition it is impossible to make. The question of seigniorage rates I have been pressing for some years, yet it is under consideration and consideration and I do not know how long more it will be under consideration. It seems he has some hesitation in touching the sensitive non-officials. He may be a little more willing to put energy so far as the officials are concerned and see that this is accepted."

* The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—"Government think that the best solution for this is to hand over the forests to the panchayats. With that object in view we are trying to transfer as many as possible and we hope to complete the transfer before the end of this year."

[17th March 1926]

* Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—" May I take it that if he does not do that he will adopt my suggestion ? "

* The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—" The policy of the Government is to see that the ryots' forests are transferred to the panchayats as early as possible. "

* Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—" I have got papers here to show that this answer is being given since 1923. Still the very song is repeated and the thing is going on merrily. "

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" Is the hon. Member pressing his motion ? "

Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—" Well, Sir, I withdraw. "

The motion was then by leave withdrawn.

* Mr. K. PRABHAKARAN TAMPAN :—" I move
' that the allotment of Rs. 53,600 for protection from fire be reduced by Rs. 100. '

" Sir, this is a token motion intended to suggest to the Government that their operation of fire-protection must be confined within the area of Government forests. I have known instances where Government opened a fire line outside Government forest area and set fire on the other side with the result that the fire extended to a mile and did a great damage to the owners of those forests. "

Mr. V. PANDRANG ROW :—" Where ? "

* Mr. K. PRABHAKARAN TAMPAN :—" In Malabar. I hope it was only a rare instance and it is not a custom generally adopted. "

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" He wants the area to be localized. Malabar is a very wide tract. "

* Mr. K. PRABHAKARAN TAMPAN :—" Tiruvalamkunnam-side, just adjacent to forests belonging to my own family. It was open to us to go to the court of law and claim damages. But obviously it was difficult process and we gave up the idea altogether. Such things should be avoided and due care taken for the protection of the property of other people. Government should confine their operations within their own areas. I hope the hon. the Home Member will make an enquiry and put a stop to such practice in the future "

* The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—" I should like to say that the fire protection operations will be undertaken only within the reserved forests and I do not know how the burning operations have been extended outside through carelessness. This question has been tackled in the administration report and the district forest officers have been asked to camp in the area during operations. Therefore the department is taking care in the matter. As to the specific instance quoted, I shall see what it is. "

* Mr. K. PRABHAKARAN TAMPAN :—" I am obliged to the hon. Member. I withdraw. "

The motion was by leave withdrawn.

* Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—" I seem to be in a happy position because I see support from unexpected quarters. I move

' that the allotment of Rs. 1,46,700 for organization, improvement and extension of forests be reduced by Rs. 101. '

[20th March 1926]

Rai Bahadur T. M. NARASIMHACHARLU :—" I suppose the extra amount will lapse if the judges do not continue after October. "

* The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—" Let me elucidate the points, at all events attempt to do it. There is no question of any statutory limitation with reference to entering the figures in the budget. We have got the right to extend the term of the judges to two years. I say Government have not arrived at any conclusion with reference to any further extension which further extension is not vested in the Local Government but in the Secretary of State. But so far as the budget is concerned it is only an estimate of probable expenditure. As I said we have not come to any conclusion and that is an assurance we have given. It is possible that we may in fact have to continue them to the end of the year and the budget is only an estimate of the probabilities. It does not mean that we will spend it. If the Secretary of State does not sanction an extension, it will not be spent. Having regard to the volume of pendency we have not come to any decision. We keep an open mind. "

Mr. A. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—" The only course for them if they have not come to any conclusion at all is not to think of it as a probable expenditure which will be spent in the year but to look upon it as an unforeseen expenditure and move for a supplementary grant. "

* The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—" No supplementary grant is necessary. "

Mr. A. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—" That is just the point. "

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" They are preparing for the worst. "

Mr. A. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—" Well, Sir, if the Government is preparing for the worst, I am also preparing for the worst. "

" I do not wish to press the motion. "

The motion was by leave withdrawn.

* Mr. MUHAMMAD GHOUSE MIAN SAHIB :—" I beg to move
' to reduce the allotment of Rs. 6,08,600 for High Court by Rs. 1. '

" I have tabled this motion in order to urge upon the Government the necessity of appointing Muslims whenever opportunity occurs in respect of the posts of High Court Judge, Advocate-General, Legal Remembrancer and offices like that. I am glad, Sir, that the motion for the appointment of a Muslim High Court Judge has been carried away. (Laughter.) I mean carried. I will therefore merely content myself with moving this as an alternative so that the Government might consider over the possibility of appointing Muslims to places like the Advocate-General and the Legal Remembrancer. "

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" There is no office like that. "

* Mr. MUHAMMAD GHOUSE MIAN SAHIB :—" I want to talk about that. "

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" Perhaps the hon. Member wants to create one. "

* Mr. MUHAMMAD GHOUSE MIAN SAHIB :—" I want that the above appointments should be considered as an alternative to the appointment of the High Court Judge. If the contention put forward by the hon. the Law Member

17th March 1926] [Mr. A. Ranganatha Mudaliyar]

“ My object is specified in the paper and that is to remove boundaries of forests so as to leave at least half a mile between the residential villages and the forests and to allow grazing in all forests in an entire range on a single permit. This House has already given expression to such a view and the Government have not noticed and given effect to that resolution. I have not asked that these forests should be removed half a mile beyond the cultivated fields of the village. I am only asking that the limits should be fixed half a mile from the residential portion of the village. I have prepared a statement to find out how many villages are within this half a mile limit, but I do not want to tire the patience of the House with those details. There are three villages close to the Sivapuram extension reserve. There are three villages adjoining the Bandri reserve. Now, Sir, when villages are so close to the reserve, or rather the forests are formed to be so close to the villages, the inconvenience to the people is very obvious. They cannot keep their cattle penned up in their houses. They have to let them go out. When the reserves are so close they cannot prevent trespass by their animals for the short time they are let out. When I first asked the Board of Revenue about it they told me that the matter is under consideration. They had to say that, because these forests were then still under their control. They waited sufficiently long and after some time said that they could do something as the reserves would be handed over to village panchayats. I would very much like the transfer. But where are the panchayats? They have not been constituted. If they had been we can seek redress at their hands. Until such time the Government should not shirk their responsibility. Even supposing the forests are transferred I do not think Government are absolved from the responsibility of shifting these boundaries. Whoever may be there the inconvenience is there. I ask again, Sir, that grazing should be allowed in all forests in a range on a single permit. Here again the hon. the Home Member may say that it will be left to the panchayats to allow free grazing. But there are no forest panchayats whom I can approach. Most of these forests are still under the forest administration. The department is still issuing the permits. So long as the department issues permits, it might issue them for the whole range and thus minimise trespass possible.”

* The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—“ We have introduced grazing in the entire range with a single permit in three districts. I understand that it will be extended to other districts. I hope that will satisfy my hon. Friend. With regard to the other point raised I should like to say that Government cannot agree to a general rule like that because we shall have to give up some valuable forests. If specific cases are brought to the notice of the Government, I shall examine them.”

Mr. A. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—“ I am glad that the hon. the Home Member has suggested that when specific cases are brought to his notice he would examine them. Though the hon. Mover is surprised to expect support from unexpected quarters, I am also surprised that once I am in a position to agree with him.

“ I am glad, Sir, that the hon. the Home Member said that at least specific cases brought to his notice would be examined in this matter. I am referring to the first object of this motion of my hon. Friend from Bellary. Though he may be surprised at the unexpected support that he has got from me on this particular occasion, I am surprised

[Mr. A. Ramaswami Mudaliyar]

[17th March 1926]

that for once at least I am in a position to agree with him in what he says. This Council passed a resolution some time ago that forests within one mile from the village areas should be disafforested. We do not know how it has affected particular villages. It may be that there are very large forests which may be seriously affected by this rule of one-mile distance from villages. I think it will be realized by any one who has anything to do with village life that there are some forests which are merely an apology for forests. I said in the course of the general discussion on the budget that in my district of Chingleput I could point to a series of shrub jungles with plants. I will not call them trees as they are not even 4 or 5 feet high, which have been called reserved forests. As the hon. the Home Member wanted specific instances, I would invite his attention to Satyavadi, a little village in the Chingleput district, where within a few feet from the village you have the reserved forest, which cannot by any stretch of imagination be called a forest but a mere shrub jungle which does not give any assistance to the Government in any way whatsoever. There is no valuable timber or forest produce of any kind, and yet the whole area round Satyavadi village is reserved forest. Similar is the case in Varadayapalaiyam. In another part of the district round about a particular hillside there are trees which yield valuable timber. But near Varadayapalaiyam you have merely shrub jungle which ought to have been disafforested long ago and in any case even if it cannot be disafforested, I think such jungles adjacent to villages ought at least to be transferred immediately to forest panchayats. I believe when this scheme of forest panchayats is widely extended they will hand over all those areas to the forest panchayats. But, recently, I am led to believe that there is a lull in the operations of the Forest department in that direction. I feel that there is a stalemate come over the activities of the Forest department in transferring the forests to the management of forest panchayats, and it is in this connexion I would make an appeal to the hon. the Home Member to call for statistics to show how progress has been made month after month by the department in handing over forests to forest panchayats. In my district, there is another peculiarity. Owing to the abolition of the District Forest Officer in the Chingleput district—I think it is a right move—the District Forest Officer of Nellore is now in charge of those forests near the area that I have described. It is far away from him in an out-of-the-way corner. Naturally his supervision cannot extend in such detail over these forests as it might extend to those forests in the Nellore district with which he is more closely associated, and the result will be that forest administration will be led into those undesirable directions which have been so seriously criticized in this House time after time. I have nothing to suggest against the various officials now in charge of those areas. I know personally the forest ranger there, and he is a very desirable officer. We know if supervision is relaxed there is a tendency for things to drift. Therefore, it is all the more necessary that villages in these particular areas of Satyavadi and Varadayapalaiyam should be handed over to forest panchayats and in certain cases should be disafforested. I trust the hon. the Home Member will consider those instances I have given with reference to the specific grievances that I have brought to his notice this evening."

* Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—"I am much obliged to the hon. the Home Member for extending the concession of allowing grazing in all forests in an entire range on a single permit. I only request him to expedite the orders and to see that they reach the people in time so that the people

17th March 1926] [Mr. A. Ranganatha Mudaliyar]

may know this concession before permits are issued for the next year. Unfortunately, we know of cases where assurances had been given expression to in this House by the Members on the Treasury Bench, but the information never reached even their officers in the districts, and they went on doing things contrary to what the Government had said on the floor of this House, and it took a considerable amount of time and trouble to undo the harm that has been done. Therefore, I request the hon. the Home Member to issue prompt orders and to communicate them to the officers concerned.

"As regards villages close to the reserved forests, my hon. Friend from Chingleput specified many cases. I can refer to many such cases myself but I will refer only to one—erniki, where the forest is very close to the village. I may also tell the hon. the Home Member that on a representation made to the Conservator of Forests he has directed the range officer to submit a tracing of the district tour map showing villages within half a mile from reserved forests, so that, if that is available one would be in a position to tell which villages are so close to the reserved forests as to need relief. It may be that in regard to other districts where there are valuable forests you may have to be a little more careful in determining whether or not the boundary should be shifted, but not in a district like mine where forests are proverbially poor. I withdraw my motion."

The motion was by leave withdrawn.

The House then adjourned at 5-7 p.m. to meet again at 11 a.m. the next day.

R. V. KRISHNA AYYAR,
Secretary to the Legislative Council.

APPENDIX I.

[Vide answer to question No. 1603 asked by Mr. G. Rameswara Rao at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on the 17th March 1926, page 104 supra.]

	Expenditure on Forest Panchayats.	* Savings to the Forest Department.	
		RS.	RS.
Year ending 31st March 1923 ...	...	11,297	Nil.
Do. 31st March 1924 ...	...	29,621	9,480
Do. 31st March 1925 ...	...	32,796	20,964

* The figures of savings are only approximate.

[17th March 1926]

APPENDIX II.

[Vide item III 'Communication to the Council' at page 106 supra.]

List of posts on Rs. 500 per mensem and above created during the quarter ending December 1925.

Department and designation of the post.	Pay per mensem.	Date of creation.	Remarks.
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)

A.--PERMANENT.

General Administration.

RS.

Public Works Department—

Secretary to Government, Public Works Department.	Grade pay in the superior time-scale for Indian Civil Service plus special pay of Rs. 250.	7th October 1925.	Originally created by Local Government on a temporary basis for six months from 21st May 1925 and since sanctioned by the Secretary of State.
---	--	-------------------	---

*Medical.**Local Self-Government Department—*

Professor of Bio-Chemistry, Medical College, Madras.	500—50—900	24th December 1925.	Originally sanctioned for three years in 1923.
--	------------	---------------------	--

B.--TEMPORARY.

(i) EXTENSIONS OF PREVIOUS SANCTIONS.

Department and designation of the post.	Pay per mensem.	Period of tenure.	Remarks.
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)

General Administration.

RS.

Local Self-Government Department—

Temporary Assistant Secretary to Government, Local Self-Government Department	500	For one month from 25th October 1925.	Originally created for two months from 25th August 1925.
---	-----	---------------------------------------	--

17th March 1926]

Department and designation of the post.	Pay per mensem.	Period of tenure.	Remarks.
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)

B.--TEMPORARY—cont.

(i) EXTENSIONS OF PREVIOUS SANCTIONS—cont.

General Administration—cont.

RS.

Public Works Department—

Temporary Assistant Secretary to Government, Public Works Department.	550	For six months from 21st November 1925.	Originally created for three months from 21st May 1925.
---	-----	---	---

*Administration of Justice.**Public Department—*

Additional Sessions Judge, Coimbatore.	1,500	From 24th December 1925 till summer recess of 1926.	Originally created from 12th March 1925.
Additional Sessions Judge, Salem.	1,425	From 19th November 1925 to 3rd December 1925.	Originally created from 19th August 1925.

Civil Works.

Executive Engineer, Hydro-Electric Surveys.	625—975	From 1st December 1925 to 31st March 1926.	Originally sanctioned for six months from 1st June 1925.
Executive Engineer for charge of Kattalai Scheme Works.	Do.	From 1st January 1926 to 31st March 1926.	Originally created for the period from 14th May 1925 to 31st December 1925. Extended up to 31st March 1926.
Superintending Engineer, Cauvery (Mettur) Project.	1,750—100—2,150	7½ years	A Superintending Engineer has been appointed against the sanction of the Secretary of State to the appointment of an Engineer-in-Chief on Rs. 2,750—125—3,000.

[17th March 1926]

Department and designation of the post.	Pay per mensem.	Period of tenure.	Remarks.
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)

B.—TEMPORARY—cont.

(i) EXTENSIONS OF PREVIOUS SANCTIONS—cont.

Civil Works—cont.

RS.			
Engineer - in-charge, Construction, Met- tur Project.	625—1,375	9½ years	.. Has been in exist- ence from the beginning of the year and formally sanc- tioned by the Secretary of State.
Engineer-in-charge, No. 1 Division (Delta Head Works and Canal System), Mettur Project.	Do.	10 „	.. Do.

(ii) TEMPORARY POSTS NEWLY CREATED.

General Administration.

Revenue Department—

Collector and Dis- trict Magistrate.	1,500 up to 12th Octo- ber 1926 and 1,600 thereafter.	1 year ..	.. For supervision of land acqui- sition work in connexion with the Cauvery (Mettur) Reser- voir Project.
---	---	-----------	---

Administration of Justice.

Public Department—

Assistant Sessions Judge, Coimba- tore.	1,275 plus overseas pay £25.	For one month from the date of opening of the Court.	
---	------------------------------------	---	------

Medical.

Local Self-Government Department—

Professor of Medi- cine, Medical College, Vizaga- patam.	650—2,150	For one year from 22nd December 1925.	
---	-----------	--	------

[17th March 1926]

Department and designation of the post.	Pay per mensem.	Period of tenure.	Remarks.
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)

B.—TEMPORARY—cont.

(ii) TEMPORARY POSTS NEWLY CREATED—cont.

Agriculture.

Development Department—

RS.			
Paddy Specialist..	1,500—50— 1,700	For five years from 27th November 1925.	The appointment was created in the place of the post of Eco- nomic Botanist (Pay Rs. 350— 50—1,250 plus overseas pay in the case of an officer of non- Asiatic domi- cile) which has been kept va- cant.

Civil Works.

Public Works Department—

Electrical Assistant to the Chief En- gineer, Hydro- Electric Deve- lopment.	625	Period not speci- fied.	Joined on 4th January 1926.
Executive Engi- neer for the Special River Conservancy divi- sion, Trichino- poly.	625—975	For six months from 1st Janu- ary 1926	....
Engineer-in- charge, No. 2 Division.	625—1,375	7 years	Sanctioned by the Secretary of State for the Mettur Project. Not yet utili- sed.
Engineer-in- charge, No. 3 Division.	Do.	5½ „	
Engineer-in- charge, East.	Do.	6½ „	
Engineer-in- charge, Trans- port.	Do.	6½ „	
Engineer-in- charge, Materials.	Do.	7 „	
Engineer-in- charge, Quarries and Breakers.	Do.	8½ „	

[17th March 1926]

Department and designation of the post.	Pay per mensem.	Period of tenure.	Remarks.
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)

B.—TEMPORARY—cont.

(ii) TEMPORARY POSTS NEWLY CREATED—cont.

Civil Works—cont.

Public Works Department—cont.

Engineer-in-charge, Workshops and Machinery, Met- ur Project.	RS. 625—1,375	7½ years	.. An officer on Rs. 1,550 has been appointed against this with effect from December 1925 and sanction of the Secretary of State to the increased pay has been applied for.
--	------------------	----------	---

J. B. BROWN,
Deputy Secretary to Government,
Finance Department.

THE MADRAS LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

Thursday, the 18th March 1926.

The House met at 11 o'clock, with Mr. President (the hon. Mr. M. RUTHNASWAMY, M.A., (Bar.-at-Law) in the chair.

PRESENT:

Ramaswami Ayyar, K.C.L.E., The hon. Sir C. P. Marjoribanks, C.S.I., C.L.E., The hon. Mr. N.E. Usman Sahib Bahadur, The hon. Khan Bahadur Muhammad.	Natesa Mudaliyar, Rao Bahadur G. Noyce, C.S.I., C.B.E., I.C.S., Mr. F. Obalesappa, Mr. B.
Moir, C.S.I., C.L.E., The hon. Mr. T. E. Raja of Panagal, The hon. the Patro, Kt., The hon. Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. Sivagnanam Pillai, Kt., The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir T. N.	Pandrang Row, Mr. V. Ponnuswami Pillai, Mr. K. S. Prabhakaran Tampan, Mr. K. Premayya, Mr. G. Raghuchandra Ballal, Mr. K. Raja, Rao Bahadur M. C. Raja of Ramnad.
Abbae Ali Khan, Mr. Abdulla Ghatala Sahib, Mr. Ari Gowder, Mr. H. B. Arpudaswami Udayar, Mr. S. Arumuga Nadar, Mr. P. K. S. A. Boag, Mr. G. T. Chidambara Nadar, Mr. A. Devendrudu, Mr. N. Ellappa Chettiyar, Rao Sahib S. Evans, C.S.I., Mr. F. B. Gopalan, Rao Sahib P. V. Haji Qasim Sahib Bahadur, Khan Bahadur Haji Abd-ul-Jah.	Rajappa, Mr. P. S. Ramachandra Reddi, Mr. B. Raman, Rao Bahadur P. Ramaswami Mudaliyar, Mr. A. Ranganatha Mudaliyar, Mr. A. Sagaram, Mr. P. Saldanha, Mr. J. A. Sarvarayudu, Mr. K. Sitarama Reddi, Mr. K. Srinivasan, Rao Sahib R. Subbarayan, Dr. P. Subramania Pillai, Mr. K. Chavadi. Sundaramurti, Rao Sahib P. V. S. Tangavelu Pillai, Rao Sahib T. C. Tanikachala Chettiyar, Rao Bahadur O. Veerian, Mr. B. Venkatachala Padayachi, Mr. K. Venkatarama Sastri, Mr. T. H. Venkatarreddi Nayudu, Kt., Rai Bahadur Sir K.
Heggade, Mr. D. Manjappa. Kesava Pillai, C.L.E., Diwan Bahadur P. Khadir Mohiddin Elyas Khan Sahib, Mr. Krishnan Nayar, Diwan Bahadur M. Krishnaswami Nayudu, Rao Bahadur K. Madanagopal Nayudu, Mr. R. Madurai, Hony. Lieut. Marthandam Pillai, Mr. P. N. Moidu Sahib, Mr. T. M. Muttayya Mudaliyar, Mr. O. Narasimhaachari, Rai Bahadur T. M.	Windle, Capt. E. G. Wood, Mr. O. E.

[18th March 1926]

I
QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

[Order made by the President of the Madras Legislative Council under Standing Order No. 15 on the 4th December 1924.]

1. Starred questions to be put at a meeting of the Council with their answers shall be printed and placed on the Council table an hour before the President takes his seat.

The Secretary shall call out the name of each interpellator in the order in which the names are printed, specify the serial number of his question and make a sufficient pause to give him or any other member a reasonable opportunity of rising in his place and putting a supplementary question. Supplementary questions must be put immediately after the principal questions to which they relate.

2. If a member responsible for a starred question happens to be absent when it is called, it will be open either to him or to any other member to put supplemental questions thereon after the other starred questions for the day have been answered, provided question-time is not thereby exceeded.

3. Questions, not starred, will not be called in Council, but they will be printed with their answers and placed on the table of the House along with the list of starred questions. Oral supplementary questions will not be allowed in regard to unstarred questions.]

STARRED QUESTIONS.

Agriculture.

Crop pest in South Kanara.

* 1608 Q.—MR. D. MANJAYYA HEGGADE: Will the hon. the Minister for Development and the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state whether the Government have received any report from the Collector of South Kanara about the recent crop pest known locally as 'Bambooch' which did much injury to the first paddy crop and caused heavy loss to the ryots?

A.—In the season report for the week ending 5th September 1925 it was stated that in parts of Karkal taluk standing crops were affected by 'rice bugs'.

Co-operative Societies.

Promotion of Inspectors of Co-operative Societies.

* 1609 Q.—MR. R. VEERIAN: With reference to question No. 362, answered at the meeting of the 25th August 1925, will the hon. the Minister for Development be pleased to state—

(a) how many members belonging to the depressed classes were promoted as Chief Inspectors of Co-operative Credit Societies from the rank of Inspectors after the promotion of about nine Chief Inspectors to the place of Assistant Registrars of Co-operative Credit Societies; and

(b) the total number of Inspectors of Co-operative Credit Societies belonging to the depressed classes together with their educational qualifications, and the service they have put in?

A.—(a) None. The post of chief inspector was abolished in consequence of the reorganisation and a new grade of inspectors on higher pay created in its stead.

18th March 1926]

(b) Six. The details connected with them are given below:—

Names.	Educational qualifications.	Service on 1st Maro. 1926.		
		Years.	Months.	Days.
1. J. P. Arokiaswami	Nil.	5	6	28
2. K. Shanmugam	Secondary School-Leaving Certificate.	4	3	11
3. K. Narasimham	Do.	4	6	4
4. C. Vaidivelu	Do.	4	..	15
5. Thangavelu	Do.	1	8	22
6. S. Ratnam	Do.	2	11	20

MR. R. VEERIAN:—"Sir, may I know whether out of the six mentioned in answer to clause (b), any of them has been appointed as inspectors with higher pay, created in the place of chief inspectors?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir T. N. SIVAGNANAM PILLAI:—"I cannot answer that question without notice."

MR. R. VEERIAN:—"Here it is specifically mentioned with reference to clause (b) that there are already six members of the depressed classes working as inspectors who have put in a service of five years and above. May I know whether these inspectors were given promotion as inspectors on higher pay?"

The hon. the PRESIDENT:—"The hon. the Minister says that he cannot answer that question without notice."

Reorganisation of the Co-operative department.

* 1610 Q.—MR. T. ADINARAYANA CHETTIYAR: Will the hon. the Minister for Development and the hon. the Member for Finance be pleased to state whether the recommendations of the Retrenchment Committee were kept in mind when the new reorganization scheme of the Co-operative department in Madras was inaugurated?

A.—Yes.

Excise.

Closure and sale of toddy shops.

* 1611 Q.—MR. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR: Will the hon. the Minister for Education be pleased to give the number of arrack and toddy shops in each district—

(1) that were closed for want of bidders at the time of auction sales last year; and

(2) that were sold privately after the auction?

A.—The Government have no information.

[18th March 1926]

Local Boards and Municipal Councils.*Toll-gates between Srivilliputtur and Sattur.*

* 1612 Q.—Mr. A. CHIDAMBARA NADAR: Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state whether the Government are satisfied that the three toll-gates between Srivilliputtur and Sattur in Ramnad district, a distance of twenty-five miles, are necessary?

A.—The Government have no information as to the facts of the case. Under section 111 of the Madras District Municipalities Act, 1920, and section 105 of the Madras Local Boards Act, 1920, the sanction of Government is not required to the location of toll-gates by a municipal council or a district board.

Mr. A. CHIDAMBARA NADAR:—"May I know whether there is any limit as to the number of toll-gates within a specific distance?"

The RAJA OF RAMNAD:—"Before that question is answered by the hon. the Secretary of Local Self-Government, may I ask him as to whether these three toll-gates belong to three different local bodies?"

Mr. F. NOYCE:—"The rule is that toll-gates should not ordinarily be closer than twenty miles. If they are nearer than twenty miles, that is not in accordance with the rule."

Mr. A. CHIDAMBARA NADAR:—"The difficulty in this case is there are two municipalities within a distance of twenty miles and these two municipalities have two toll-gates. In addition the district board has got a toll-gate and so there are three toll-gates. I should like to know whether no arrangement can be suggested to the municipalities and district board concerned to minimise this trouble to people?"

The RAJA OF RAMNAD:—"May I ask a further question on the answer given by the Secretary whether excluding these municipalities the distance of this road is thirty miles within which distance there is no other toll-gate belonging to the district board?"

Mr. F. NOYCE:—"I am afraid I have no information with regard to the question of the hon. the Raja of Ramnad. As regards the question of Mr. Chidambara Nadar, it is a matter for agreement between the local bodies concerned."

Mr. A. CHIDAMBARA NADAR:—"I should like to know whether the Government would take some interest in this matter and ask these local bodies to devise some means by which this trouble to the people may be diminished."

The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL:—"The local bodies have the power."

Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR:—"Arising from the answer of the Secretary to Local Self-Government, may I ask whether it is not permissible to open a toll-gate on a road which is less than twenty miles in length?"

The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL:—"As it is, the discretion is with the local bodies."

Mr. A. CHIDAMBARA NADAR:—"It is said that the local bodies have power. The whole difficulty is that the municipality or the district board wants to have as much money as possible by means of these toll-gates. There

18th March 1926]

are no means of these local bodies coming to any agreement. As I understand, there is already a rupture between the municipality and the district board."

The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL:—"The only way they can do it is by insisting upon a joint committee to consider the question."

Mr. A. CHIDAMBARA NADAR:—"Do Government undertake to appoint such a joint committee?"

The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL:—"Government cannot undertake it. It is open to the local bodies to have the joint committee appointed. If the committee comes to a decision, that decision will be approved or not approved by the Local Government."

Mr. A. CHIDAMBARA NADAR:—"Have the Government nothing to suggest then?"

The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL:—"There is provision in the Act for the appointment of a joint committee."

The hon. the PRESIDENT:—"It is not the primary concern of the Local Government to undertake any such action."

Mr. P. K. S. A. ARUMUGA NADAR:—"Do not the municipalities contribute to the district board out of the levy of toll fees?"

Mr. A. CHIDAMBARA NADAR:—"I want to know whether Government are going to suggest to the municipalities and district board to have such a committee?"

The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL:—"The question will be considered."

Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR:—"May I ask whether these municipalities are not paying a share of their toll income to the district board?"

The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL:—"They are."

Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR:—"When that is so, is the Government justified in opening additional toll-gates when they are already having a share of the toll levied for traffic on the road?"

The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL:—"My hon. Friend is wrong in saying that the Government propose the institution of toll-gates. It is the local bodies that institute toll-gates."

Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR:—"Is not the hon. the Minister responsible to some extent for the proper administration by these local bodies?"

The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL:—"No doubt the Minister is responsible, but so far as the institution of toll-gates is concerned, the discretion is left to the local bodies, and the Government do not propose to fetter their discretion in such cases."

The RAJA OF RAMNAD:—"With reference to the undertaking given to have the matter examined with reference to the particular locality, may I request the hon. the Minister to consider the case of other localities where similar difficulties occur? For instance, in the Mettupalayam road, there

[18th March 1926]

are 5 or 6 toll-gates within a distance of 36 miles. I do not know why the hon. the Minister should bestow his consideration on this particular locality only."

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" Because the question refers to toll-gates in a particular locality."

Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—" Is it open to the Raja of Ramnad to ask questions about toll-gates which have not been referred to in the question on the paper ?"

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" That is what I am suggesting to the Raja of Ramnad."

Absence of local board presidents from headquarters.

* 1613 Q.—Mr. K. RAGHUCHANDRA BALLAL : Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is not obligatory on the part of presidents of local boards to reside during the regime of their office at the place where their boards' offices are located save while on official tours ;

(b) if so, whether the Government are aware that the present president of the Mangalore Taluk Board in South Kanara is mostly residing at Mulki, a place about 21 miles away from Mangalore town which is the headquarters of the said board ;

(c) if so, from what funds the unnecessary postal charges, etc., incidental to his working the taluk board office in his executive capacity from such a distance are met ; and

(d) whether the Government are aware of any such instances on the part of other presidents in the Presidency ?

A.—(a) The answer is in the negative.

(b) The Government have no information.

(c) The expenditure is incidental to the taluk board administration and as such is met from the general funds of the taluk board under rule 1-B (12) of Schedule V of the Madras Local Boards Act, 1920.

(d) The Government have no information ; but it is not unlikely that there are other instances of presidents of taluk boards who do not reside at the headquarters of the boards.

Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—" Is it not objectionable for the taluk board presidents to live outside their headquarters ? If they are still within the jurisdiction of the taluk board, does it not matter ?"

The hon. the RAJA of PANAGAL :—" As the law now stands, they can live outside the headquarters of the taluk board."

Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—" But within the jurisdiction ?"

The hon. the RAJA of PANAGAL :—" Yes."

Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—" Is there no time limit beyond which they cannot stay out of the jurisdiction of their respective areas within a year ?"

The hon. the RAJA of PANAGAL :—" There is no time limit. When they are outside the jurisdiction, the duties are discharged by vice-president."

[18th March 1926]

Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—" Does it follow therefore that if a president of a taluk board remains out of the district or taluk board area for nine months in the year that is not contrary to the Act, and that such a case will be looked upon with equanimity by the Minister ?"

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" That is asking for information."

The hon. the RAJA of PANAGAL :—" The question does not arise out of the answer given. Most of the taluk boards have the privilege of electing their president. If any president does it, it is open to the electorate to teach him a lesson."

Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—" If the boards consist of elected members only ?"

Criminal Tribes.

Women and girls in the settlements of criminal tribes.

* 1614 Q.—Mr. R. VEERIAN : With reference to question No. 990 answered at the meeting dated 14th December 1925, will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether women and young girls also come under the expression 'criminal tribes' ;

(b) if so, how many women and young girls are in the settlements of criminal tribes that exist at present in different places ;

(c) whether there are schools for them, including their children, in all the settlements ; and

(d) whether any honorary workers are allowed to go to the settlements with a view to give moral advice to these criminal tribes regularly at a fixed time and period ?

A.—(a) Yes.

(b) The attention of the Member of the Legislative Council is invited to the statement in paragraph 48 of the Administration Report of the Labour Department for 1924-25, recorded in G.O. No. 2914, Law (General), dated 21st September 1925, which has been placed on Editors' Table. The statement gives the number of women and children in the various criminal tribes settlements on the 31st March 1925.

(c) Yes. Attention is invited to paragraph 49 of the report referred to in the answer to clause (b) above. There is a school in every settlement and attendance is compulsory on all children of school-going age.

(d) No such application has been received by the Government. If suitable honorary workers apply, the question will be examined.

Mr. R. VEERIAN :—" With reference to (c), may I know whether they impart manual training in almost all schools in the criminal settlements ?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—" I suppose so."

[18th March 1926]

Mr. R. VEERIAN :—"With reference to (d), in jails they appoint honorary workers to give moral instruction and advice, and the Collectors appoint these persons, perhaps with the permission of the Government. May I know whether there is any such provision in the case of criminal settlements?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—"If we receive applications from the people there, they will be considered."

Mr. R. VEERIAN :—"May I know who gives information to include members belonging to a particular community under criminal tribes?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—"The Police and the District Magistrate."

Treatment of the members of the 'criminal tribes'.

* 1615 Q.—Mr. G. RAMESWARA RAO : Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(a) the methods which are employed in practice to watch the registered members of the 'criminal tribes' ;

(b) whether any complaints have come to the notice of the Government as regards these methods ;

(c) whether any tahsildar and subdivisional magistrate have been consulted on these points ; and

(d) what is the number of convictions under Criminal Tribes Act in Anantapur district under each of the penal sections of the Act ?

A.—(a) The procedure for watching registered members of criminal tribes is laid down in rules 8 to 18, Part I, of the rules framed under the Criminal Tribes Act.

(b) Yes.

(c) Not by Government.

(d) The Government have no information.

Registration of persons under the Criminal Tribes Act in Anantapur district.

* 1616 Q.—Mr. G. RAMESWARA RAO : Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether persons owning lands and permanently residing in certain villages are being registered in the Anantapur district under the Criminal Tribes Act ;

(b) whether the fact that one is related to a suspect or a convict is taken as sufficient to register one under the Act irrespective of the remoteness of the relationship and the distance at which the latter resides ; and

(c) whether the age of a person and his antecedents are taken into consideration before registering a man under the Act ?

A.—(a) Yes. The test applied before registration is the same for all persons, namely, whether they are believed to be addicted to crime. Ownership of land, especially in the district of Anantapur, does not necessarily connote freedom from criminal tendencies, but where complaints have been received from persons owning land and permanently residing in villages, the District Magistrate has enquired into the reasons for their registration.

[18th March 1926]

(b) The registration of members of a criminal tribe is left to the discretion of the District Magistrate.

(c) Under rule 5 of the rules framed under the Criminal Tribes Act no child under 12 years of age should be included in the register.

Principles underlying the registering of persons under the Criminal Tribes Act.

* 1617 Q.—Mr. G. RAMESWARA RAO : Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether the case of each member to be registered under the Criminal Tribes Act is separately considered before he is registered ;

(b) what the criterion is in the case of one of good antecedents for registering, not registering, or cancelling the registration of one of the declared criminal tribe ;

(c) whether the Government considers the case of each individual, or whether the District Magistrate is the final authority in the matter ;

(d) whether any general or special directions are issued to the District Magistrate apart from the rules published in the Criminal Tribes Manual as regards the policy or principles regarding registering tribes or classes or parts of the same ; and

(e) what the criteria are for selecting a part of a class or tribe for purposes of registration under the Act ?

A.—(a) Yes. By the District Magistrate.

(b) No persons are registered unless they are believed to be addicted to the commission of crime. Registration may be cancelled if the District Magistrate is of opinion either that the registration was wrongly made or that the person registered has ceased to be addicted to the commission of crime.

(c) The District Magistrate is the final authority in matters of registration.

(d) Government have occasionally issued instructions to District Magistrates.

(e) A part of a class or tribe is notified instead of the whole tribe, if one part of a class or tribe only is addicted to the systematic commission of non-bailable offences and that part can be clearly differentiated from the rest of the class or tribe.

Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—"Sir, if the criterion is that the person concerned is believed to be addicted to crime, would it be right to register under this Act persons who, after they have been charged with a specific offence, are acquitted or discharged of that ?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—"I am afraid I am unable to give a definite reply. In regard to the registering of criminal tribes, the Government register them on the advice of the Inspector-General of Police."

Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—"There is an idea on the part of district officials that if they put up some case against a number of people and they are discharged, they can proceed to register them under the Criminal Tribes Act. That I think is a misuse of the Act."

[18th March 1926]

The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—"No such thing is generally done unless we know that a certain class of persons are habitually addicted to crime."

Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR:—"If they have not been proved to be addicted to crime by a judicial tribunal?"

Commission of offences by persons registered under the Criminal Tribes Act in Anantapur district.

* 1618 Q.—Mr. G. RAMESWARA RAO: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(a) the number of offences committed in each year by each of the castes or classes of persons registered under the Criminal Tribes Act in Anantapur district from 1913 till the end of 1925;

(b) whether all of them were against property or person and, if so, the details regarding the classes of offences and their nature;

(c) what the total number of offences was in each year in the same district under the same category or classification; and

(d) the number of persons of each caste convicted for offences of the class or category referred to in (b) and (c) above in the same district within each of the last five years?

A.—(a), (b), (c) & (d) The Government have no information but have called for it.

Exceptions in registering members of caste declared a criminal tribe.

* 1619 Q.—Mr. G. RAMESWARA RAO: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether he would lay on the table of this House the information promised by Sir Arthur Knapp in answer to question No. 1271 on 3rd December 1924 regarding various tribes under the Criminal Tribes Act;

(b) whether owning and possessing property is taken into consideration in registering members of a caste declared a criminal tribe;

(c) whether all of a caste are registered without exception; and

(d) if exceptions are made in practice, what are the general principles which bring a member of a tribe under the exceptions?

A.—(a) A statement^a is laid on the table.

(c) No.

(b) & (d) The registration or exemption from registration of members of a criminal tribe notified as such is left to the discretion of the District Magistrate.

Procedure for watching men registered under the Criminal Tribes Act.

* 1620 Q.—Sriman SASIBHUSHAN RATH Mahasayo: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether there is any uniform practice or procedure for watching the men registered under the Criminal Tribes Act;

^a Printed as Appendix I on pages 252-255 infra.

[18th March 1926]

(b) whether it is a fact that in certain instances village headmen are asked to keep watch over them and in other cases they are asked to appear in police stations;

(c) if so, the need for such a different treatment; and

(d) whether it is a fact that these men have to travel miles at night to appear before the Police authorities?

A.—(a) & (b) The procedure is laid down in rules 8 to 18, Part (1) of the rules framed under the Criminal Tribes Act.

(c) Under rule 8, Part (1) of the rules framed under the Act, every registered member of a criminal tribe shall report himself at the times prescribed by the District Magistrate either to the headman of the village or to such other person as the District Magistrate may direct. It will sometimes be more convenient for a registered member himself to report at a police station rather than to the village headman.

(d) The Government have no information.

Forests.

Control of certain reserved forests in South Kanara by Revenue Department.

* 1621 Q.—Mr. K. RAGHUCHANDRA BALLAL: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether a circular has been issued by the Forest Department that reserved forests of groups III and IV in South Kanara would be entrusted to village panchayats and their control to the Revenue Department from 1st July 1925;

(b) if so, whether the same have been brought into force; and

(c) what the beneficial result of the said arrangements accruing to the ryots is?

A.—(a) No.

(b) & (c) Do not arise.

Forest grievances of the ryots of Baindoor division.

* 1622 Q.—Mr. K. RAGHUCHANDRA BALLAL: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether they are aware that the people of twelve villages in the Baindoor division sent a memorial to the Government on 24th February 1924 seeking redress of forest grievances; and

(b) if so, what orders have been passed on the said memorial and how far the grievances have been redressed?

A.—(a) A memorial dated 29th April 1924 was received.

(b) The memorial was transferred to the Chief Conservator for disposal. As the Chief Conservator had already issued orders on a copy of the same petition which he had received direct, no further action was taken on the copy of the petition transferred to him. As to the concessions granted by the Chief

[18th March 1926]

Conservator on the points raised in the memorial, the hon. Member's attention is invited to the answer given to clause (2) of Legislative Council question No. 479 asked by Mr. J. A. Saldanha during the August meeting in 1924.

Removal of leaves and dry wood by ryots for fuel from the forests of South Kanara.

* 1623 Q.—MR. D. MANJAYYA HEGGADE: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether permissions were being freely granted to ryots by the District Forest officer of South Kanara to remove green leaves and dry wood and leaves for fuel from the neighbouring reserve forests, four or five years ago; and

(b) if so, whether it is a fact that ryots are not allowed the same concession at present and if the answer is in the affirmative, the reasons for the same?

A.—(a) & (b) Prior to 1922 the practice as regards the supply of green manure leaves, dry leaves and dead fuel in South Kanara was as follows:—

Green manure leaves.—The removal of green manure leaves had been completely stopped for some time before 1920. Early in 1922, portions of the local reserves were set aside to meet the demand and the right to collect the leaves was annually sold by auction.

Dry leaves.—Removal was permitted on payment.

Dead fuel.—The ryots had to get it from purchasers of fuel coupes.

In 1922, free removal of green manure leaves of unclassified species and dead fuel was permitted and early in 1924 free removal of dry leaves was also permitted. These concessions were allowed only in reserves in which the forest village system was in force. In July 1924, these concessions were allowed in all the reserves in the district and they are still in force.

Jails.

Mappilla Colonization in the Andamans.

* 1624 Q.—MR. S. SATYAMURTI: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government have decided to stop the scheme of colonizing the Andamans with Mappillas;

(b) whether the Mappilla families already there will be repatriated; and

(c) if not, why not?

A.—(a) The hon. Member is referred to the answer to question No. 1314 given on the 9th February 1926.

(b) & (c) The Government will await the issue of final orders on the report of the deputation before taking the subject under consideration.

[18th March 1926]

The Andamans Committee.

* 1625 Q.—MR. K. UPPI SAHIB: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Andaman Committee was appointed in accordance with the Resolution of this Council;

(b) whether the members were nominated by this Government or the Government of India; and

(c) whether the Committee has submitted its report?

A.—(a) & (b) The hon. Member is referred to the answer to question No. 1314 and the supplementary questions and answers given at the meeting of the Legislative Council on 9th February 1926.

(c) The Government have no information.

Settlement of Mappilla prisoners in the Andamans.

* 1626 Q.—MR. J. A. SALDANHA: Will the hon. the Home Member and the hon. the Law Member be pleased

(i) to place before this House the report of the Committee sent to the Andamans to report on the conditions of the islands in view of the projected settlement therein of Mappilla prisoners; and

(ii) to state—

(a) on whose reports the decision of Government had been formed to send the prisoners to the Andamans;

(b) for whose benefit the scheme was formed apart from the Mappilla prisoners, if it was to benefit them at all;

(c) whether Government now propose to carry out the scheme; and if so, subject to what conditions; and

(d) whether Government have decided to release any of the Mappilla prisoners and if so, how many and when?

A.—(i) The deputation to the Andamans was appointed by the Government of India and the members will submit their report to that Government.

(ii) (a) & (b) The hon. Member is referred to the supplementary answers to questions Nos. 653 and 459 given at the meeting of the Legislative Council of the 26th March 1925 and 26th August 1925 respectively.

(c) The hon. Member is referred to the answer to question No. 1314 given on 9th February 1926.

(d) No.

Land Revenue.

Alleged dismissal of one K. Gopalan Nayar.

* 1627 Q.—DIWAN BAHADUR M. KRISHNAN NAYAR: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government have received a memorial from K. Gopalan Nayar, the late adhikari of Kodinhi amsam, Ernad taluk, Malabar district, stating the circumstances which led to his dismissal from his appointment as adhikari and praying for the cancellation of the dismissal order; and

(b) what orders the Government have passed on the memorial having regard to the peculiar circumstances of the case?

[18th March 1926]

A.—(a) Yes.

(b) The memorial is under consideration.

Allotment of house-sites for non-depressed classes in Tannirkulam village.

* 1628 Q.—MR. R. VEERIAN: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that a piece of land is being parcelled out as house-sites for certain non-depressed class applicants, among whom the village karnam is one, in the village of Tannirkulam, village No. 40 of Tiruvallur taluk, Tolur post, Chingleput district, in survey No. 57 where the depressed classes have been from time immemorial enjoying the right of worship and offering sacrifices to the village goddess on periodical festival occasions;

(b) whether there are no other sites to the south of the village available for allotment for house-sites for the needy non-depressed classes; and

(c) whether the Government are aware that a petition was sent on 9th instant to the Revenue Secretary, Madras, Commissioner of Labour, Madras, and the Collector of the district, Saidapet, to look into the matter with a view to set right the defect?

A.—A letter on the subject from the hon. Member was sent to the Collector of Chingleput for disposal, and the hon. Member was informed accordingly. The Government have no further information in the matter.

Public Service.

Communal representation in the office of the Director of Industries.

* 1629 Q.—MR. R. VEERIAN: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue and the hon. the Minister for Development be pleased to state—

(a) the number of Brahmans, Non-Brahman Caste Hindus, Christians, Muhammadans and depressed classes or Adi-Dravida clerks employed in the office of the Director of Industries at present;

(b) whether it is a fact that an Adi-Dravida clerk employed in the office has been given a memorandum communicating that he should appear for the Staff Selection Board examination for confirmation of his appointment either through his department or by the Staff Selection Board; and

(c) whether the operation of the Staff Selection Board is extended in the case of depressed classes and Adi-Dravidas also?

A.—(a)	Brahmans	...	...	20	Muhammadau	...	...	1
	Non-Brahman	Caste	...	5	Adi-Dravida	...	...	1
	Hindus.	...	...	...	Anglo-Indian	...	...	1
	Christians	...	...	3				

(b) No written memorandum was given to the clerk but he was informed orally to that effect.

(c) Yes; it applies.

MR. R. VEERIAN:—“With reference to the answer given to clause (a) that the number of Brahmans employed in the office of the Director of Industries is 20, may I know whether these people were appointed after the communal Government Order was issued?”

[18th March 1926]

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir, T. N. SIVAGNANAM PILLAI:—“It is new information which the Member asks and I want notice of the same.”

MR. R. VEERIAN:—“I put that supplementary question in anticipation of getting some definite information because I thought that the hon. Minister would have got all the information in connexion with this question from the concerned department when I put the original question.”

The hon. the PRESIDENT:—“The question which the hon. Member originally put, viz., ‘the number of Brahmans employed in the office of the Director of Industries office’ has been answered and the answer is given in clause (a) of the answer. Now the hon. Member wants to know whether these Brahmans came in after the communal Government Order was issued. That is a supplemental question which the hon. Minister says he cannot answer without notice.”

MR. R. VEERIAN:—“I was under the impression that the hon. Minister would have understood the purpose for which we put such questions.”

The hon. the PRESIDENT:—“Hon. Members and Ministers know a good deal but they do not know the minds of other hon. Members of this Council.”

MR. R. VEERIAN:—“It is only for the purpose of ventilating our grievances that the claims of a particular community alone are taken into consideration by the Government, and since the claims of the communities such as the depressed classes and others are not looked after, we put such questions here.”

The hon. the PRESIDENT:—“The intention of the Member should have been made much clearer than it is expressed in this question.”

Village Establishments.

Omission of the usual prefix of courtesy in communications to village officers.

* 1630 Q.—MR. T. ADINARAYANA CHETTIYAR: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that in communications addressed to village officers from the office of Tahsildars as well as of Collectors the usual prefix of courtesy, such as ‘Mr.’ or ‘M.R.Ry.’ is invariably omitted; and

(b) whether in such communications even the caste appellation is usually contracted in an offensive manner, such as ‘Mudaliyar’ into ‘Mudali’ and so on?

A.—(a) In 1920 the Board of Revenue was requested to issue instructions regarding the form of communications to village officers. The Government are not aware of the instructions actually issued or of the actual practice in this matter.

(b) They have no reason to suppose that it is usual in such communications to contract caste appellations in an offensive manner. The question and answer will be communicated to the Board of Revenue.

[18th March 1926]

Civil Justice.*Transfer of Sarishtadars of the Collectorate and District Court, Mangalore.*

* 1631 Q.—Mr. K. RAGHUCHANDRA BALLAL: Will the hon. the Law Member and the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether under the rules Sarishtadars of District Courts and Collectorates are liable to periodical transfers;

(b) whether the Government are aware that the Sarishtadars of the Collectorate and District Court at Mangalore are the natives of the place and have been for a long time occupying their respective offices at the same place; and

(c) why in spite of this fact they have not been transferred to other districts and whether their transfers are contemplated or not; if not, why?

A.—(a) *Sarishtadars of District Courts.*—There are no rigid rules requiring the periodical transfers of such officers. The High Court calls for reports every year regarding sarishtadars who have been for five years or more in one station and the question of transferring them is decided with reference to these reports.

Sarishtadars of Collectorates.—The term of office of Huzur Sarishtdars in Collectorates is limited to three years except in cases where the Collector for special reasons permits an extension to a total period not exceeding five years. But this rule does not prevent a Huzur Sarishtadar being transferred even earlier.

(b) *Sarishtadar of District Court.*—The present Sarishtadar of the District Court, South Kanara, has been Sarishtadar since the 31st July 1915. There is no information as to whether he is a native of the place.

Sarishtadar of the Collectorate.—The civil lists and the Revenue establishment lists of the South Kanara district show that the officer who held the post of Huzur Sarishtadar on 1st April 1925 (the latest date up to which the establishment lists are available) was appointed to it between April and July 1922. The Government have no information whether he is native of Mangalore.

(c) *Sarishtadar of District Court.*—The Sarishtadar has not been moved from his present station on grounds of administrative convenience.

Sarishtadar of the Collectorate.—The post of Huzur Sarishtadar is included in the cadre of Tahsildars, who are not ordinarily transferred outside their districts.

Criminal Justice.*Release of Mr. M. P. Narayana Menon.*

* 1632 Q.—Sriman SASIBHUSHAN RATH Mahasayo: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether he has received a copy of a resolution from the public of Perintalmanna to release Mr. M. P. Narayana Menon; and

(b) whether he has placed the matter before His Excellency the Governor of Madras to release the said Mr. Menon as an act of mercy?

[18th March 1926]

A.—(a) Yes.

(b) The resolution has been seen by His Excellency the Governor.

Diwan Bahadur M. KRISHNAN NAYAR :—“Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to say whether the Government have received any memorial from any other public meeting held in Malabar and also from four European gentlemen in this city?”

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—“Government have received a number of memorials and copies of resolutions passed at public meetings. Government have not received any memorial from four European gentlemen referred to by the hon. Member but they have reason to believe that His Excellency has received one.”

Diwan Bahadur M. KRISHNAN NAYAR :—“Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state further whether Government have any intention of granting the prayers contained in the various resolutions passed at public meetings in Malabar and also in the memorial sent to His Excellency by these four European gentlemen?”

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—“I cannot say what the intentions of the Government will be on this matter in future.”

Diwan Bahadur M. KRISHNAN NAYAR :—“Cannot my hon. Friend the Law Member in his capacity as Law Member advise His Excellency the Governor to exercise the right of clemency vested in him?”

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—“Such an acute and constitutional lawyer as the hon. Member Mr. Krishnan Nayar must be aware that I cannot answer that question off-hand.”

Diwan Bahadur M. KRISHNAN NAYAR :—“May I say that there is nothing objectionable either in law or practice for my hon. Friend giving an answer to this question?”

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—“The advice tendered or about to be tendered by members of this Government to His Excellency the Governor is a matter which cannot be discussed on the floor of this House, added to which the prerogative of clemency is not exercised by His Excellency but it is exercised under the Criminal Procedure Code by the Local Government.”

Diwan Bahadur M. KRISHNAN NAYAR :—“I wish to know from my hon. Friend the Law Member, who is part of the Local Government, whether they have any intention of exercising their right of clemency in this case?”

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—“As I have already said, I do not know what the intentions of the Government will be on this matter in the future. Till now they have not moved in the matter.”

Diwan Bahadur M. KRISHNAN NAYAR :—“I want to know whether my hon. Friend will be pleased to move in the matter hereafter?”

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—“The matter will receive consideration.”

[18th March 1926]

UNSTARRED QUESTIONS.**Co-operative Societies.***Resignation of honorary assistant registrars.*

1633 Q.—Mr. T. ADINARAYANA CHETTIYAR: Will the hon. the Minister for Development be pleased to state—

- (a) the number and names of honorary assistant registrars who have resigned their office since their appointment during their current year; and
(b) the reasons why they have resigned?

A.—(a) & (b) The information is furnished below:—

Name of the Honorary Assistant Registrar.	District to which he was appointed.	Reasons for resignation.
1. M.R.Ry. Sambamurthi Ayyar Avargal.	Arcoot, South ..	Inability to cope with the work.
2. Reverend J. Tomas. Lewis	Cuddapah ..	Transfer to Anantapur.
3. M.R.Ry. Narasimhadevara Satyanarayana Garu.	Godavari, East..	In his opinion the appointments of Honorary Assistant Registrars are in present conditions useless and of no advantage to the unions.
4. M.R.Ry. K. Malliah Sastri Garu.	Vizagapatam ..	Ill-health and consequent non-residence in union area.
5. M.R.Ry. T. M. Vishnu Nambisan Avargal.	Malabar ..	Ill-health and domestic difficulties.

Contributions by urban banks, etc., to local unions.

1634 Q.—Mr. T. ADINARAYANA CHETTIYAR: Will the hon. the Minister for Development be pleased to state—

- (a) the amount of supervision fund contributed by urban banks and other limited societies in each district to the local unions to which they are affiliated; and

- (b) the amount of rebate paid by central banks on behalf of such urban banks mentioned in (a) to the concerned local unions?

A.—(a) & (b) The Government have no information.

Avaram lease to co-operative societies on a fixed rent.

1635 Q.—Mr. G. RAMESWARA RAO: Will the hon. the Minister for Development be pleased to state—

- (a) whether the District Co-operative Conference at Anantapur passed a resolution requesting that avaram lease may be given to co-operative societies on a fixed rent instead of by open auction;

- (b) whether the matter has been considered by the Government and if so, with what result;

- (c) whether the request would be complied with this year; and

- (d) whether any societies have been organized for gathering avaram in Anantapur district and if so, how many?

[18th March 1926]

- A.—(a), (b) & (c) No such resolution has been communicated to the Government.

- (d) The Government have no information.

Education.*Training schools for teaching the deaf, dumb and blind.*

1636 Q.—Rao Bahadur C. NATESA MUDALIYAR: Will the hon. the Minister for Education be pleased to state—

- (a) how many schools there are to train teachers in the teaching of the deaf, dumb and the blind;

- (b) how many teachers have been trained from the beginning till now in each school;

- (c) what is the amount spent on training till now;

- (d) whether the pupil-teachers are admitted in such schools irrespective of creed; if not, what steps are being taken by the Government to seek admission for Hindu teachers in such schools; and

- (e) the names of all the teachers (men and women) so trained and the names of schools in which they are working now?

- A.—(a) Two schools for the blind, and one for the deaf and dumb, at Palamecottah.

- (b) Up till March 1924, 26 teachers had been trained in the deaf and dumb school. It is not known how many were trained during 1924-25. No teachers were admitted for training during 1925-26.

The Government have no information as regards the schools for the blind.

- (c) The grants paid to the deaf and dumb school for the training of teachers were as follows:—

Year.	Grant.
	Rs.
1918-19	2,820
1919-20	2,820
1920-21	2,820
1921-22	2,820
1922-23	2,820
1923-24	2,020

- (d) In 1923 the Government received complaints to the effect that non-Christian teachers were refused admission in the deaf and dumb school. They issued orders directing that, if non-Christian teachers were not admitted into the school for training, the grant due to the school should be reduced.

There is no information as regards the schools for the blind.

- (e) The Government have no information.

[18th March 1926]

Stipend for a pupil-teacher in the Madura Deaf and Dumb school.

1637 Q.—Rao Bahadur C. NATESA MUDALIYAR: Will the hon. the Minister for Education be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that he promised to give on behalf of the Madura Deaf and Dumb school a stipend for a pupil-teacher who underwent training at Mysore; and

(b) whether any sum was granted accordingly and, if so, what amount and how it was fixed?

A.—(a) No. At the meeting of the Legislative Council held on the 6th March 1924, it was stated that if an application for scholarship was made it would be considered.

(b) No application has been received by Government.

Local Boards and Municipal Councils.

Bills to amend the District Municipalities Act, Local Boards Act and Village Panchayats Act.

1638 Q.—Mr. G. RANESWARA RAO: Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) when the Bills regarding the amendments to District Municipalities Act, Local Boards Act and Village Panchayats Act are likely to be introduced; and

(b) whether they are proposed to be merely amending Bills or consolidating Bills?

A.—(a) Bills Nos. 1 and 2 of 1926, to amend the Madras District Municipalities Act, 1920, have been published in English in the *Fort St. George Gazette* on the 19th January 1926 and 2nd February 1926, respectively. They will be introduced at the March meeting of the Council. The Bills to amend the Madras Local Boards Act, 1920, and the Madras Village Panchayats Act, 1920, will be introduced after due publication as early as practicable.

(b) All these Bills are amending and not consolidating Bills. The question of introducing a consolidating Bill is under consideration.

Condition of road between Lalapet and Tiruvalam toll-gate.

1639 Q.—Mr. T. ADINARAYANA CHETTIYAR: Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that the 'temporary' road between the Lalapet (civil) road and Tiruvalam toll-gate is in a very bad condition and in certain places dangerous to cart-traffic;

(b) whether the ryots of the villages of Lalapet, Ekambarallur, Thakkampolaiyam, Kammanatham, Seekarajapuram, etc., have no other means of reaching Vellore and other towns in the North Arcot district from their villages except by this road; and

(c) whether the Government intend to put this road in order or whether there is any proposal to lay another road for these villages to connect them with the main road?

[18th March 1926]

A.—(a) & (b) The Government have no information.
(c) The matter is one for the local body concerned.

Removal of municipal chairmen.

1640 Q.—Rao Bahadur A. S. KRISHNA RAO PANTULU: Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government consulted (i) Collectors of districts, or (ii) municipal councils, or (iii) chairmen of municipal councils, in regard to the new provision in the draft District Municipalities Act Amendment Bill, recently published, conferring additional power on the Government and on municipal councils to remove chairmen of municipal councils;

(b) if so, which of them were consulted and what opinions they have given; and

(c) if not, why they have not been consulted?

A.—(a) No.

(b) The question does not arise.

(c) The Local and Municipal Advisory Committee was consulted. The Government considered this sufficient.

Appointment of Revenue Officers for municipalities.

1641 Q.—Rao Bahadur A. S. KRISHNA RAO PANTULU: Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government consulted (i) Collectors of districts, or (ii) municipal councils, or (iii) chairmen of municipal councils, in regard to the new provision in the draft District Municipalities Act Amendment Bill, recently published, conferring additional power on the Government and on municipal councils to appoint a Revenue Officer for each municipality;

(b) if so, which of them were consulted and what opinions they have given; and

(c) if not, why they have not been consulted?

A.—(a) No.

(b) The question does not arise.

(c) The Government did not consider it necessary. The Bill has been published for general information and it is open to the authorities mentioned in clause (c) to offer their remarks on any provisions in it.

Medical.

Muhammadan representation in Provincial Medical Service.

1642 Q.—Mr. MUHAMMAD MOOSA SAIT: Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state the total number of officers in the Provincial Medical Service and the number of Muhammadans in the above cadre?

A.—According to the latest Quarterly Civil Medical list, the total number of permanent officers in the Provincial Medical Service is 216 and of these six are Muhammadans.

[18th March 1926]

Appointment of assistant and sub-assistant surgeons.

1643 Q.—Rao Bahadur A. S. KRISHNA RAO PANTULU: Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether any local boards have applied for permission to appoint assistant surgeons and sub-assistant surgeons to hospitals and dispensaries other than those at taluk headquarters on a separate cadre, suitable to the districts concerned; and

(b) if so, what local boards have done so and what orders have been passed in each case?

A.—(a) Yes.

(b) *First part.*—The names of the district boards are (1) Malabar, (2) Kurnool, (3) Guntur, (4) Tanjore, (5) Coimbatore and (6) Nellore.

Second part.—Malabar District Board. A district cadre consisting of one assistant surgeon and twelve sub-assistant surgeons has been sanctioned.

Kurnool and Guntur District Boards.—The Presidents were informed that their proposals could not be considered unless the taluk boards concerned agreed to them.

Tanjore, Coimbatore and Nellore.—The applications are under the consideration of the Government.

Public Health.*Grants to local boards for roads and water-supply.*

1644 Q.—Rao Bahadur A. S. KRISHNA RAO PANTULU: Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state whether the Government have made any and if so, what provision for grants to local boards for village roads and water-supply during the next year?

A.—No provision has been made in the Civil Budget Estimate for 1926-27 for either of these purposes.

Village Panchayats.*Organization of village panchayats.*

1645 Q.—Rao Bahadur A. S. KRISHNA RAO PANTULU: Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) how many village panchayats were organized under the Madras Village Panchayats Act, 1920, in each district of the Presidency during each of the years 1920-21, 1921-22, 1922-23, 1923-24 and 1924-25;

(b) how many persons were appointed either as Registrars of Panchayats or as honorary organizers of the panchayats during each of the above years;

(c) how many of them were (i) presidents of local boards, (ii) other members of local boards;

(d) how many informal panchayats were organized in each district of the Presidency prior to the coming into force of the Madras Village Panchayats Act and in what years those informal panchayats were organized; and

(e) whether village panchayats under the Madras Village Panchayats Act were organized after watching the progress made in the working of the informal panchayats organized on a voluntary basis?

[18th March 1926]

A.—(a) The organization of village panchayats under the Madras Village Panchayats Act, 1920, was begun in the last quarter of 1921-22. A list^a of the panchayats constituted during each of the years 1921-22 to 1924-25 is laid on the table.

(b)	Year.	Honorary Registrars.	Honorary Organizers.
	1920-21	Nil.	Nil.
	1921-22	9	Nil.
	1922-23	6	Nil.
	1923-24	Nil.	46
	1924-25	Nil.	25

(c) All the honorary registrars were presidents of taluk boards. Twenty-six of the honorary organizers were members of local boards, of whom three were presidents of union boards.

(d) A list of the informal panchayats which were in existence in each district at the end of 1918 is laid on the table. There is no later information; nor is information available as to the year in which each informal panchayat was organized.

(e) Most of the informal panchayats established prior to the passing of the Madras Village Panchayats Act, 1920, had languished for want of statutory powers. As there was then no progress to be watched, it was unnecessary to delay the organization of statutory panchayats.

Organization of village panchayats in rural parts.

1646 Q.—Rao Bahadur A. S. KRISHNA RAO PANTULU: Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether any proposals are under contemplation to organize village panchayats in the rural parts of the Presidency on a compulsory basis; and

(b) if so, what those proposals are?

A.—(a) & (b) The Government have appointed a committee to investigate the possibility of making the village panchayat the basis of local fund administration. The question whether panchayats should be organized on a voluntary basis as hitherto or whether they should be formed compulsorily for all villages will be examined by the committee.

Criminal Tribes.*Strength of the Jutur mixed gang registered under the Criminal Tribes Act.*

1647 Q.—Mr. G. RAMESWARA RAO: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(a) the strength of the Jutur mixed gang registered under the Criminal Tribes Act at the time of registration;

(b) its present strength;

(c) whether any registrations in this gang were cancelled at any time;

[18th March 1926]

- (d) whether any reports regarding all the individuals registered were received or made severally and, if so, when such report was last made;
 (e) whether it is proposed to cancel any already registered; and
 (f) the total number of convictions in this gang under each of the penal sections of the Act within the last five years?

A.—(a) Sixty-nine.

(b), (c), (e) & (f) The Government have no information but have called for it.

(d) No.

Depressed Classes.

Supply of drinking water for the depressed classes of Nunjaimakkathuvalkkai.

1648 Q.—Rao Sahib R. SRINIVASAN: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether a site in the village of Nunjaimakkathuvalkkai, near Chidambaram, has been acquired and a pond dug to provide drinking water for the depressed classes in the village; and

(b) if the answer is in the negative, what proposal the Government have to provide the depressed classes in the village with drinking water during the next summer season when the irrigation channel Khan Sahib's Canal is closed for repair?

A.—(a) Notification under section 4 (1) of the Land Acquisition Act has been issued for the acquisition of a site required for the purpose.

(b) Does not arise.

Forests.

Permission for taking green manure leaves from Palamadi reserves.

1649 Q.—Mr. T. ADINARAYANA CHETTIYAR: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that ryots are not allowed to take green manure leaves from the Palamadi Reserve in the Vellore Range of the North Arcot district; and

(b) if so, the reason for this prohibition?

A.—(a) Yes.

(b) The hon. Member's attention is invited to paragraph 7 of the joint report of the Chief Conservator and the Director of Agriculture at page 8 of G.O. No. 1069, Development, dated 17th June 1921, placed on Editors' Table.

Land Revenue.

Assignment of certain lands in Mulluvadi and Arumbakkam villages.

1650 Q.—Mr. T. ADINARAYANA CHETTIYAR: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that serial numbers 352, 353, 355, 356, 358, 359 and 378 in No. 125 Mulluvadi and Arumbakkam villages, in Wallajah taluk, North Arcot district, are treated as common pasture in the last resettlement of the district;

[18th March 1926]

(b) whether the Deputy Collector, Ranipet, and the previous District Collector, Mr. Molony, have held the view that the above survey numbers should be treated as common pasture;

(c) whether in 1925 certain ryots cultivated the above survey numbers and whether 'B Memos' were served on them;

(d) whether the usual procedure under these circumstances is for the Government to levy penalty from these ryots as per terms of the 'B Memos';

(e) whether in the present instance the present District Collector, in his order Dis. No. 15426/25, dated 18th December 1925, has ordered that these lands should be granted to the ryots on pattas (under sivayijama);

(f) whether it is a fact that the Revenue subordinates are actually proceeding to subdivide the lands in question with the view to assign the plots to the ryots;

(g) whether it is the fact that the ryots of the two villages, 125 Mulluvadi and Arumbakkam, have no other pasture land for their cattle except the lands mentioned in (a) above; and

(h) what objection, if any, Government have to postponing the assignment of the land pending the decision of the Board of Revenue?

A.—(a) S. Nos. 352, 353, 355, 356, 358 and 359 of Mulluvadi village were registered as grazing ground poramboke. There is no S. No. 378 in Mulluvadi and S. No. 378 in Arumbakkam was registered as patta land.

(b) The Government are not aware whether these officers held this view.

(c) & (d) The hon. Member is referred to Board's Standing Order No. 26. It is usual to report such cultivation on B Memoranda and to levy a penalty if the cultivation is considered objectionable.

(e), (f) & (g) The Government have no information on the points referred to in these questions.

(h) As the Board of Revenue has full power if it thinks fit to postpone assignment pending its decision Government do not propose to intervene in the manner suggested.

Public Service.

Clerks confirmed in the Revenue department, South Kanara.

1651 Q.—Khan Bahadur HAJI ABD-UL-LAH HAJI QASIM SAHIB Bahadur: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) the number of acting clerks who have been confirmed in the Revenue department of the South Kanara district since the receipt of G.O. No. 658, dated 15th August 1922, which contemplates appointment and promotion by selection in consideration of communal representation; and

(b) how many of them were Mappillas?

A.—(a) From the South Kanara district Revenue establishment list corrected up to 1st April 1925, it is gathered that 26 clerks have been confirmed since 15th August 1922. The Government have no further information.

(b) One.

[18th March 1926]

Irrigation.*Allotment for irrigation works in Anantapur district.*

1652 Q.—Mr. G. RAMESWARA RAO: Will the hon. the Law Member and the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) what was the amount allotted for irrigation works in Anantapur district for (1) minor, (2) major works and (3) for any investigation;

(b) what was the amount spent on each head;

(c) what, if any, are the works for which investigation was made and with what result, how many of them are tanks and how many channels; and

(d) what the amount is which has been included in the coming budget under each of the above three heads?

A.—(a) & (b) The allotment for the current year for minor works in charge of the Revenue department was Rs. 23,000 and the expenditure up to 30th September 1925, Rs. 18,531. Figures for minor works in charge of the Public Works Department are not available separately for the Anantapur district, as it is included in the Madanapalle and Bellary Public Works Divisions. The only work in Anantapur for which capital and revenue accounts are kept is the Yellanur tank. For that the maintenance allotment for the current year is Rs. 100.

(c) No investigation of new works is being made in the current year.

(d) The amount proposed for minor works in charge of the Revenue department in the Budget Estimate for 1926-27 is Rs. 51,350. For the Yellanur tank the usual maintenance allotment of Rs. 100 is proposed.

[Note.—An asterisk(*) at the commencement of a speech indicates revision by the Member.]

II**DISCUSSION ON CERTAIN CONSEQUENCES OF THE WALKING OUT OF THE MEMBERS OF THE OPPOSITION**

Rai Bahadur T. M. NARASIMHACHARLU:—"I have got one doubt. Some Members of this Council walked out the other day on the ground that they could not take part in the proceedings of this Council. I find that a number of questions have been entered against the names of those Members who have walked out of this Council. I wish to know, since their departure, whether they are supposed to be present in the Council or whether they have ceased to be members of this Council."

*The hon. the PRESIDENT:—"They have not ceased to be members of this Council, so their questions also have been printed. The hon. Member has been a Member of this Council for over four years and he ought to know that a question is entered in the Order Paper whether the Member who put that question is present or not."

Rai Bahadur T. M. NARASIMHACHARLU:—"Such a thing has not happened all these four years, and that is why I want to know whether their questions are entered as if they are present and as if they partake in the proceedings of this Council."

18th March 1926]

The hon. the PRESIDENT:—"They are still Members of this Council."

* Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR:—"Before we proceed further I may say one thing and that is this: if you will give us permission to move some of the motions notices of which have been given by Members not present here we shall be able to move them. You are aware of the circumstances under which this contingency has arisen in the Council and some of us did not give notice of some motions because we thought there were others who had given notice of similar motions and when they were moved we could speak upon them. I think it would be placing us at disadvantage if you absolutely refuse us permission to move such among those motions as we may desire to move, of course, with your permission. I think it is a matter entirely within your discretion, and if you are disposed to consider our requests as and when they are made, we shall be satisfied."

*The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR:—"As was very rightly pointed out by the hon. Member from Bellary, the matter is entirely within your discretion. But it appears to me that the request made by the hon. Member from Bellary cannot be complied with for many reasons. If it were the case that hon. Members who moved a cut in concert with others had made it perfectly evident that other members withheld notices of their motions because the former had given such notices, then Mr Ranganatha Mudaliyar's argument would have been valid. But as will be seen from these notices and as indeed the practice has been all these years, each Member selects certain items of budget on which he wishes to concentrate and in regard to which he wants a discussion raised, or wishes to go into greater detail, so that I submit he gives notices of these motions in his individual capacity. I think I am right in saying—I do not want to dogmatise on this topic—that so far as the practice which has hitherto been followed is concerned, that persons who did not make themselves responsible for particular cuts have not been allowed to move them. But if more than one person had given notices of motions dealing with the same topic under one grant in order to inaugurate a discussion upon that topic, then any one of the persons giving notices of such motions may be allowed to move them. That I think is the practice still followed and I submit it is a wholesome practice."

* The RAJA OF RAMNAD:—"May I ask for a piece of information? I wish to know if any of the hon. Members who have walked out of the Council did take part in the ballot in your office yesterday. I have been in the Council for the last ten years and I know that they can take part, but I only want to know whether they did take part."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT:—"With regard to the point raised by Mr. Ranganatha Mudaliyar, I think I may repeat what I observed on the first day of the budget discussion, namely, that these motions for reductions in the budget grant are not subject to the vagaries of the ballot box, and therefore only those who choose to send notices of motions for reduction have the right to move those motions. So, while I am prepared to consider applications for permission to move ordinary resolutions which are subject to the exigencies of the ballot box, I do not see how I can permit budget motions to be moved by hon. Members on behalf of Members who are absent."

* Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR:—"I do not want to claim the right on behalf of others. I should very much like to claim it on my own behalf

[Mr. A. Ranganatha Mudaliyar] [18th March 1926]

I think under the rules if a motion for a grant is made by the Government, any Member here may move a reduction to it at any time. Probably the Government may ask for notice, and it is open to you to excuse the prescribed notice."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT:—"That is a different matter altogether. Any motion which an hon. Member wants to move will be considered on its own merits. In the present case I think the hon. Member was speaking on behalf of members who are absent."

"With regard to the point raised by the Raja of Ramnad, I think the Members who have walked out of the Council still continue to be Members and as such they have the right to vote upon any matter that may come up before the Council."

* The RAJA OF RAMNAD:—"I did not say that they cannot take part. I only wanted to know whether they did take part in the ballot and whether that information was available in your office. I am not asking for information as to which candidate any Member gave his vote."

* The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR:—"I do not really follow the difficulty felt by the hon. Member the Raja of Ramnad. Albeit some of the Members of this Council have walked out of the Council they still continue to be Members of this Council, and as such they have every right to take part in the ballot. It may be that their action is quite in consonance with the sense of propriety or it may not be, but there is nothing to prevent them from taking part in the ballot that was held yesterday. In fact they may change their minds at any moment and attend the Council at any time."

* The RAJA OF RAMNAD:—"I did not say that they cannot take part. I merely asked you, Sir, to tell us whether as a matter of fact they did take part and whether your office could tell us whether they came and voted. Others may not know this but surely your office can tell us because they know each particular Member, and when a Member goes and puts his voting paper in the ballot box they can easily find out which of the hon. Members who walked out of the Council came and voted there. I fail to see how the hon. the Leader of the House said something which was not what I said."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT:—"The information asked for by the Raja of Ramnad must be available in the office and it can be elicited by an application to the office."

III

THE FINANCE COMMITTEE.

* The hon. Mr. T. E. MOIR:—"Sir, I beg to move that the Council do request the existing Members of the Finance Committee to continue in the exercise of their functions. As hon. Members are aware, the Finance Committee, although not like the Public Accounts Committee a Statutory Committee of this House, has a majority of Members elected by the House. There are six elected Members and three nominated Members. The main function of this Committee is to scrutinize all proposals for new expenditure and, as the Council is aware, such proposals arise mainly in connection with the budget of each year when the Finance Committee has a large volume of business to get through. That task has been accomplished, so far as the budget now before the House is concerned. There will be only one

18th March 1926]

[Mr. T. E. Moir]

more meeting of the present Council before the election takes place and it is probable that in connexion with that meeting there will be at most one or two items to place before the Finance Committee. Following, therefore, the precedent of 1923 when the then Finance Member moved an exactly similar motion, and on the same grounds I submit this motion to the House. The sole object is to enable the Council, if it so desires, to refrain from going through the formalities of an election to very little purpose.

"I have, of course not consulted my hon. Colleagues on that Committee but I trust that, if the Council accepts this motion, they will consent to continue their services. 11-30 p.m.

"The Public Accounts Committee is to be appointed after the opening of the financial year and its work commences with the Audit and Appropriation Reports which are generally available only towards the end of the calendar year. The appointment of that Committee may, therefore, well wait until the new Council meets after the general election. For the information of hon. Members I may say that the present constitution of the Finance Committee is as follows:—

"The elected Members are

Mr. C. Ramalinga Reddi,
Mr. P. N. Marthandam Pillai,
Mr. K. Prabhakaran Tampan,
Mr. Ghouse Mian Sahib,
Mr. Muhammad Moosa Sait and
Khan Bahadur P. Khalif-ul-lah Sahib Bahadur.

"The nominated Members are Diwan Bahadur K. Suryanarayanamurti Nayudu, Mr. Boag and myself."

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR:—"I second it."

* The RAJA OF RAMNAD:—"As one of the Members of the Committee, Mr. Ramalinga Reddi has accepted an office under the Government, he cannot function any longer as a Member of this Council and consequently of the Finance Committee."

The hon. the PRESIDENT:—"Not an office under the Crown?"

* The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR:—"Sir, that is a matter which requires much more elucidation. But speaking on the spur of the moment, I venture to doubt whether a person appointed under a statue like the University Act is necessarily a servant of the Crown. I do not want to express an opinion definitely now; the constituted legal advisors of the Government will have to look into the matter carefully. Now that the question is raised, I shall if necessary, look into the matter."

* The RAJA OF RAMNAD:—"Yes, Sir, that requires further consideration. As regards the statement made by the hon. the Finance Member that exactly a similar motion was made by Sir Charles Todhunter three years ago for extending the term of the Finance Committee, my own recollection is that it was done for a different purpose altogether. At that time the Finance Committee itself had to attend to the Retrenchment proposals and I remember Sir Charles Todhunter saying that it would create a great confusion if that Finance Committee was not allowed to continue and finish their labours. It was for that purpose that Sir Charles Todhunter made that proposal. I fail to see the difficulty in getting another set of Members elected; because

[The Raja of Ramnad]

[18th March 1926]

whether the old Members continue or new Members are elected all of them must vacate their seats when the Council is dissolved. I am not very particular whether the old Members continue to act or the new Members come in. I am not going to be one of the aspirants for a seat on the Committee. All the same, I think that no case has been made out for departing from the established rule. I do not oppose the motion; but I request the hon. Finance Member to reconsider the matter before he asks us to agree to the proposal."

* The hon. Mr. T. E. MOIR :—"Sir, if I move this resolution to-day it is only to avoid a certain amount of perhaps unnecessary trouble. I thought that the Council would not wish to go through the usual formalities. As regards the grounds on which a similar motion was made in March 1923, perhaps, I might quote the words of Sir Charles Todhunter. He said

"As regards the Finance Committee there is no reason why we should not elect the Committee as usual, and I am quite ready to make a motion to that effect, if such is the wish of the House."

"My attitude also is exactly the same to-day. But he added

"It seems to be hardly worth while to do so since the amount of work that is likely to fall to be done before the election is very small."

"As regards the Retrenchment Committee which at that time happened to be the Finance Committee he merely stated

"Meanwhile I observe from questions received that hon. Members are beginning to be very critical of expenditure on committees and if we continue the Retrenchment Committee, we shall be acting in the interests of economy if we ask the same committee to deal with any questions requiring reference to the Finance Committee that arise between now and the elections."

"There is no longer a Retrenchment Committee now; but the position in respect of the Finance Committee is, I think as hon. Members will realise from the passage which I have cited, exactly the same to-day as it was when Sir Charles Todhunter moved that resolution three years ago. But, of course, if the House prefers to go through the formalities to elect a new Finance Committee, neither I nor any of my hon. Colleagues have any objection of any kind whatsoever."

* Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—"Sir, I agree with the hon. the Finance Member that the trouble is hardly worth while taking. But some provision may have to be made to fill up the vacancies caused by such of the Members of the Committee as have refused to take part in the work of the Council and walked out. But even in their case, I doubt whether anything need be done as they have reserved to themselves the right to return at any time."

* The hon. Mr. T. E. MOIR :—"I do not think there is any such Member on the Committee, Sir. I shall read the names of the Members again for the information of the House." (Read the list again.)

Diwan Bahadur M. KRISHNAN NAYAR :—"Sir, I do not wish to oppose the motion; I am entirely in favour of it. With regard to the membership of Mr. Ramalinga Reddi, the hon. the Law Member said that he would examine the question. There is a technical difficulty. We do not know what the result of the examination will be. In order to avoid any such difficulties, can we not appoint another Member in his place? I put this question for the consideration of my hon. Friends."

[18th March 1926]

* The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—"Sir, I think I must make the position clear. I have had similar questions to deal with. Speaking off hand I may say that it is my opinion that Mr. Ramalinga Reddi does not forfeit his seat in the Council on account of his accepting the Vice-Chancellorship of the Andhra University. Not being the constituted legal adviser to the Government, I do not want, naturally, to give any final opinion in the matter. But there is another aspect of the matter which the House might consider. This Finance Committee will perhaps be called upon to function only in connection with one or two demands for additional grants or supplemental grants. It may sit for a day or two days and it is hardly worth while going through the formalities of an election."

Diwan Bahadur M. KRISHNAN NAYAR :—"I do not object to the resolution, Sir."

The question that the existing members of the Finance Committee do continue in the exercise of their functions, was put to the House and carried.

IV

MOTIONS ON THE BUDGET FOR 1926-27.

DEMAND IV—FORESTS—cont.

* Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—"Sir, I beg to move

'that the allotment of Rs. 1,77,600 for pay of officers be reduced by Rs. 100.'

"I wish to draw the attention of the House to the large increase in the expenditure on the various departments. The hon. the Home Member has not endeavoured to enlighten us as to the grounds of this increase. Turning to page 71 of the Civil Budget Estimate, I find that under District Establishments there is an increase from Rs. 3,67,400 to Rs. 3,73,100 in the non-voted allotment as compared with the revised estimate for 1925-26. Under the head of Regeneration again we find that the allotments have correspondingly increased from Rs. 52,900 and Rs. 61,000 to Rs. 76,800 and Rs. 83,500, respectively. The establishments in the superior and the non-voted services are gradually increasing. In page 72 we find again that there is some increase in the Deputy and Assistant Conservators, some decrease in the Rangers and the Conservators. In page 74 we find that there is a special Conservator for the work of regeneration. Under this head there is also an increase of five Deputy and Assistant Conservators. I want to know what is this regeneration. Was this not done in the past?"

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—"I think the hon. Member will have an opportunity of discussing regeneration at a later stage as he has given notice of a motion on the subject."

* Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—"I would just anticipate that point in order to draw the attention of the House to the excessive increase of the establishments in spite of the assurance given by the hon. the Home Member to my hon. Friend Mr. Ranganatha Mudaliyar that these forests will be handed over to the panchayats. The system of forest exploitation itself is of doubtful utility and I shall have occasion later on to speak on it. Regeneration is an old system at least so far as South Kanara is concerned. It is carried on by the

[Mr. J. A. Saldanha]

[18th March 1926]

District Forest officers with whose work I have been acquainted. They pay as much time to regeneration as to conservancy. When such is the case I want to know the reason why there should be an additional conservator and some more deputy and assistant conservators for this work of regeneration.

11-45 a.m. "There is a rumour in South Kanara that there is a proposal to appoint another District Forest officer. There are already two District Forest officers, one for North Mangalore and another for South Mangalore. My impression is—it is based to a great extent upon a careful watch of the work done by the officers—that two District Forest officers are too many for our district. One would be quite enough. We hear now that another officer is going to be added. The attention of the House will kindly be drawn by the hon. Member in charge as to how the establishment of the District Forest officers is to be settled for the next year, whether there will be an increase or not and if there is an increase, on what grounds it will be justified. We want to know the grounds for extraordinary expenditure on the department instead of a decrease of expenditure in view of the fact that the forest panchayat system is to be introduced. A large number of forests are going out of the control of the Forest department. The hon. Member in charge of the department has held out an assurance that on account of the forest panchayat system, there will be considerable decrease in the number of highly-paid technical men employed in the Forest department. I want to know how this assurance is going to be fulfilled and when. I think that the introduction of the forest panchayat system is based on no proper and carefully drawn-up rules. In the answer to a question of my hon. Friend to my right (Mr. Ranganatha Mudaliyar), the Government have not stated what those rules will be."

* The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—"If the hon. Member objects to my assurance I withdraw the promise made by me yesterday and would leave things as they are."

* Mr. J. A. SALDANHA:—"What we want is that things should be done with a definite plan. What are the rules by which the forests are to be transferred to the management of the forest panchayats? There is no definite set of rules. Draft rules should be drawn up in the Secretariat with the aid of the Forest officers. When a large number of forests are to be handed over to the forest panchayats which will work under the control of the Revenue department, we should expect and the public would expect that a draft scheme should be placed before them. The hon. the Home Member has not taken this House into his confidence as to the system under which the forest panchayats will be created and how it will decrease expenditure. It is a source of great disappointment that there is an increase of expenditure under Forests, instead of a decrease."

"So far as the regeneration system is concerned, it is an old system under a new name. We expect a reduction of expenditure in the coming year as we have the assurance that the forest panchayat system will be carried out in its completion. I think that the hon. Member has got in his sleeves a number of arguments in support of his policy. What I am always objecting to is the manner in which the Government approach this Council. When we read Parliamentary proceedings we are accustomed to see what are called the Finance budget statements by eminent and distinguished statesmen

18th March 1926]

[Mr. J. A. Saldanha]

the Chancellors of the Exchequer in England. We are accustomed to the elucidation of the policy on which the budget is based. We had the lucid explanation of the hon. the Finance Member. It is one which an able Accountant-General could have given. We expect the hon. the Finance Member or other hon. Members who are in charge of the departments to elucidate the principle . . ."

* The hon. Mr. T. E. MOIR:—"Might I point out that at the end of my budget speech I extended an invitation to all hon. Members of the Council that if there was any point in the budget which they were unable to comprehend or understand, I and Mr. Boag were at their service to give them the fullest information? The hon. Member Mr. Saldanha is evidently labouring under many misapprehensions and difficulties as regards the Forest budget. I am exceedingly sorry that he did not respond to my invitation."

* Mr. J. A. SALDANHA:—"That is just the manner of asking us to approach the hon. the Finance Member or the Finance Department that I object to. We ought to be enlightened within the Council and not by seeing the Finance Secretary or the Finance Member. Would Mr. Gladstone have asked the hon. Members of the Parliament to come to his room to elucidate the budget? The Parliament would expect the Ministers to come forward on the floor of the House with a complete elucidation of the principles on which the change of policy or of figures is based. Why should we labour under any misapprehensions? What we expect is that we should not be placed under any misapprehensions and that we should be enlightened. The whole policy of this particular department is enigmatical and unintelligible. When the Forest department is changing its policy from time to time we expect that the hon. Member will enlighten us. We are not experts in forest matters. It is just for that reason I say that it is the duty of the hon. the Home Member to take us into his confidence. It is not for us to go and batter at his doors. I am very thankful to the hon. the Finance Member for his assurance that explanatory reasons will be given when supplementary grants are moved."

* The hon. Mr. T. E. MOIR:—"My offer still stands, Sir."

* Mr. J. A. SALDANHA:—"But in this case we ourselves have been searching the Finance Statement . . ."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT:—"The hon. Member might have gone to the hon. the Finance Member or the Finance Secretary."

* Mr. J. A. SALDANHA:—"I do not want to do that. We have no time. Moreover we cannot disturb hon. Members when they have to attend to so many other matters. The hon. the Finance Member and the Finance Secretary are the busiest officers in the Secretariat unless the hon. the Revenue Member claims that honour. Having regard to these facts, we cannot be expected to go to their rooms and find out things. It is the bounden duty of the department to place before us the facts and the principles which underlie the increase or decrease of establishments, etc."

* The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—"I have listened to my hon. Friend carefully. He has not thrown any light by his criticisms. He attacked the Forest department, and said that the Forest department would not take him into confidence. My hon. Colleague has extended an invitation to the whole House. He said that he would take the hon. Members into his confidence and supply the information they wanted."

[Mr. Muhammad Usman Sahib] [18th March 1926]

The hon. Member (Mr. Saldanha) is now criticising my hon. Colleague for this. I cannot understand my hon. Friend's mind this morning. He has said 'what is the use of the Forest department,' 'what is the use of exploitation, why do you want' . . . ?"

* Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—"I did not say what was the use of the Forest department. I want an explanation of the figures, whether there is increase or decrease and what it is due to; what does regeneration mean?"

* The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—"He asked us 'why do you want so many officers and so much establishment'. All these are questions which I am not prepared to answer here. My hon. Friend showed great ignorance when he said that the forest panchayats are working without any rules whatever. Surely, my hon. Friend would have seen G.O. No. 393, dated 28th February 1924, in which rules have been laid down by the Government. There is no use of passing criticisms without studying the papers on the subject. My hon. Friend said so many things, but I am not able to understand them at all. I can reply to one or two points which he raised.

"With regard to the Conservators, I may say that in the year 1921 their number was raised from four to six. But in the year 1925 the whole question was examined and one Conservator's post with his office establishment was abolished. Now we have only five Conservators.

"With regard to the question of regrouping of divisions, I have given an assurance that when the forest panchayat system is extended, we expect to save about a sum of one lakh of rupees. When that system is completed, the question of regrouping will be considered. At present we cannot reduce the number of superior officers of the department.

"With regard to the question as to why there is an increase under the non-votable item, I may say that the increase is due to the fact that, in accordance with the recommendations of the Lee Commission, the Secretary of State has re-appointed some officers to the higher grades. Therefore their pay is non-votable. Provision for four such officers has been included under the non-votable expenditure.

"My hon. Friend raised the question of the undesirability of appointing another Forest officer to South Kanara. I shall consider the question when the proposals come up before the Government.

"At the present moment I am unable to give any assurance to the House with regard to the reduction in the number of superior officers because the time is not come for regrouping the divisions. That question will be considered later on."

* Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—"I wish to point out that there is not only an increase in the number of Conservators but also in the number of Deputy and Assistant Conservators from one to six in the budget estimate for 1925-26. These conservators—I think it is better to call them regenerators instead of conservators—I think it is a misnomer . . ."

* The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—"This is another question which will be discussed later on. If he waits for some time, he will get the information on the matter."

* Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—"I am not going to press this motion, Sir."

The motion was, by leave of the House, withdrawn.

18th March 1926]

* Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—"I wanted to move the reduction of Rs. 14,94,200 for pay of establishments by Rs. 100 to urge the appointment of panchayat deputy tahsildars from rangers."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—"We have already passed beyond that item."

* Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—"I thought, Sir, my Friend Mr. Saldanha was speaking on motion No. 181 on the paper. I thought I could urge the consideration of the question raised in motion No. 182 on my own behalf."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—"Mr. Saldanha may finish the other resolution of which he has given notice."

* Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—"Sir, I move that

'the allotment of Rs. 14,94,200 for pay of establishments be reduced by Rs. 100.'

"I wish to press for the improvement of status and salary of rangers. I have already drawn the attention of the House to the fact that the number of forest rangers is proposed to be reduced from 198 to 173 and foresters from 685 to 637. It seems to me, Sir, that what we want is not so many conservators and District Forest Officers in the districts but we want more rangers. The work of the rangers is always very hard; especially in South Kanara it is beset with great impediments and dangers to life by wild animals of all sorts. We have another danger in that our forests are frequented now by elephants which did not exist before in the hills of our district. Now, considering all these dangers and discomforts to which the forest rangers are subjected, I would urge, Sir, that the number should not have been decreased. Secondly, I would urge that the pay of these officers should be increased, or that the daily allowance, travelling and other allowances that are now given to them should be increased in order to provide them with such necessities of life as are so greatly important in the South Kanara district. One who has to lead the life of a ranger has to live within his range in the jungles all through day and night. A District Conservator of Forests goes round the district with all comforts of life—most of them come and go in motor cars—and stay there for a day or two in excellent bungalows—and the Forest Department bungalows are very well known for their excellence and comforts. All these comforts are denied to the poor rangers. I therefore urge that more attention should be paid to this matter."

* The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—"Sir, I do not think my hon. Friend has made out any case for the revision of the salary of these rangers. He simply said that these rangers reside in jungles; and so more pay should be given to them. He has not however adduced any reason for his argument. Before 1921 these forest rangers were getting up to Rs. 200. I should like to mention the various grades—

	Rs.		Rs.
First grade	200	Fifth grade	100
Second grade	175	Sixth grade	80
Third grade	150	Seventh grade	60
Fourth grade	125		

[Mr. Muhammad Usman Sahib] [18th March 1926]

"In 1921 the following revised scale came into force:—

	RS.		RS.
First grade	225	Fifth grade	125
Second grade	200	Sixth grade	100
Third grade	175	Seventh grade	80
Fourth grade	150		

"As far as I can see, there is no point in the hon. Member's argument. There has been no discontent among the rangers. Whenever they are posted to unhealthy localities, they get some special allowance. Therefore, they are thoroughly satisfied. If my Friend says that there are unhealthy places in his district, I am sure the rangers will be given some kind of special allowance for living in unhealthy localities. Therefore, Sir, I do not see any reason why the Government should undertake to revise their salaries now."

* Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—"Sir, there was a memorial from these forest rangers a year or two ago. A copy of it was placed in my hands, but I am sorry it is not here. I do not know how far that memorial was responded to. However that is not a point, I think, on which I should say anything more, as the hon. the Home Member has promised that the South Kanara rangers will be treated with some consideration."

* The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—"Sir, I never promised that they would be shown special consideration. I said that if South Kanara is really an unhealthy place, naturally the rangers there will get a special allowance."

The motion was, by leave of the House, withdrawn.

* Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—"Sir, in moving for the reduction of the allotment of Rs. 14,94,200 for pay of establishments by Rs. 100, I beg to urge on the consideration of the Government . . ."

* The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—"We have already come to Motion No. 183. I do not know on whose behalf the hon. Member is moving it."

* Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—"I am doing it on my own behalf, with the permission of the hon. the President."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—"The hon. Member applied to me for permission to move this motion, and I asked him to request the hon. the Home Member whether he would be willing to waive notice."

* Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—"Instead of Rs. 50,000, I thought my purpose would be served by moving a token motion for reduction by Rs. 100. My reason is this: I want the Government to consider the desirability of recruiting for the office of deputy tahsildars a few people from among the class of rangers. I know, Sir, that objection might be raised on the ground that these rangers have been so long associated with the Forest department which was very unpopular with the people and that any person recruited from that department would make the system itself unpopular. Sir, if the people objected to the forest rangers, they did not object so much to the rangers as to the system under which they were then working. Now the system itself has been changed and we are allowing all these forests to be managed by panchayats and we want to appoint some officers to form panchayats and to advise the panchayats as to how these forests

[18th March 1926] [Mr. A. Ranganatha Mudaliyar]

"should be managed and how and at what time they should plant trees or take the necessary measures for improving the forests. Surely, Sir, some knowledge of the forests and of the working of the forests would be very desirable in the case of these officers. I do not say that the deputy tahsildars should necessarily be forest rangers, but I do want that Government should remove the ban which they seem to have now imposed, namely, that no forest ranger, however honest, good and efficient, will be eligible for appointment as a deputy tahsildar. I think justice requires that these people, many of whom may be thrown out of employment, if good and desirable, should be absorbed in the new staff created. It was with that idea, Sir, that I have taken leave of you and the hon. the Home Member to move this motion."

* The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—"Sir, this question was considered by Government on more than one occasion and Government came to the conclusion that it was better, in the interests of the forest panchayats, that these officers should be taken from the Revenue department. This question was also placed before the Forest Advisory Committee and they came to the same conclusion. Further, the Collector, were also consulted and they also said that it is better, in the interests of the panchayats, that officers belonging to the Revenue department who are in touch with the people should be appointed."

Mr. A. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—"May I know, Sir, when the Forest Advisory Committee was consulted on this matter?"

* The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—"I am not able to give the date now, Sir."

Diwan Bahadur M. KRISHNAN NAYAR :—"I am a Member, Sir, of the Forest Advisory Committee. I may be mistaken, but I do not remember to have been consulted on this matter. I speak subject to correction. My friend Mr. Ramaswami Mudaliyar is a Member of that Committee, as also my friend Mr. Ranganatha Mudaliyar. I do not know if they were consulted . . ."

* The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—"Sir, I learn that in 1921 the question was considered by the Forest Advisory Committee."

Mr. A. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—"Mr. President, I should request the hon. the Home Member to reconsider his decision with reference to the advisability of appointing an officer from the Forest department as a special officer for forest panchayats. Last year, Sir, I raised this question in the course of a debate and the then Secretary of the Development department, Mr. Bracken, suggested that I might place the matter before the department. I remember to have written a letter both to the Chief Conservator of Forests and to the Development Secretary to consider the advisability of having a forest official who knows himself how to manage forests, how village panchayats could manage these forests, to be a forest officer and to associate as far as possible in the management of these forest panchayats members of the forest service itself, so that they may know better what to do with respect to these matters. I say that this is a very ancient opinion of the Forest Advisory Committee. The personnel has considerably changed since then, but I am not so much depending upon the personnel as upon the

[Mr. A. Ramaswami Mudaliyar] [18th March 1926]

fact that the system of forest panchayats was not then working. In 1921, it was quite a *tabula rasa* and the Forest Advisory Committee, I am sure, had not the materials that we have now before us for coming to a decision in this matter. I am fairly certain that the opinion of the Forest Advisory Committee will be different if it were to be consulted at this time of the day. I would only suggest to the hon. the Home Member—I do not want him to make up his mind immediately, because he cannot do so—that the question does require reconsideration, and in any case that the present Forest Advisory Committee's opinion may be taken in this matter. As regards the special officer, it is better to take forest officers themselves as far as possible in connexion with this work, and I am sure the Chief Conservator of Forests as the head of the department cannot possibly object to his own officers, members of his service, being associated with this work, and I am also sure that the Revenue department is not over-anxious that its officers should be taken to that sort of work. I do not see any conflict of jurisdiction or opinion from either department, and, so far as I can see, non-official opinion in this matter—I have consulted some of my friends and have ascertained the opinion of others—is enormously in favour of having forest officers associated with this work.”

* Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—“ Sir, I am sorry that the discussion has taken a range wider than that which was intended by me. I urged, Sir, that some of the deputy tahsildars' appointments may be given to some of the rangers. I did not raise the question of the appointment of the forest officer who is a presidency officer and guides the entire policy, under the general control of the Chief Conservator of Forests. That is a bigger question, and I am not going into it. I am sure that on that point opinions are bound to differ, and I, for my part, would not agree to that question being mixed up with the appointment of these forest rangers. When the Government are laying down a policy, I do not see why they should not employ forest rangers to carry out that policy. I shall be perfectly willing, if, as suggested by the hon. Member for Chingleput, this question of appointing deputy tahsildars from among rangers is sent up to the Forest Advisory Committee for consideration and if the hon. the Home Member will consult them and take their recommendation and do whatever he thinks proper in this matter.”

* The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—“ Sir, all that I want to say is this. Government have to appoint a second panchayat officer. Government have already passed orders that the second officer should be recruited from the Revenue department. After the remarks made by my hon. Friend, I would like to tell him that I am prepared to consider the question when the next vacancy arises and do what I can. I may state that our object is to get the best man for the office, and if the hon. Member thinks that from the Forest department we can get proper men, I shall certainly consider the question. Of course, that would not apply to the appointment already sanctioned.”

The motion was, by leave of the House, withdrawn.

Diwan Bahadur M. KRISHNAN NAYAR :—“ I move, Sir,

‘that the allotment of Rs. 21,22,000 for district establishments be reduced by Rs. 100.’”

[18th March 1926]

* The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—“ Sir, on a point of order. I thought this question had already been discussed. I thought it was the same as motion No. 169 on the agenda.”

Diwan Bahadur M. KRISHNAN NAYAR :—“ As a matter of fact, when the discussion on this subject was going on, I considered this point and I thought that I had a right to move this motion.”

“ My hon. Friend, the hon. the Home Member, is probably referring to motion No. 181 on the notice paper. That, Sir, relates to the subordinate forest officers in general, while this motion is a special one confined to Conservators. And in any case, whether I have the right or not, I have your permission, Sir, to move it. I therefore move

‘that the allotment of Rs. 21,22,000 for district establishments be reduced by Rs. 100.’

“ My object is to suggest the desirability of reducing the number of Conservators. Till 1921, there were only four Conservators. The number was subsequently raised to six. After the report of the Retrenchment Committee the strength was reduced by one, so that the number of Conservators at present is five. This question has been before the Council on many previous occasions and arguments have been urged over and over again to show that these Conservators serve practically no useful purpose in the department. They serve as a sort of post office or as conduit pipes through which information to and from the Government passes. Therefore, I think it is not necessary to have these officers at all. At the top there is the Chief Conservator and below the Conservators at present there is a large number of Deputy and Assistant Conservators who are highly paid expert officers, clever persons who had special training, some of them in England and some in India, and they are perfectly competent to discharge the duties connected with the offices. So that there is no need whatsoever for them to send the communications through the Conservators to the Chief Conservator and there is no need again for the Chief Conservator to send his orders and opinions to these competent men, the Deputy and Assistant Conservators through the Conservators. I do not go so far as to suggest that all these Conservators may at once be abolished. It will take time and what I now urge upon the Government is to continue the policy which they themselves adopted of reducing the number of Conservators. Last year, they reduced the number by one and this year they may reduce it by another. Even then we would be having four Conservators, the strength as it was five years ago. My object therefore in making this motion is to urge the reduction in the number of Conservators at least by one.”

* The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—“ Sir, I am glad that my hon. Friend has said that the object of his motion is not to see that the reduction takes place immediately but that the Government should remember the request contained in the motion.”

Diwan Bahadur M. KRISHNAN NAYAR :—“ I am afraid that my hon. Friend has misunderstood me. What I said was that I did not at once want the abolition of all these offices but that I wanted a reduction of the number at least by one.”

* The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—“ I am sorry, Sir, I am unable to give any such promise. At the present moment we have got five Conservators for five circles. And the question will be

[Mr. Muhammad Usman Sahib] [18th March 1926]

examined only when, as I have said, the panchayat system is completed and the regrouping of divisions is to be considered. That is the time when we shall examine the number of Conservators necessary and until then, I am sorry I am unable to give any undertaking."

* Mr. K. PRABHAKARAN TAMPAN :—" May I know when that time will come ? "

* The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—" We hope to complete the system of panchayat management before the end of the year and I think it will not be long before this question will be taken into consideration."

Diwan Bahadur M. KRISHNAN NAYAR :—" Having regard to this statement from the hon. the Home Member that the question will be considered before the expiry of the year, I do not want to press this motion. But I wish to give the hon. Member a fair warning that if the question remains unsolved before the next budget, the motion will crop up again."

* The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—" I have only said, Sir, that the question will be examined before the end of the year."

The motion was by leave withdrawn.

* Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—" Sir, I move

'that the allotment of Rs. 15,000 for pay of officers for Regeneration be omitted.'

" Sir, there is a suspicion in the minds of many that what the Government have been doing is to create a new department out of an old one with a new name. This department did not exist before the 1925-26 budget. By reducing the Conservators department they have created a Regeneration staff, shifted one Conservator to this new work and added considerably to the establishment. That is a point on which we should like to be enlightened. I should like to know if regeneration is a thing different from conservation. I do not think that it is at all distinct for when a ranger or a conservator goes to a forest he looks not only to conservation but also to regeneration of the forest. Conservation requires regeneration and both go side by side. I want to know what these officers are going to do. Does it mean that one officer goes to the forests to see that they are conserved and another to see to the regeneration, to the cultivation and nurseries in the forests. These things ought to be and can be, I think, done by one officer. It is with that idea that I move for this omission."

* Mr. V. PANDRANG ROW :—" Perhaps I may explain to the hon. Member, Sir, that regeneration means working plans and the whole money shown under this head is for the working plans circle."

* Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—" That again requires explanation, Sir. What does 'working plans' mean ? "

* Mr. V. PANDRANG ROW :—" I am quite ready to explain, Sir. A working plan is a written arrangement sanctioned by a proper authority for the systematic treatment of a forest the object being to work the forest in an orderly, useful and economic manner."

* Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—" Sir, I wish to ask whether or not the Conservators of the ordinary staff were attending to this work. For aught I know, both these functions were looked after by the ordinary establishment."

18th March 1926]

* Mr. V. PANDRANG ROW :—" The work used to be done before by the ordinary establishment but it was found to have been done badly. And the Chief Conservator was of opinion that unless a new circle is formed with a Conservator in charge and a regular establishment is made to work under him, the work could not be done properly."

* Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—" What is objectionable is the creation of a number of departments where the same officers were doing the work formerly. It is only throwing dust into our eyes by saying that there is a reduction in the strength and at the same time have a new department with the officer under a changed name. The officer is now called an officer for regeneration or working plans. I do not know the reason why the present Conservators of Forests and the District Forest Officers who are doing their work very carefully and the rangers under them could not be made to do this work more efficiently. I think this is a matter for a good deal of suspicion to us that the Government are only maintaining the old state of things and encouraging the department to divide work which used to be concentrated in the same hands."

* Mr. K. PRABHAKARAN TAMPAN :—" Sir, I have given notice of a similar motion which comes a little further down in the list. With your permission, Sir, I shall speak now. I do not want to move for the omission of the total allotment for this grant. I shall confine myself to the item under discussion. I also believe, with my hon. Friend, Mr. Saldanha, that regeneration work can be done by the ordinary establishment, instead of a special Conservator with five or six Assistant Conservators specially employed for the purpose. I believe if a ranger or any subordinate officer is specially deputed in each circle for the purpose, the work could be carried on very satisfactorily. Considering the promise which the hon. Member in charge has given us that the whole question will be looked into in the near future, I do not want to press my motion, but I would request the hon. Member that this aspect of the question should receive due consideration at his hands at the time when he examines what retrenchment can be effected in the service."

* The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—" Sir, the provision of Rs. 83,500 represents the whole expenditure under regeneration of which Rs. 15,000 represents the pay of officers—voted. The provision for regeneration includes the provision for research and working plans. The increased provision made for the next year is due to the fact that working plans scheme was sanctioned only in 1925 as we were not satisfied that the special work could be done by the ordinary District Forest Officers. Accordingly a working plans circle was formed with a Conservator. A majority of the working plans already prepared left much to be desired on account of the absence of check over their work. On the recommendation therefore of the Chief Conservator the new circle has been constituted with a Conservator of Forests who has under him four All-India Service officers, four Provincial officers and 10 rangers. It was only in 1925 that the circle was sanctioned and it is now too early to say whether it has justified its existence or not."

Diwan Bahadur M. KRISHNAN NAYAR :—" I did not want to take part in the discussion on this motion. But after hearing my hon. Friend, the Home Member, I think it is necessary that I should say one word. I do not think, Sir, that any special circle or any special officer is necessary for

[Mr. M. Krishnan Nayar]

[18th March 1926]

preparing the working plans. Travancore, I may say, contains forests which are not nominal forests, but dense jungles, part of the Western Ghats. And there are immense possibilities there and the working plans are prepared there by the ordinary forest staff. It seems to me—and my hon. Friend has himself said—that this is a new experiment and it is only recently that the special officers were appointed. Working plans, I think, should be prepared by the ordinary staff. I may explain that 'working plans' briefly means this. A special area is taken, a number of trees is to be cut from that area and in order to replace these trees new trees are to be planted. That is briefly the object of the working plans. And for that, I do not think that a special staff is necessary. But if the hon. Mover of the motion is willing to withdraw, I shall not stand in the way."

* Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—"Considering the strength of public opinion on this point, if the work of regeneration had been done imperfectly in the past, the officers ought to have been told that they had not done their duty well and that is not a sufficient ground for creating a new department. If the ranger, the District Forest Officer and the Conservator neglected their duty in the past, we should not pamper them by the creation of a new department and taking the work from them. The Government ought to have reduced the pay of the officers or punished them in some other way."

"There is a strong suspicion in the public mind that this Forest Department is only continuing its old dodges of keeping up unnecessary establishments and creating new establishments without any need. And having regard to the fact that the explanation on this point is not very satisfactory, I regret that I must press this motion to a division."

* The hon. Mr. T. E. MOIR :—"Sir, I hoped that the hon. Mover of this resolution would have accepted what seemed to be the very reasonable suggestion of my hon. Friend from Malabar that in view of what has been stated it is unnecessary to press this resolution to a division. Of course, it is very difficult to reply to or deal with the arguments of an hon. Member of this House to whom the Forest Department is merely a collection of officials who spend their time in perpetrating jobs or inventing dodges in order that extravagant and unnecessary burdens may be placed upon the public purse. Now, the Forest Department,—I am sure it does not complain on that account—has always been subjected to attack and to very rigorous scrutiny at the hands of this Council and its predecessors even before the Reforms. And I am perfectly certain that the last thing that the Forest Department or those who are responsible for it desire to do is by unnecessary proposals, or what my hon. Friend refers to as dodges, to accentuate that critical spirit with which, as I have said, this Council quite rightly views a department to which very important interests both economic and financial are entrusted. But I might, with your permission, Sir, explain to the Council why it is that these new measures and this new grouping of the activities of the Forest Department under different heads are necessary and why it is that these heads such as regeneration and exploitation have been introduced in this budget? It is not, as the hon. Member from South Kanara suggests, because Government want to conceal old offences under new terms, but because it does wish in the form of this budget to call the attention of this Council to the fact that there are very important and new developments going on in its organization and that these developments are

[Mr. T. E. Moir]

[18th March 1926]

for a definite and specific purpose. Every Member of this House is aware, and the budget we are discussing to-day shows it, that our financial position is by no means as satisfactory as we should like. We have therefore to look round and see what assets we have that are capable of development, and undoubtedly one of those assets is our forest resources. But if those resources—and the hon. Member from South Kanara is aware from his knowledge of his own district how great they are—are to be developed properly and in the most economical manner, it is essential that we should know exactly what we are going to do. It is no use turning our officers or engineers loose into our forests and telling them 'Go and make revenue out of our forests'. We have in different departments and I dare say in the Forest Department itself much experience in the past of the inevitable results of such unscientific methods of procedure. What is necessary is that first a selection should be made of those areas in which, as far as our information goes on all points bearing on the subject, exploitation is most likely to be profitable. Having selected these areas, it is essential that before we spend money on men, on plans, on roads and on buildings, that we should have a very clear idea as to whether it is going to be, commercially speaking, a paying proposition. It is in order to establish this very point that the working plan circle and its officers are employed. Personally, I may say that should proposals for setting up mills, constructing roads and all the various items necessary for exploitation be sent up to me in the Finance Department, and if I found that the question as to whether it was going to be a paying proposition or not had not been thoroughly examined, I would have no option but to turn them down, and I think that every Member of the House would agree with me that I would be justified in doing so. I hope that hon. Members will agree with me when I say that working plans are an essential part of any programme for the development and exploitation of our forests. It seems to me that the only issue which really arises is whether such plans should be made by the ordinary rangers or the district forest officers in the midst of their various other duties or should be entrusted to a special staff. As far as I am concerned, it seems to me that there can be only one answer to that question, that if you want an important work of this kind properly done it ought to be entrusted to men who give their whole time to it and who would thereby become familiarized with all those problems which must arise in the working out of any plan for the exploitation of the forest areas. There may be differences of opinion on that point, but that is the object with which this working plan circle has been created. The hon. Member from South Kanara is perfectly entitled to hold other views, but I think it is a pity that he should, without any consideration of the real facts of the case, accuse the department that those who are in charge of its administration have adopted a policy of this kind to serve some under-hand or illegitimate purpose which they wish to conceal. If they had wished to conceal anything, there need have been no reference to regeneration or exploitation in this budget. They could have resorted to any other form of presentation which would in no way distinguish between the various activities of the Forest Department."

* Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—"Sir, after the clear explanation that has been given, I beg leave to withdraw the motion."

The motion was by leave withdrawn.

[18th March 1926]

* Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—" Sir, I move

'that the allotment of Rs. 59,400 for pay of officers under "Exploitation" be omitted.'

"Exploitation is a subject which has been very carefully elucidated by the Chief Conservator of Forests and other officials in a number of pamphlets and reports published, and I believe that articles have also been published at various times. I for one would strongly support the movement in the direction of the exploitation of our forests, especially on the west coast, but the question has been raised as to whether out of the several agencies, the private agencies could be entrusted with the work. The private agencies will be glad to undertake this exploitation themselves provided the Government do certain things which are preliminary and which are necessary for the exploitation. The other day an appeal was made by more than one Member, and I believe my hon. Friend Mr. Wood appealed to the Government to encourage private agencies for working the industries of this country. And here is a forest industry which could, I think, be entrusted to private agencies. The point was discussed at some length when a supplementary grant was asked for in regard to the saw mill at Beypore. Strong feeling was aroused at Calicut and other places against this expenditure of the Government in having a saw mill of their own where private agencies could establish and work saw mills. There are firms and individuals who can start saw mills also in South Kanara. The forests in South Kanara are much in excess and are extensive and if the Government does the preliminary work necessary, in constructing roads up to the edge of these forests, and provide such facilities, I am sure they can be relieved of the big burden of this exploitation. So far the Government have not been able to show that their schemes of forest exploitation have been profitable or paying in fact."

* Mr. V. PANDRANG ROW :—" Nilambur? "

* Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—" We hear about a number of these schemes. Of course there might be one or two schemes which are paying but unless the Government can show that these forest exploitation schemes are started with a view to guide other private agencies to exploit these forests, not as a monopoly of Government, I think this expenditure would be in the wrong direction. Government might very well start, say, one scheme for each district to show to the people how this can be worked, and make the necessary roads, etc., because some sort of guidance on the part of the Government would be needed, as has been urged with regard to the other industries."

* Mr. V. PANDRANG ROW :—" Will the hon. Member kindly mention the private agencies which are available? "

* Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—" I cannot mention names now, but there are private agencies which are anxious to undertake this work. There is a big company started at Bangalore. It has come to Mangalore and has already got a large number of shareholders. It is a joint-stock company started at Bangalore and it is very anxious to exploit the forests of Kanara. It is under European management, and would do all the work which the Government have undertaken. I shall place further information about the private agencies before the concerned department, if necessary. But I would only urge upon the hon. Member to bear this fact in mind, and I am sure that the hon. Member with his sympathy for Indian industries would encourage

[18th March 1926]

[Mr. J. A. Saldanha]

any private agency that would undertake forest exploitation on the lines laid down by the Government by starting some preliminary work of exploitation like saw mills and other things just for guidance. I hope that this would not be carried to such an extent as to interfere with the efforts of private agencies."

* The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—" Sir, the 12-45
exploitation of forests, I may say, is a new introduction to our country. P.M.
The Government think that forests have got very great future possibilities, in that they will be paying a good deal after some years. In America they have spent millions of pounds before forests began to pay. We are also spending a lot of money in this direction with the hope that after some years the forests will be a real source of revenue to Government. We have got plenty of timber in the Presidency. On account of lack of exploitation and demonstration, what happens is foreign timber is imported into the country. Exploitation work is quite new to the country and no private company has yet come forward to undertake the work. Our object is to demonstrate to the country what work in this direction could be done and how it could be done. If any private agency should come forward, I would say the object of the Government has been served. Simply because it is absolutely a new industry we have to get experts from America and after demonstrations it is hoped that the people would take up to this work. In the circumstances, the object of the Government is the same as that of the hon. Member."

The motion was not pressed and was by leave withdrawn.

* Mr. K. PRABHAKARAN TAMPAN :—" I beg to move

'that the allotment of Rs. 70,100 for Forest College be reduced by Rs. 100.'

"My object in making this token motion is to suggest to the Government the desirability of affiliating the Forest College to the Madras University. Sir, it is now several years since the Forest College at Coimbatore was started. The time has come when the college might be run under the supervision of the University, a more competent and academical agency for the purpose. The Engineering College, the Law College, and such institutions have all been affiliated to the Madras University and I do not see any reason why the Forest College also should not be. It will certainly give a higher status and prestige to the alumnies of the college. I believe that the provisions of the Madras University Act will permit the affiliation of the Forest College. If so, I should be glad if Government takes earliest opportunity of affiliating this institution."

* The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—" The instruction given in this institution is not of such a high order as to make the University come forward and establish a new degree. All that I can say is that I am prepared to consider the suggestion."

The motion was by leave withdrawn.

* Rao Sahib R. SRINIVASAN :—" I beg to move

'that the allotment of Rs. 31,000 for the pay of establishments be reduced by Rs. 100.'

[Mr. R. Srinivasan]

[18th March 1926]

"When these forests were under the management of the Government they were considered as common to all classes including the depressed classes. Since the panchayats were created these forests are considered as the properties of the caste men and not the depressed classes. Their grievances are too numerous and of course the causes also are as many. They take advantage of these and keep out these depressed classes from these panchayats. In most of these panchayats the depressed classes are not allowed as they are considered to be incapable and untouchables. I do not want to make much of it though there is much in that. What I want to impress upon the hon. Member in charge of the portfolio is to see that the Panchayat officer goes to the village cheri and calls upon these untouchables and explains to them what the panchayat is and what benefit they could derive from them. They should be made to understand that if they have any grievance they could be redressed by a representation to the panchayats. If on the other hand the officer gets into the caste village, sends for these depressed classes men and dismissed them in a few words then any amount of representations or memorials will have no effect. The hon. Member will kindly see that the panchayat officer gets into the cheries and enquires into the grievances of the depressed classes. That is all what I want."

* The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—"With regard to the grievances mentioned by my hon. Friend I shall see that the panchayat officers bear them in mind. With regard to the fact that there has been no members of the depressed classes in the village panchayats I do not know whether it is true or not, and I shall examine the question and see what could be done."

* Mr. R. VEERIAN :—"I feel I should say something in this matter. I know for certain, Sir, that whenever they form such village panchayats, no information is given to the members of the depressed classes. They send for only non-depressed classes and form the panchayat among themselves. The depressed classes have very many interests in the forests. I have travelled in many of the districts and I am quite certain that the members of the depressed classes are not represented in the village panchayats. The only thing is that the hon. Member in charge of the portfolio should change his mind. There is no use of telling for anything and everything that he would sympathetically consider the question. It is not in any way better than the parrot's reply."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—"Order, Order, the hon. Member must not use such contemptuous words with reference to other hon. Members of the House."

* Mr. R. VEERIAN :—"I only wanted that the hon. Member should change his heart. If he does I am sure some substantial good to the depressed classes will be done. These panchayats are constituted either under the Government orders or under the rules. There should be some specific rule to give representation to the depressed classes and I hope, Sir, that the hon. Member in charge of the portfolio will see that some provisions are made in that rule so that there may be adequate representation to the depressed classes."

The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—"The hon. Member Mr. Veerian is not serving the cause of his community by the aggressive manner in which he sometimes speaks in this House. I have

18th March 1926] [Mr. Muhammad Usman Sahib]

already said in reply to Mr. Srinivasan who has represented the case in such a dignified manner that I would ask the panchayat officer to enquire into the question. I am not sure whether there are members of the depressed classes in the panchayat or not. If there are no members I would certainly like to see them represented. I have already given this undertaking."

* Mr. R. VEERIAN :—"It is not with the object of making any painful criticism that I gave expression to those words. I really feel that the members of the depressed classes are not represented. There are several such instances. My point is that unless there are specific provisions made in the rule there will be no substantial good and my remarks were not made with the object of criticising the hon. Member. I represent that community and I feel that remedy lay in including a specific provision in the rules so as to avoid such complaints as stated by me."

The motion was by leave of the House withdrawn.

* Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—"Sir, I beg to move

'that the allotment of Rs. 62,000 for panchayat officer be reduced by Rs 100.'

"I want to press on the attention of the Government the peculiar state of things in South Kanara. We are told that there is hardly any scope to increase what are called 'ryots forests'. It is said that there is hardly any forest which can be handed over to the panchayats. To a great extent this is true but there are forests which could be handed over to the panchayats, supervision being vested in the Forest Department. Complaint has been made that the rules are very indefinite and arbitrary and of a character interfering with the autonomy of a panchayat. I think they have come to the notice of the Government in connexion with the Gangolia Forest Panchayat. It has also been brought to my notice that the forest along the ghats are increasing and encroaching upon cultivable lands to such an extent that a number of villages are being depopulated and sooner or later will be entirely depopulated. It is natural to expect such a state of things. Coming to the Hospet forest which has been handed over to the panchayat one will observe that the restrictions imposed by the panchayats are so high that as a matter of fact the forests have developed to a much greater extent under the panchayat than they could have been under the Forest department itself. The Hospet forest is now infested with a number of wild animals including wild boars and monkeys which do considerable damage to the crops. The result is that the population has to move elsewhere in a state of despair and everybody will realize what is taking place. Unfortunately I had to preside over a meeting of the villagers . . ."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—"Why unfortunately?"

* Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—"Because they ought to have sent the proceedings much earlier which would have facilitated the discussion here. It was left to me some months ago to do that. I then began to study this question. The subject was forced on my attention. Because I was not interested in forests and I have never studied it. A number of Members of the Legislative Council were invited to this meeting and I alone was present. So they put me in the chair with the result that I was forced to study the question. I only wanted to bring these facts and the grievances of the people to the notice of Government."

[18th March 1926]

1 p.m.

* The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—"Sir, I should like to point out to my hon. Friend, that in South Kanara we have not got the local forests which may be transferred to the panchayats, on account of the fact that the forests we have there are generally classed as first-class forests, where we have very valuable timber. There we have the panchayats under the forest village system. I find from my hon. Friend's speech that he is being troubled very much by wild boars and other animals. I am sure the Chief Conservator of Forests, who is here and has been listening to him, will go into this matter and see that those grievances are redressed."

* Mr. J. A. SALDANHA:—"I beg leave to withdraw the motion."

The motion was by leave withdrawn.

* Mr. B. RAMACHANDRA REDDI:—"I move, Sir,

'that the allotment of Rs. 25,74,600 for establishments be reduced by Rs. 100.'

"My object in moving this motion is to invite the attention of the hon. the Home Member to the points I have mentioned, viz., (1) to the necessity for allowing goat-browsing in the ryots' forests, (2) to raise the one-mile boundary question, and (3) the appointment of panchayat officers."

* The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—"On a point of explanation, I may say that the last two questions have already been disposed of."

* Mr. B. RAMACHANDRA REDDI:—"That is exactly what I was going to say. Points (2) and (3) have already been disposed of, and I shall confine myself to the first point. Ever since the Forest department has taken charge of all the available forests, on account of the very hard forest rules and on account of disallowing goat-browsing in the forests, whatever might be their state whether productive or unproductive, there has been a great deterioration in the number of goats and a consequent deterioration in the condition of the ryots. In many parts goats form the wealth of the village folk, and forest rules having been very strict, they have to cut short the number of their own stock, and consequently they are getting more and more poor day by day. After the new classification of forests is made and after the panchayats are formed, I would suggest that goat-browsing may be allowed without any difficulty. The only argument against goat-browsing that has been put forward by the forest experts was that it did not allow the growth of trees to any extent. But in the forests that have been classified as ryots' forests there will be very little scope for the Government for the growing of any timber producing trees. I only suggest that in those forests which are small scrub jungles goat-browsing may be permitted with advantage to the ryot. I may further say, Sir, that the question of manure is becoming more and more difficult to the ryots in the far off villages. The deterioration in the number of goats is also the cause of the insufficiency of manure. Thus, allowing goat-browsing would to a great extent improve the condition of the ryots. So I request reconsideration of the question and a relaxation of the forest rules will go a great way to improving their condition."

* The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—"Sir, I am sorry I cannot give a favourable reply to my hon. Friend. For this question has been thoroughly examined by the Government on more than

[18th March 1926] [Mr. Muhammad Usman Sahib]

one occasion. In 1912 the Forest Committee came to the conclusion that goats should be strictly excluded from reserved forests. The Government after consulting the various experts, have come to the conclusion that goat-browsing is incompatible with any system of silviculture. Goat-browsing was tried in the Chittoor forests and afterwards it was prohibited on account of the destruction to which the forests were subject. I find at the present moment that panchayats in many districts have taken steps to exclude goats from the areas in their charge, because they find from experience that those forests are ruined on account of goat-browsing. Goat-browsing is fatal to our forest growth, and I am sorry I am not able to satisfy my hon. Friend, because the Government have examined the question and come to the conclusion that they can do nothing in the matter. The question has also been taken up by some of the panchayats, and they also strongly feel that they could not allow goats into the forests."

* Mr. B. RAMACHANDRA REDDI:—"May I ask whether wherever panchayats are willing to do so goat-browsing will be permitted in those places?"

* The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—"That is a matter entirely for the panchayats to consider."

* Rao Sahib R. SRINIVASAN:—"Sir, goats ought to be protected just as forests are to be protected, because goats also form the wealth of our country. They should not be neglected at all. Breeding of goats is also a question to be considered."

* The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—"All I can say is that we consider forests as far more important than goats." (Laughter.)

* Rao Sahib R. SRINIVASAN:—"We want goat skins which are very valuable."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT:—"There are other ways of feeding goats?"

Rai Bahadur T. M. NARASIMHACHARLU:—"Avenue trees on the roads are resorted to after this forest administration has come in."

The motion was by leave withdrawn.

Diwan Bahadur P. KESAVA PILLAI:—"Sir, I move

'that the allotment of Rs. 5,61,600 for Forests—Capital outlay charged to Revenue, be reduced by Rs. 100 (to raise a debate on the grievances of the people and the policy of levying contributions from the forest panchayats).'

"I do not know if this question has been disposed of"

* The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—"I think this question has already been disposed of. It is the same as Motion No. 171 in which I gave an undertaking to my hon. Friend, Mr. Ranganiatha Mudaliyar, that it would be examined by the Forest Advisory Committee."

Diwan Bahadur P. KESAVA PILLAI:—"What I want to draw the hon. Member's attention to is that the amounts fixed by the department to be paid by the forest panchayats are very heavy and that they ought to be nominal, so that the spirit of co-operation in the village might be stimulated."

[Mr. P. Kesava Pillai]

[18th March 1926]

As it is they strike an average for some years, and they levy so much on every panchayat. They feel it difficult to find the money; so they would not undertake the responsibility of panchayats. As a matter of fact, the hon. Member must be aware that District Forest Committees, the Collectors, the Forest Officer and the non-official Members have recommended that these panchayats should not be asked to pay more than a nominal contribution or taxation to the Government for working the forests in the interests of the people. The object of the Government is to make people take interest in forest administration and to encourage the formation of panchayats so that they may co-operate and do the work. That is the object and not to levy contributions. Now, of course, the people are free from the interferences of forest guards and others, and I believe Government contemplate to hand over all the forests except some important forests to the panchayats for administration. There are several forests which are not worth anything, as my Friend Mr. Saldanha pointed out. They only shelter wild pigs and boars, and they breed very rapidly, twice in a year, and they cause enormous damage to the crops in the surrounding villages. I hope Government will be well advised to disafforest more of those prickly-pear forests and also reduce the amount of contribution which they levy from the panchayats in order to encourage them. That is the object with which I am drawing the attention of the Government. Everybody has recommended it. I have been taking interest all along in forests, and I know the details of the administration, unlike my distinguished judge Friend, Mr. Saldanha, who comes from the top, but I come from the bottom. I have invariably taken interest in the matter, and I know there are other grievances which I want to place before my hon. Friend, the Home Member, for liberal consideration, such as not stinting the grants to panchayats for improving water sources, etc."

* The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—"As I have already said, the policy of the Government as regards scrub jungles is to hand them over to panchayats."

"With regard to the question of levying contributions, I gave an undertaking to my hon. Friend, Mr. Ranganatha Mudaliyar, that the question would be examined by the Forest Advisory Committee. After consulting them Government will come to a decision."

Diwan Bahadur P. KESAVA PILLAI:—"I hope he will also abolish the worthless scrub jungles."

* The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—"I am unable to say anything at present on the point."

Diwan Bahadur P. KESAVA PILLAI:—"I beg to withdraw the motion."

* Mr. R. SRINIVASAN:—"I think some provision may be made for goats being allowed to graze."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT:—"That question has not been raised at all."

The motion was by leave withdrawn.

Rai Bahadur T. M. NARASIMHACHARLU:—"I move, Sir,

'that the allotment of Rs. 45.26 lakhs for Forest be reduced by Rs. 1,000.'

"Sir, I have noted five points on which I wish to obtain information. The first point is why should there be more in non-voted and less in voted

[18th March 1926]

[Mr. T. M. Narasimhacharlu]

in 1926-27 than in the previous year. If you will kindly turn to 8 (a) Forests—Direction, you will find that more amount is put in in non-voted item and less amount in the voted, comparatively speaking, than in the previous years. I should like to know why such a step has been taken in the budget provision. My second point is that hitherto more attention has been paid to the protection of the forests. I am glad also to note that activity has recently been commenced on the development of commercial aspects of the forests. I welcome it and urge upon the Government to devote more attention. Thirdly, as a consequence it follows that unproductive forests should be disafforested. At present you will find a certain number of vast reserved forests which yield nothing, containing only scrub jungles with the hope that as the Forest Department say if you go on conserving it for a number of years some things might grow up which may turn out to be very useful for future generations and also bring greater rainfall to the country. We have waited and waited in vain all these years, for either the growth of anything useful or for greater rainfall in the Ceded districts. Only this much has remained, namely, the tyranny and the trouble to the people living on the skirts of these unproductive forests. I therefore strongly urge that while the department should devote more attention on the development of the commercial aspect, they should at the same time disband a number of forest subordinates and disafforest a number of useless forests. Fourthly, there should be no forest reserved within a radius of a mile of any village. The question has been dealt with by the Council. Fifthly, some time ago, there was a committee in every district of which the Collector was the chairman and they met several times and made certain recommendations regarding classification of forests and the handing over of some of them to the ryots and so forth. I wish to know what steps Government have taken with reference to this question."

* The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—"With regard to the first question why there should be more in non-voted and less in voted expenditure I have already answered it. The reason for the increase in the non-voted expenditure is due to the recommendations of the Royal Commission on Superior Civil Services. The Secretary of State has reappointed some members of the Indian Forest Service and their pay has become non-voted in the budget estimates for 1926-27."

* Mr. A. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—"May I know what the hon. the Home Member means by 'reappointed'?"

* The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—"They were already in service."

* Mr. A. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—"May I say that the provincial service officers have been put on non-voted list?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—"They have been promoted from the provincial service."

Mr. A. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—"Just as provincial service officers whose pay has become non-voted?"

* The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—"They have been promoted to the Indian Forest Service."

Diwan Bahadur P. KESAVA PILLAI:—"So, it is not a question of re-appointing."

[18th March 1926]

* The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—"They have been reappointed by the Secretary of State. In regard to the second question that activity should be more concentrated on development on commercial side, in the course of the discussion to-day various facts have been brought forward which go to show that Government have been devoting their attention to development on commercial basis also, and it is only about three months ago the Government established three saw mills in South Kanara, Mount Stuart and Wynad respectively. We have got a saw mill at Heypur, at Olavakode and at Russelkonda and thus we are doing all we can in the work of exploitation.

"As regards the unproductive forests being disafforested I should like to know what exactly my hon. Friend means. If he means by unproductive, unremunerative, all I can say is that forests which are working at a loss have to be maintained for climatic purposes. We cannot disafforest these forests. On the other hand, if my hon. Friend meant by unproductive, the scrub jungles, I may say that it is the policy of the Government that scrub jungles should be handed over to the panchayat management.

"With regard to the question that there should be no forest within a mile radius of any village, that has already been disposed of. With regard to the fifth point raised, namely, what has become of the reports sent by the district committees, of which the District Collectors were the Chairmen, regarding classification of forests and handing over some of them to the forest panchayats, the Government have not yet received their reports. When the reports are received the Government will consider the question."

Rai Bahadur T. M. NARASIMHACHARLU:—"I am glad that the Government are taking steps to introduce new saw mills. May I know whether the Government have thought of exploiting the red saunders timber in the Cuddapah forests. Much of this timber is not being put to proper use. By way of advertisement in other countries and other ways, it must be brought to the notice of people in other places where it can be more profitably sold. I wish to know whether anything has been done in the way of finding markets for this very good and useful timber. For posts and pillars it is said to be very strong. I wish to know whether any steps have been taken to popularise the red saunders in the Cuddapah forests."

* The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—"I understand that the hon. Member has brought this question before the Forest Committee, and the Chief Conservator of Forests has been asked to report on it. When that report is received, Government will consider what steps to take."

The motion was by leave withdrawn.

Mr. A. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—"Sir, I request permission to move the following motion standing in the name of Mr. P. N. Marthandam Pillai, viz,

"that the allotment of Rs. 45.26 lakhs for Forests be reduced by Rs. 100."

* Mr. J. A. SALDANHA:—"No. 208 on the notice paper stands in the name of Mr. Manjappa Heggade: he was not even called. It is a point which concerns our district, and naturally I am interested. It refers to the desirability of assigning arable lands in the reserved area on darkhast."

[18th March 1926]

Mr. D. MANJAYYA HEGGADE:—"Sir, I beg to move

"that the allotment of Rs. 23,400 for Capital outlay on Forests—Establishments, be reduced by Rs. 100."

"Sir, my object in pressing this motion is to bring to the notice of this House as well as the Government the innumerable difficulties the ryots living in the vicinity of reserved forests are put to. These forests exist very closely to cultivable land and the ryots suffer many hardships. Firstly, as my hon. Friend Mr. Saldanha pointed out, there is the danger of wild beasts, such as deer, bison."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT:—"Will the hon. Member confine his remarks only to the second part of the question, namely, the desirability of assigning arable lands in the reserved area on darkhast."

Mr. D. MANJAYYA HEGGADE:—"There are so many lands within the area of the reserved forests and these can be assigned to the poor ryots on darkhast, and it will conduce to increased cultivation in rural areas. Then again, Sir, there is another point, which has been urged by so many members regarding the removal of boundary line by the side of the cultivating fields. It is true that Government, by granting these concessions, may lose a part of the reserved forests, but this may be made up by assigning portions of the lands on darkhast to the ryots."

* The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—"The course suggested by my hon. Friend has already been adopted by Government. They have passed orders that lands suitable for wet cultivation should be assigned. The order is contained in G.O. No. 53, dated 11th January 1922. According to that, 327 acres have been disafforested in South Kanara. Therefore the course of action that the hon. Member suggests now has already been taken by the Government."

* Mr. J. A. SALDANHA:—"May I point out that these 327 acres from 1922 to 1925 is too small a number for handing over to the ryots for cultivation. If people are anxious to cultivate, I do not see why much more land cannot be given for cultivation. I know that forest officers consider the fostering of forests as more important than fostering the interests of humanity. That is my impression; they do not care at all for the interests of human beings. Whether malaria ravages their villages, whether wild beasts destroy and devastate their crops, that is not a matter which concerns the Government. They take no interest at all. The Revenue officers have got a dread for us as much as for the Forest officers and they do very little. I am glad this point has been pointedly brought to the notice of Government by my hon. Friend from South Kanara. Living as he does very close to the jungle he knows more than myself the condition of people living along the outskirts of the forests. With these words, I would press on the attention of Government that much more forest land should be handed over to the cultivators who desire to cultivate, and that will not only conduce to increased cultivation but also prevent unnecessary growth and the dangers to which the people are subject there."

Diwan Bahadur M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—"Sir, my hon. Friend, the Home Member, said that by a Government Order, 327 acres have been assigned for cultivation in reserved forests. I do not know the contents of that Government Order. I do not know whether it contains any qualification. If the Government Order unconditionally says that cultivable land in

[Mr. M. Krishnan Nayar]

[18th March 1926]

reserved area may be assigned to the applicants, I do not think it will be a beneficial act, so far as the Forest department is concerned. We know that in a reserved area there are swampy lands for cultivation and very fertile lands too, and it is very natural that ryots living in the vicinity of forests containing such swampy areas should be desirous of getting these for cultivation. Now, some of these patches of swampy land may be very small and others may be very extensive. I think there is considerable danger in allowing these small swampy areas to be registered for cultivation in the name of the ryots living in their vicinity.

"If, however, there are vast extensive areas containing 1,000 acres and more which are fit for cultivation, it is desirable that these lands should be assigned to ryots for cultivation. But if the area is very small it is not desirable that such lands should be given to ryots because it will not be possible for the Forest department to protect these forests. For the protection of these forests, observance of certain rules is necessary. I do not know whether this aspect of the question was carefully considered when the Government Order under reference was issued. It seems to me that there is a real danger if the Government Order does not refer to the area of the lands to be assigned to the ryots, so that they may convert them into arable lands. I hope the hon. the Home Member will bear this point in his mind and my hon. Friend Mr. Tireman . . ."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT:—"Reference to Secretaries on the Secretaries' Bench is not in order."

Diwan Bahadur M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—"Mr. Tireman is not a Secretary."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT:—"Any reference to any officer on the Secretaries' Bench is not in order."

Diwan Bahadur M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—"I shall shut my eyes from even seeing Mr. Tireman. I hope the Chief Conservator of Forests will bear this in mind and I am sure the hon. the Home Member will issue instructions to the Conservator of Forests with reference to this point. I think it is a very important matter."

Diwan Bahadur P. KESAVA PILLAI:—"I am really very much surprised that my hon. Friend Diwan Bahadur Krishnan Nayar, who waves a red flag of danger is asking the hon. the Home Member not to give any lands which are arable lands to the cultivator unless they are thousands of square miles in area."

Diwan Bahadur M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—"No, no. Square miles are different."

Diwan Bahadur P. KESAVA PILLAI:—"Well, thousands of acres. As a matter of fact if my hon. Friend who was for some time Diwan of Travancore were to visit some of the forests in that State . . ."

Diwan Bahadur M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—"It was only with reference to my experience as Diwan of Travancore that I made those observations."

Diwan Bahadur P. KESAVA PILLAI:—"Then he has made those observations in his capacity as an executive officer."

"Sir, coming to the point, as a matter of fact he must have seen that in most of the forests in any districts in this Presidency there are small patches

[18th March 1926]

[Mr. P. Kesava Pillai]

of cultivable lands on which the poor villagers depend for their livelihood. If my hon. Friend, the Home Member, will give away these lands it will go a great deal to protect the poor people and in return it will also bring revenue to the State. As a matter of fact, the villagers are depending upon these lands for their very livelihood. I am simply surprised at the attitude of this ex-Diwan of Travancore who seems to be so hard against the Government Order that was issued some time ago. Perhaps the Government might have issued that Government Order in a moment of generosity. I would rather appeal to my hon. Friend the Home Member to look at the question from the point of view of the ryots; I appeal to him that the ryots are not so bad as my hon. Friend from Malabar seems to think."

* The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—"In view of some of the pertinent remarks that have been made just now, I am prepared to examine the question further."

The motion was by leave withdrawn.

Mr. A. Ramaswami Mudaliyar stood up to move the motion standing in the name of Mr. Marthandam Pillai.

* The hon. the PRESIDENT:—"I am afraid I must follow the general rule that Members who could be present should be present in their places if they want to move their motions. It is only in regard to Members who are absent on account of illness or other unavoidable causes that I shall allow other Members to move."

Mr. A. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—"As I have already said, my hon. Friend Mr. Marthandam Pillai—I must make that statement in fairness to him who was present here till 1-15—was suddenly called away on account of some urgent business which he could not neglect and therefore he asked me to request for your permission to move this motion on his behalf. If permission is given I shall move it. He was one of those who did not take note of the motion standing in his name."

Rai Bahadur Sir K. VENKATAREDDI NAYUDU:—"The hon. Member, Mr. Marthandam Pillai, may turn up by lunch time."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT:—"The time allowed for this demand expires by 1-40, and that is also the time before which we must rise for lunch."

* The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—"If the hon. Member wants any information I shall be happy to furnish it to him later on."

Demand No. IV that Government be granted a sum of 45.25 lakhs under Forests was put and carried and the grant was made.

The House then adjourned for lunch.

After Lunch (2-30 p.m.).

The hon. the Deputy President was in the chair.

DEMAND V—REGISTRATION.

* The hon. Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. PATRO:—"Sir, on the recommendation of His Excellency the Governor I move

'that Government be granted a sum not exceeding Rs. 25.67 lakhs for Registration.'"

[18th March 1926]

* Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—" Sir, I move

'that the allotment of Rs. 28,800 for pay of establishments be reduced by Rs. 100.'

"My object in giving notice of this motion is to discuss the policy of Government in recruiting directly from outside to the upper grades of the Registration department, and also to know the reason why the Indian Christians are not duly represented in the services. The sub-registrars have made strong representations to the Government against this direct recruitment to the upper grades. These officers have to wait for a long time before they rise to the higher grades, and it would be a heavy blow to their future prospects if Government recruit men directly to the upper grades. All of them work intelligently and satisfactorily. When this is not done in the judicial and other departments I do not see the reason why this should be done in this department alone. This sort of patronage is not conducive to the healthy development of the department. Government may, instead of recruiting two men every year, recruit only one every year or may recruit two in alternate years.

"As regards the other point, I am very reluctant to dwell at length upon it, since it is liable to be misunderstood when it comes from a Member on this side of the House who stands for equal opportunities to all communities and who does not stand for communalism. I am against communalism. But no one should be penalised simply for the reason of his belonging to a particular community. But the Indian Christians are practically penalised in this case. The hon. Minister once said that the Indian Christians were excessively represented in the department. When I asked him on what basis he made that statement he gave a very evasive reply and said that Government wanted to see that every community was adequately represented. I submit that the hon. Minister's statement about the Indian Christian community is beside the mark. In this connexion I should like to draw the attention of the House to the fact that the Indian Christian community is comparatively more educated than other communities. Among the Hindus the percentage of literacy is 8, among the Muhammadans it is 9 per cent; whereas among the Christians it is 17 per cent. In higher or English education, the percentage is 1 for the Hindus, $\frac{1}{2}$ for the Muhammadans and 5 for the Indian Christians. Having regard to these facts I think the community is entitled to at least 20 per cent of the appointments. But I do not want 20 per cent; I shall be satisfied if at least 10 per cent of the appointments are given to this community. But we have not got even 5 per cent of the appointments. From the statistics placed before the House every six months I find that the Indian Christian community has not had a proportionate increase. From 1st April 1922 to 1st April 1925 in posts on Rs. 100 and more the Brahmans have increased from 187 to 239—I hope I am not incorrect in my figures—the non-Brahmans have increased from 87 to 94 whereas the Indian Christians have increased from 18 to 19, only by one. The Muhammadan community has increased from 13 to 17. Is this what the hon. Minister calls excessive representation of the Indian Christian community? I think, Sir, that the Muhammadan representatives here will draw his attention also to this inadequate representation of their community. When there was direct recruitment last year about forty Indian Christians, most of them graduates and double graduates, applied for posts.

[18th March 1926]

[Mr. J. A. Saldanha]

About twenty of them were called for and were marched before the Staff Selection Board; but not one of them was selected. Perhaps one or two of them were selected but were not appointed. Last year there was one non-Brahman and one Muhammadan. In the previous year there was one non-Brahman and one Anglo-Indian. In any case he is not an Indian Christian though it is some consolation to me that he is a Christian. For the last three years not even one Indian Christian has been appointed. I hope that the hon. Minister will look into the matter and see that the balance is restored and equal opportunities are given to all the communities. My friends here who are members of the Communal Representation Committee will agree that at least 10 per cent of the appointments should be given to the Indian Christian community. With these remarks I close my speech and I want to know what the hon. Minister has to say on the subject."

* The hon. Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. PATRO :—"Sir, as regards the reasons why direct recruitment is made, I may submit to the House that the Sub-Registrars become District Registrars at the fag end of their service. It requires great energy on the part of the officers to supervise the work of the newly introduced index system. Sub-Registrars rise to the position of Registrars very late in service and they usually have two or three years more to retire from service. So, they are not competent to cope with the work given them. It is therefore thought that we should introduce some fresh blood into the service and appoint properly qualified persons and those who have high family traditions and are well qualified would be able to cope with their responsible work in the course of six or seven years. They will have the energy and training to carry on the work that is demanded of them. It is for that purpose that direct recruitment is made just as it is done in many other departments of Government. The introduction of this system in the department has worked well; the people who were recruited during the last three years have been doing very excellent work and they have justified their selection.

"As regards the representation of the Indian Christian community, the subject has been interpellated several times by the hon. Member from South Kanara and he was supplied with the necessary figures. It is impossible that any communal preference can be given to any community. What ought to be done certainly is communal justice."

* Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—"That is what I want."

The hon. Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. PATRO :—"When we have people of equal qualifications both at the time of initial recruitment and at the time of promotions, their claims have to be considered and justice has to be done to them. To demand in season and out of season and irrespective of qualifications that you have to appoint this man or that man, is unfair. You cannot pull out people who are already in service and create vacancies for the Indian Christians or any other community. You have to carry on administration on efficient lines. There should be contentment in the services so that efficiency may be maintained. Therefore it is unreasonable for any particular community to say that they should have 10 per cent or 20 per cent of the appointments. However, as desired by the Council, the question is under the consideration of a committee. A committee to consider this question was appointed by the Government and, whatever their recommendations may be, the Government will consider them very carefully. The existing

[Sir A. P. Patro]

[18th March 1926]

Government Orders will be fully carried out. Therefore I am unable to agree with the hon. Mover that 10 or 20 per cent of the cadre of any particular department should be Indian Christians."

Mr. ABBAS ALI KHAN :—" Sir, I support the motion of my hon. Friend. When the Registration Department and the Education Department were administered by European and Brahmau gentlemen I was glad to notice that the number of Muhammadans in the service was very great. Since the reforms when the non-Brahman party came to power, they fought on the pulpit and on the platform for communal representation and said that they were going to give representation for all communities. But what do we see here? Here is a Minister who has been in office by the popular franchise of a particular party. The Muhammadans come within the pale of the non-Brahman community. Muhammadans have fared very badly in the Registration Department. Muhammadan interests have not been protected by the hon. the Minister. I can say this much. If there is any Minister who has not the confidence of the Members it is the Minister for Education and Registration. I say with all the responsibility attached to my office on the floor of this House that if the Muhammadan community wants to detach itself from the Ministerialist party, it is on account of the tactics of the hon. the Minister for Education. Young Muhammadans who have returned from Oxford and Cambridge come forward. The hon. the Minister says that he will be doing injustice to the people in service and that he should promote men who are in permanent service. There is no other Minister who has been callous to the interests of the Muhammadans as Sir Patro. I say this with all responsibility again. When European and Brahmau gentlemen were holding this office, Muhammadans were specially treated and the percentage of appointments was high. I do not want to say more because I am excited. Excitement may bring forth acrimonious discussion. I do not want to indulge in harsh words."

* Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—" I want to say just a word about the policy of recruiting upper grade Sub-Registrars from outsiders. It is very well for the hon. the Minister to say that he is anxious to introduce fresh blood in the grade of officers. But does he contemplate the logical sequence of the policy he is pursuing? Here are officers—many of them honest and conscientious—who have done work of reliable nature, who have put in long services and who are looking forward anxiously for the time when they can reach to the top of the service. Just when there is a vacancy at the top and when probably they expect to get the appointment, he gets told of some person who may belong to a high family and who may have high family traditions—he may not show those high traditions in himself—and pitchfork him into that post. But what would be the feeling of the unfortunate man who has been denied this chance just when he was about to get it? It has naturally a very bad effect on the morale of the people. They feel that there is no inducement to work conscientiously. They say, 'Let us make hay while the sun shines. What is the good of being honest? Because honesty does not pay us in this department. We thought that it used to pay.' I beg the hon. the Minister to reconsider the policy in regard to this matter. It is not a big appointment like that of the provincial officers who are recruited from the top. It carries poor scale of pay; to bring in outsiders, and to deny the people the reward which is rightly theirs is not just. The policy should be re-examined."

[18th March 1926]

* The hon. Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. PATRO :—" I am afraid the speaker representing the Muhammadan community spoke without any information. If he had quoted any figures I would have replied him. Not having quoted any figures and relying on indefinite information, it is not worth while to reply to his observations. As we are accustomed to the hon. Member changing from time to time and from place to place, we know what value we should attach to his statements. I need not say more on that matter at present."

" The figures quoted by the hon. Member from South Kanara do not relate to the whole cadre. They relate to promotions only. Hon. Members of the House are aware that there are no promotions for officers on time-scales. There are promotions only for men in the higher ranks and in special grades. The whole strength of the Mussalman and Indian Christian officers was not given. It is therefore a misrepresentation of the figures given in the answer to the interpellation put by the hon. Member from South Kanara. To have wrong basis, to take false data and to build up arguments on them is not at all reasonable."

" As regards what the hon. Member Mr. Ranganatha Mudaliyar said, I have very great sympathy with those people who are in service. But the exigencies of the service require that we should introduce fresh blood into the service due care being given to the claims of those who have rendered good service."

* Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—" Sir, the first point of the hon. the Minister can be met in this way. For energetic work it is true that we require people who are young and who have vigour of brains as well as vigour of body. But the question is can they not be found in the department. The hon. the Minister must know that there are sub-registrars who are young, who are vigorous both in mind and body and who will do any kind of work as well as any new recruit. I wonder what the hon. the Minister means by men of family traditions. Do you want aristocrats, zamindars, rajas and maharajas in the department? I think they are generally muddle-headed. We can find better and vigorous youths."

* The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL :—" Sir may I say that rajas and maharajas do not wish to earn the notoriety of being muddle-headed."

* Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—" With the experience of my own relations I may say that men with high family traditions are generally very weak in brains as well as in body. What I say is this. We find vigorous brains, intelligent brains and bright brains among poor classes. It is from the villages that we get recruits to our colleges and schools. My experience is that it is from the villages and poor people we get most vigorous and practised brains. If you study the university calendars you will find that the boys who pass in the Presidency ranks are not sons belonging to high families but that they come from poor families. Never mind the high traditions. But I am sure that the hon. the Minister will find men vigorous, intelligent, bright and honest in the department itself. It is a great injustice, I think, to the senior men that they should be superseded every year by men of high traditions. That is all bash. This is a new idea. I think it will bring in only men who are unfit."

[Mr. J. A. Saldanha]

[18th March 1926]

"As to the other point, viz., figures, they are as follows. Among the lower subordinate grades between Rs. 35 and Rs. 100 which include sub-registrars and others the number of Brahmans was 1,400 in 1922 and 1,200 in 1925, Non-Brahmans, 800 and 966, Indian Christians, 71 and 80 and Muhammadans, 100 and 156. So far as Indian Christians are concerned the increase is not very much at all. The argument put forward by the hon. Minister is this. We must consider merit, ability and all such matters. I challenge the hon. the Minister whether he can find as many men of high qualifications in any other community as there are in the Indian Christian community. During the recent selection of the Staff Selection Board there were candidates with very high qualifications, honours graduates and brilliant candidates physically able and educationally highly qualified. In the service itself there are men with high qualifications and merit, and I wonder why the representation of my community in the service should be so low, far too low for our numerical strength among the highly educated people."

Mr. ABBAS ALI KHAN :—"The hon. Sir Patro referred to my changes from time to time and from place to place. It is not my privilege only; many eminent men of the country have done so. The hon. Minister seems to have given the go-by to the Government Order on communal representation. He says that communal claims ought not to be the only criterion for appointment in Government service; efficiency should be the criterion. He has given the go-by to that Government Order."

p.m. *The hon. Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. PATRO :—"Sir, I must strongly object to the statement that I gave the go-by. If the hon. Member did not understand or is incapable of understanding the Government Order, I cannot help it. On the other hand, the hon. Member has changed the seat. A few months back he bestowed the highest praise on the Ministers and now he has nothing but abuses for them. The reason is self-evident and I need not comment more."

The hon. the DEPUTY PRESIDENT :—"Better avoid personal references."

*The hon. Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. PATRO :—"What I say is that he talked without considering the matter in the least. He has not had facts before him, he has no information before him, and yet he makes allegations which he cannot prove."

The hon. the DEPUTY PRESIDENT :—"I think enough has been said. Are you pressing your motion, Mr. J. A. Saldanha?"

*Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—"Yes, Sir. I have got to press it."

The motion was put to the House and lost.

*Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—"Sir, the motion which stands in my name is this:

'that the allotment of Rs. 82,100 for Superintendence be reduced by Rs. 101.'

"Sir, at present one of the sub-registrars at Bellary is deputed to go once a week and do registration work in the village between 12 and 3. The results of that experiment, Sir, have been encouraging. Because about 400 documents were registered at that place last year, though the officer went there to work only once a week. Sir, another 300 or 400 documents of the villages which are served by this Kudatini temporary office are

[18th March 1926] [Mr. A. Ranganatha Mudaliyar]

registered at Bellary itself, so that if one office is opened permanently at that village, Kudatini, there are likely to be at least 700 documents registered every year, and I think that number is a very satisfactory number to begin with and to justify the hon. the Minister in concluding that the office would be self-supporting. This arrangement would also give very great relief to the officers at Bellary who on certain days are very much overworked. I therefore suggest, Sir, that an office might be opened at Kudatini."

*The hon. Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. PATRO :—"I will consider the suggestion made by the hon. Member and enquire whether an office could be opened in the particular place if the figures he suggested are correct and if there are sufficient number of documents to be registered at the office."

*Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—"I ask for nothing more, Sir, and I withdraw my motion."

The motion was by leave of the House withdrawn.

*Mr. R. VERRIAN :—"I beg to move, Sir,

'that the allotment of Rs. 22,31,000 for Pay of Establishments be reduced by Rs. 100.'

"This is to discuss the question of not giving the same treatment to the depressed classes as to others whenever they go to registration office on business to register documents.

"I only want to point out, Sir, the way in which the members of the depressed classes are treated whenever they go on business to the registration offices. I can quote several instances, Sir, but I should like to confine myself to a very few. There is a place called Kammapuram in the South Arcot district I have seen that place. It seems the registration office is in a Government building. There are no trees even in that compound for the members of the depressed classes to take shelter and they are not allowed even to get upon the pial of that registration office. There are no verandas on all sides; but there is a small place, Sir, where the members of the other communities take shelter. They take delight in sitting on the benches placed there; but in the case of the depressed classes, they will have to go and sit outside the premises. Even in the matter of taking thumb impression, Sir, the peons are helping the non-depressed classes by touching their hands and putting them on the slate and then asking them to put their thumb impression on the documents; but in the case of the depressed classes, they used to tell them 'All right, here is the space. You had better put your thumb impression there.' Instead of putting the thumb impression, Sir, in the place where they ought to put it, they used to put it in some other place. For that, Sir, the peons used to abuse them. But what I want to point out, Sir, is that what they do in the case of the non-depressed classes they should also do in the case of the depressed classes. There is another office at Tiruppur in the Coimbatore district. There also the members of the depressed classes are not allowed to get up on the pial to take rest until they are called for the transaction of business. They will have to go and sit outside the premises. They remain there during all seasons, rainy as well as hot seasons, and the officer in charge or the other members of the staff never take care of these people with a view to help them from humanitarian point of view. What I want to point

[Mr. R. Veerian]

[18th March 1926]

out to the hon. Minister is that he will kindly issue some effective instructions to the department so that at least hereafter due regard may be given to the Government circulars. I should also like to point out, Sir, that there should be a column, whenever they submit their periodical or annual returns to the head of the department to this effect, so that they may point out in that column whether such distinctions are made or not in the case of the depressed classes. It would be very effective. We will then come to know something actually about the depressed classes. Therefore, Sir, I think that the hon. the Minister in charge will see that a separate column is provided in the returns, to find out whether such distinctions exist or not. I think that during the time of Mr. J. Venkatanarayana, the previous Inspector-General, very strict orders were passed; but I do not think that they are being carried out strictly in all places. I hope the hon. the Minister will kindly see that some strict orders are being issued, so that the officers may give due effect to the circulars."

* The hon. Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. PATRO:—"Sir, last year a circular was issued to all the officers by the Inspector-General drawing their attention to the injustice, if any, done to the depressed classes, in not allowing them into the office premises. Again, a second reminder was sent by the Inspector-General's office drawing their attention to one or two cases when the hon. Mover has drawn my attention by means of interpellations. So, if there is any case in which injustice has been done, I should be very glad to call the officer's explanation as to why in the circumstances he has not treated the depressed classes properly."

* Mr. R. VEERIAN:—"Sir, I am not going to press the motion. But I want to say a few more words. Still that reproachful and degrading word 'Parian' has to be mentioned when the question is put as to what community they belong. I think that they take a particular delight in that question. If the reply is 'Adi-Dravida' or 'Adi-Andhra' they ask 'What community is that?' We do not understand whether there is such a community. It is very peculiar to put such questions to the depressed classes. Purposely they want the men to utter that degrading and reproachful word 'Parian'. I request the hon. the Minister to see that the officers and staff do not ask the men to utter that word: I hope the hon. Minister will find time to see to that."

The motion was by leave of the House withdrawn.

Rai Bahadur T. M. NARASIMHACHARLU:—"I beg to move my motion, viz.,

'that the allotment of Rs. 25.67 lakhs for Registration be reduced by Rs. 1,000.'

"I want to raise the question of the possibility of reducing charges for Registration; secondly to raise the question of the possibility of reducing charges for search fees; and lastly to raise the question of payment of extra allowances to Joint Sub-Registrars.

"Sir, if you will turn to page 19 of the Civil Budget Estimates, you will find that the fees for registering documents has been mounting up. According to the accounts of 1924-25, it was 30.32 lakhs. The Budget Estimate for 1925-26 was 30.9 lakhs and the Revised Estimate was 31 lakhs. The Budget Estimate for the coming year is half a lakh more, i.e., Rs. 31½ lakhs. Under 'Miscellaneous', i.e., '9. c' there are three items; one is search

[18th March 1926] [Mr. T. M. Narasimhaacharlu]

fees. According to the accounts of 1924-25, it was Rs. 5,46,344—I mean revenue. In the Budget Estimate for 1925-26 it was Rs. 5,75,000. The Revised Estimate for the current year is Rs. 5,80,000 and the Budget Estimate for 1926-27 is Rs. 6,15,000. So also in other receipts you find a correspondingly increasing amount, so that you find that year after year the revenue is going up under this head. Now, Sir, my submission is that registration charges have been raised in 1922, I believe, on account of the fact that there was continued deficit in the finances of our province. In addition to the increase in the charges for stamps, both judicial and non-judicial, the registration fees also have been increased. Now, Sir, you find that there is considerable relief in the matter of our provincial contribution to the central revenues and we have it now reduced by 183 lakhs. The hope was then held out that whenever our finances improved, these charges would be decreased—I mean the registration charges. We do not find any hope of relief in that direction. As regards the search fees, I submit I do not understand how the Government are entitled to claim such an enormous amount as six lakhs and odd on account of search fees. Even when I specify the year, the date of the document, the volume of the index and the page and everything, they ask for certain fees. They say: 'Just put something into my hand' and then only they begin to open the book and see it. I submit, Sir, that this is a thing which we hear of only in certain temples where as soon as we go they say 'If you want to go into it, pay me something'. It is like that. I cannot understand how the Government can get these fees from the poor people.

Very often people go to Registration offices for mortgages and for sales 3-15
and these charges are taken from them. It is high time, I think, that both p.m.
the registration charges and search fees should be reduced considerably. This reduction will relieve not the rich but the poor. If a man has to borrow he has to mortgage his land and he has to pay the additional stamp duty for the document, he has to pay the increased registration charges and of course the manuls also. They have raised the stamp duty and along with that the manuls have also suffered an increase. Of course there is not much of them now, but that is another matter. My point is that as regards search fees and registration fees it is high time that the hon. Minister should consider the question seriously of reducing the charges. He will be helping the poor and earn their deep gratitude. Let him not bring forward the wooden, unfeeling argument that these are inevitable and that the Government could not get on without these things. I request him to give us some hope of relief.

"Lastly, as regards the sub-registrars who are in the headquarters, they are made to do more work than the sub-registrars in the mufassal. In the headquarters registration office, the sub-registrar does much of the work of the registrar and the work is really very heavy. He attends to all that and I do not see any reason why some allowances in the nature of what may be called duty allowances in olden days now called special pay should not be given him and indemnify him for the extra work that he is made to do."

* The hon. Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. PATRO:—"Sir, I agree with the hon. Mover that there should be relief for the poor in the matter of registration or any fees charged for rendering services to them. But in this case, my hon. Friend has missed the point, namely, that the really poor are protected. The recent increase of fees has saved the poor classes of people. There has

[Sir A. P. Patro]

[18th March 1926]

been an increase of a small per cent over documents which are above Rs. 200 and all documents between Rs. 10 and Rs. 200 remain unaffected. The old rate of fees is charged on them. In regard to the documents above Rs. 200 and below Rs. 500, and those between Rs. 500 and Rs. 1,000 there is a gradual rise. A perusal of the registration statistics will show that the bulk of the documents registered are those between Rs. 10 and Rs. 200; the higher classes of documents of higher value are comparatively small in number. The poor classes of people who go to the registration office are thus protected and there has been no change in their case. There is thus no hardship in their case whatever. The matter was recently investigated by the Inspector-General and he, the present officer and his predecessor as well, has stated after a careful examination of the situation that the enhanced registration fees relating as they do to the higher classes of documents have not affected the poor class of people. There has been no fall in the number of documents that have been presented for registration below the value of Rs. 200. The Inspector-General was also asked to examine whether the increase has affected detrimentally the number of documents registered and whether there is a consequential decrease in the number. The report shows that there has not been a fall in the number nor has there been a decrease in the fees collected. Thus, hon. Members will see that there is no case whatever made out at present for any decrease in the rate that is charged by the department. Just as hon. Members will see that if a post card is taken to the post office for registration they charge a fixed fee even so in the case of the Registration department, a fee is charged for services rendered. And that charge is quite adequate and proper and no excessive charge is levied on any document. If at any time the charge is found excessive or unnecessary, certainly it is open to urge a revision. But at present, I do not see that it is open to revision. Since I said so last year, the matter has been brought to my notice by means of an interpellation. We have had that matter also investigated and we find that there is no difficulty caused in the matter of these fees. If there has been any specific instance where it can be shown that it has caused some difficulty, I shall certainly be inclined to have the matter examined.

"Then, in regard to the question of the possibility of reducing the search fees, I should say that search fees were not enhanced at any time. The same old fees continue. When an application is made for a document, say of twelve years or when an encumbrance certificate is applied for, a charge is levied for services rendered and the same old rate continues even now. And there is no reason to say that it is excessive or falls heavily on the poor people.

"Then, as to the payment of extra allowances for the joint sub-registrars, it has been engaging our attention. Because when these people are posted to the headquarter offices, they are compelled to incur heavier expenditure than in the rural areas and that question has been brought to the notice of the Government and we are considering how best we can give relief to such people."

Rai Bahadur T. M. NARASIMHACHARLU:—"My contention, Sir, is that there has been a rise in the charges levied by the Government. From the figures relating to the revenue and expenditure we find that the Government makes nearly 14 lakhs of profit out of this department. I wish to ask why the Government should make any profit and when they have a profit why should they not now reduce the charges to the normal level. The hon.

[18th March 1926] [Mr. T. M. Narasimhacharlu]

Minister says that there has been no increase in the case of documents below Rs. 200. But my point is does a man cease to be poor if he takes a document say of the value of Rs. 300. It all depends upon the necessities of each case. A man is in the opinion of the hon. Minister considered to be poor if he borrows Rs. 200. And I ask does he cease to be poor if he borrows Rs. 205 or Rs. 210. This kind of argument on the part of the Government may be justifiable from the view point of revenue and the profit made by the Government. But that is not the proper argument at all.

"As regards search fees I am not at all convinced how Government are receiving money for services rendered. What is the service rendered? When I say that the document relates to the year 1895 and give the particular date and refer to the particular volume in which it is to be found if I give all the particulars, why should they ask for a fee. Of course, when I apply for a copy of it, I pay the copying charges. Over and above that, no search fee should be charged. What do they search in this case I have mentioned. They have simply to open the book and take the page. This has been long allowed without a demur but I now raise the protest. My submission is that what they now take is out of all proportion to the services which they actually render. I think the hon. Minister will consider the matter again.

"As for the last point raised by me, I see that some sympathy is shown to these people who have to incur additional charges and do additional work. I hope that that sympathy will be translated into action soon."

The hon. the DEPUTY PRESIDENT:—"Is the hon. Member withdrawing the motion?"

Rai Bahadur T. M. NARASIMHACHARLU:—"What else can I do, Sir (Laughter); because all will vote against me?"

The motion was by leave withdrawn.

Mr. D. MANJAYYA HEGGADE:—"Sir, I request permission to move the motion standing in the name of my hon. Friend next to me, Mr. Raghuchandra Ballal, who desires that I should do so, as it would be convenient if the motion is made with a speech in English."

The hon. the DEPUTY PRESIDENT:—"I do not think that that can be allowed especially as the hon. Member who has given notice of the motion is present. I am sure the House is prepared to listen to a Kanarese speech."

* The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR:—"May I suggest this, Sir? If the hon. Member, Mr. Raghuchandra Ballal, will move it in Kanarese, the other hon. Member, Mr. Heggade, can speak on it in English. In that way the ruling of the hon. the Deputy President can be conformed to."

Mr. K. RAGHUCHANDRA BALLAL, in moving for the reduction of the allotment of Rs. 25.67 lakhs for Registration by Rs. 100, said:—

"ಅಯ್ಯಾ, ರಿಜಿಸ್ಟ್ರಿ ಇಲಾಖೆ ಬಾಬು ರೂವು 25.67 ನ್ನು ರೂವು 100 ಕ್ಕೆ ತಗ್ಗಿಸಬೇಕೆಂದು ಸೂಚಿಸುವಲ್ಲಿ ನನ್ನ ಅಭಿಪ್ರಾಯವೆಂದರೆ, ರಿಜಿಸ್ಟ್ರಿ ಅಧಿಕಾರಿ ಕಛೇರಿಗಾರರ ವಾಸಸ್ಥಾನಗಳಿಗೆ ಸಂದರ್ಶನಮಾಡಿ ದಸ್ತಾವೇಜುಗಳನ್ನು ರಿಜಿಸ್ಟ್ರಿ ಮಾಡಬೇಕಾದರೆ ಈಗ ರೂವು 20ನ್ನು ಕಮ್ಮಿ ಕನ್ ಫೀಸು ವಸೂಲುಮಾಡುತ್ತಾರೆ. ಅದನ್ನು ಅರೆವಾಸಿಗೆ ತಗ್ಗಿಸಬೇಕೆಂದು ನನ್ನ ಅಭಿಪ್ರಾಯ. ರಿಜಿಸ್ಟ್ರಾರರು ವಾಸಸ್ಥಾನಗಳಿಗೆ ಹೋಗುವ ಸಂಕೇತಗಳು ಮುಖ್ಯವಾಗಿ ಕ್ಯಾಲೆಂಡರಿನ ಕಛೇರಿಗಾರರ ಬಾಬಿನಲ್ಲಿ ಮತ್ತು

[Mr. K. Raghuchandra Ballal] [18th March 1926]

ಅಭಿನೇ ಹೋಗಲಾರದ ಮಾರ್ಗದ ಸ್ವೀಕಾರವು ಬಾಬಿನಲ್ಲಿ ಆಗುತ್ತದೆ. ಫೀಸ್‌ಗಳನ್ನು ರೂ. 20 ರಿಂದ ರೂ. 10 ಕ್ಕೆ ತಗ್ಗಿಸುವುದು ಈಗಿನ ಜಾಸ್ತಿ ಫೀಸ್‌ನ ತಗ್ಗಿಸುವ ಸೂಚನೆ. ಅದರಂತೆ ಈ ಮಟ್ಟಿಗೆ ಫೀಸ್‌ನ ದರ ತಗ್ಗಿಸುವುದು ಅತಿ ಅಗತ್ಯ.

3-30
p.m.

Mr. D. MANJAYYA HEGGADK :—"Sir, the chief object of this motion is to get the commission or fees charged for attendance from Rs. 20 to Rs. 10. This commission is charged on account of the visits paid by the registration officers at the residences of parties for registering documents, at the parties' request. These fees are also to be paid by persons who are by custom prohibited from appearing in public. This seriously affects especially gosha ladies who do not, by custom, appear in public; in their case it works very hard. For these reasons I support the motion."

* The hon. Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. PATRO :—"Sir, the fees are charged for attendance at home. If there is no requisition that the party should be attended upon at home, they need not pay the charge at all. But this charge has not been complained of up till now as being excessive or heavy. If in any particular case we find that the parties are poor though they observe gosha and are unable to pay the charge, such a case will be considered. But as a general rule, the charge cannot be reduced from Rs. 20 to Rs. 10. In particular cases we can consider the difficulty and the particular circumstances in which the people are situated, and then we may consider the question of reduction in that case. But generally it is not possible to reduce it because Rs. 20 is fixed by the department as a reasonable fee."

Diwan Bahadur M. KRISHNAN NAYAR :—"I am sorry, Sir, that the hon. the Minister says that it is not possible to reduce it to Rs. 10. Formerly it was Rs. 10, and it was only recently that it has been raised to Rs. 20. I was under the impression that it was raised to Rs. 21, but whether it is Rs. 20 or Rs. 21 it does not much matter. People in country parts really feel this a hardship, and after all, I do not know whether the amount of revenue which the Government is able to collect by way of this commission is very much. My own impression is that the amount which the Government are able to collect by way of commission, by the enhancement from Rs. 10 to Rs. 20, is certainly immaterial, whereas the hardship caused to the people is material. So I hope that my hon. Friend will consider the desirability of reducing the fee and that at a very early date to its former level."

* Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—"I feel, Sir, that the answer to this question will largely depend on what the policy of the Government is, whether they consider that the Registration Department should be made a money-making department, or whether the revenue in that department should be restricted to meet legitimate expenditure for the administration of that department. I think that Registration, and Justice should not be costly for the poor people because after all the people on whom the burden of registration falls are poor people and I think nothing should be done by the Government to make their lot worse still. I do not think the Government can legitimately make a profit of 14 lakhs out of the misery of the poor people who have to pay these high fees for registering their documents. If once the Government concede that principle, they will at once see the necessity for reduction of charges for registration. This does not seem to be a matter in which people only on one side or the other are concerned. If we read the paper before us, we find that hon. Member

[18th March 1926] [Mr. A. Ranganatha Mudaliyar]

from all sides of the House have given notice of motions urging reduction in the registration charges. And I think, Sir, that the hon. the Minister for Registration also in the days when he was less trammelled by office than he is now, perhaps entertained similar sentiments in regard to this matter, and I only wish that he will remember those days, as the facts existing then are equally true to-day, and see if he cannot reduce the charges for registration including the charges levied for attendance at houses for registration to something reasonable."

Rai Bahadur Sir K. VENKATAREDDI NAYUDU :—"Sir, I thought the argument that money should not be made out of the service-rendering departments was effectively answered the other day by the hon. the Finance Member when he pointed out that there was as much as about 70 lakhs of deficit for this year, and if department after department is attacked in this manner by saying 'You are making so much money out of this service, which you should not', and so on."

* Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—"I did not refer to all departments, Sir. I said that 'Justice', 'Registration' these should not be made the means of making money."

Rai Bahadur Sir K. VENKATAREDDI NAYUDU :—"That is no doubt true, Sir, but if we exclude Land Revenue and Excise--and my hon. Friends on the other side, I suppose, would very much like the Excise revenue wiped out--(A voice: 'Some on your side also'), then, where is the department which will yield the revenue necessary to meet the expenditure of the State? Now, Sir, there are three or four departments which can be said to bring in large sums of revenue and if revenues from all these departments cannot be scraped and put into other departments which do not bring in any revenue at all, such as the Department of Education, where will the money be coming from to meet the expenses of these departments? I can very well understand so far as the present point is concerned, the request for reduction of the fee levied for attendance at parties' houses for registering documents. Cases may arise, for instance, cases in which women are concerned, in which this may prove a hardship, and among women there may be gosha women also. If for such a reason these people are to be allowed some redress, and if the fee is to be reduced to Rs. 10 in their case, one can understand it to be a necessary argument to which the Government may be expected to give a sympathetic reply. But to put it on a broad basis and say that the Government cannot make any money out of these departments such as Justice, etc., is a thing which will one day launch us into a much more serious deficit budget than the one we have got now. Money has to be obtained for the expenditure of the State and if hon. Members are prepared to show a source from which these deficits are to be met (Rai Bahadur T. M. Narasimhaiah: 'Yes, I shall show'),--and this item of 14 lakhs is not a small sum--then that would be more practical. They will have to show some other source from which they can meet the deficit. Until this is done, I do not think it is right for hon. Members to put forward this argument. As I said, I would, however, appeal to the hon. Minister to see his way if it is possible, to reduce the fees levied for attendance at parties' houses in particular cases, not in all cases because able-bodied men can certainly go to the office and they cannot plead inability to come, and men who execute wills in their last days can pay Rs. 20 for the attendance. But I do recognize that cases are existing in

[Sir K. Venkatarreddi Nayudu] [18th March 1926]

which poor women owing to social conditions cannot go to the registration offices. In such cases the point raised by my hon. Friend from Malabar is certainly reasonable, and I hope that some sympathetic reply would be given on that point."

Rai Bahadur T. M. NARASIMHACHARLU :—"Sir, the hon. the Minister says that in particular cases the question of reduction will be considered. Are we to understand that for every particular case application must come to the Government and the Government will sanction it, or are we to understand that certain discretion is to be given to the Registrars and sub-registrars in exercise of which they may forego a portion of the fees now collected? That is the point which I desire to be cleared up. If it is intended that in every particular case the application must come to the Government and the Government must give sanction, I submit he would be prescribing an impossible condition. If discretion is allowed to the officers, I submit it is something, but it very often happens that the discretion is exercised more in favour of the Government than otherwise. As regards the other question which the hon. Member, Sir K. Venkatarreddi Nayudu Garu, raised he seems to be a special champion to-day for the Finance Department."

Rai Bahadur Sir K. VENKATAREDDI NAYUDU :—"I have always been one, Sir, if you will excuse my saying so."

Rai Bahadur T. M. NARASIMHACHARLU :—"Anyhow, Sir, the elections are coming, please do not be so loud." (Laughter.)

Rai Bahadur Sir K. VENKATAREDDI NAYUDU :—"I am not so much afraid of the elections, Sir, as he seems to be."

Rai Bahadur T. M. NARASIMHACHARLU :—"I desire that the hon. Member should be returned and therefore gave that advice." (Laughter.)

Rai Bahadur Sir K. VENKATAREDDI NAYUDU :—"I thank the hon. Member for his kindness but he need not entertain any apprehensions on my account."

Rai Bahadur T. M. NARASIMHACHARLU :—"I am very glad to be told like that, Sir. The hon. Member told us that there is a deficit in spite of the relief from contributions, and asked 'How are we to meet the deficit unless we pool all these extras and make them available for expenditure of the State?' Well, here is the answer to it. If we turn to the budget memorandum prepared by the Finance Secretary, page 83, appendix 3, it contains a number of schemes to be met from current revenues. From page 83 to page 117 it extends, and there are 315 such schemes. The provision for 1926-27, recurring, is 11,32,620; non-recurring expenditure is 61,22,380 the total comes to 72.55 lakhs. Well, Sir, if there is really a deficit, why make provision for all these schemes? Now what are all these schemes? Most of them are buildings, officer's quarters and so on. Cannot these buildings wait for one year? I submit, Sir, this budget is prepared very cleverly in order to arrive at a deficit so as to tell the India Government that unless they give relief from contribution there is no chance for our province. Now, please go through these 315 new schemes which are to be introduced next year at an expenditure of Rs. 72.55 lakhs. Even if you cut off half of it, there is still 36 lakhs left, and we will be in the plus. Therefore when we can really be in the plus when we can avoid so many buildings, and we can save so much money, why do you want to take

[18th March 1926] [Mr. T. M. Narasimbacharlu]

money from the poor people, and then say we are really in a deficit and we must cover it? Perhaps the hon. the ex-Minister does not want to go into these things and see for himself whether it is not possible to avoid the deficit."

Rai Bahadur Sir K. VENKATAREDDI NAYUDU :—"May I just make a personal explanation, Sir? I understood that expenditure mentioned by him to mean certain services rendered to the people, certain works intended for the purpose of making progress in certain directions. Perhaps what the hon. Member from Cuddapah means to say is that he would have no progress at all but would be satisfied with the present state of things."

The hon. the DEPUTY PRESIDENT :—"That is not a personal explanation."

Rai Bahadur T. M. NARASIMHACHARLU :—"I would request my Friend, my hon. and Learned Friend, to go through these things, and if he does so, he will find that these schemes consist of quarters for forest officers, loading platform and crane at Dignvamma, acquisition and extension of telephone lines in the Anamalais, etc."

Rai Bahadur Sir K. VENKATAREDDI NAYUDU :—"That is a service, Sir."

Rai Bahadur T. M. NARASIMHACHARLU :—"Every thing is a service from his point of view. Most of these schemes are of buildings and if these buildings are put off for one year, there will be really no deficit at all. So, I submit the argument that is now advanced on behalf of the Government as if the Government are wanting in resources in respect of arguments I submit, Sir, is not correct. It is not doing the right thing by the people who have sent us here. So, I submit that this department need not make so much profit out of the poor."

Mr. K. Raghuchandra Ballal requested (in Kannarese) permission to withdraw the motion, and the motion was by leave withdrawn.

Rai Bahadur T. M. NARASIMHACHARLU :—"If he had told us before this, we would have saved so much trouble."

The Demand for Registration was then put and carried and the Grant was made.

DEMAND VI—IRRIGATION CIVIL—OFFICERS.

* The hon. Mr. N. E. MARJORIBANKS :—"Mr. President, Sir, on the recommendation of His Excellency the Governor, I move

'that Government be granted a sum not exceeding Rs. 14.36 lakhs under the head Irrigation—Civil Officers.'

* Rao Sahib R. SRINIVASAN :—"Sir, I beg to move—

'that the allotment of Rs. 2,23,800 for Minor Irrigation—Establishment be reduced by Rs. 10.'

"My object is to discuss the grievances of the lease-holders and peasant labourers holding small plots of land. Especially these depressed classes who own small plots of land, find much difficulty in getting water for irrigating them. There are several instances of this hardship, but I shall only mention just one or two. At Krishnapuram near Chidambaram, the Adi-Dravidas or depressed classes have got lands, each owning ten acres or five acres, and those lands were irrigated for thirty years, and in all

[Mr. R. Srinivasan]

[18th March 1926]

records it was noted that irrigation should be effected through a certain kanni. But the caste villagers were jealous of it and so they came and closed this kanni, and then there came litigation.

"After a long trouble they went to the revenue divisional officer who ordered to close the kanni and then ordered the engineer not to allow them. I had to go to the Collector and explain these things. Then he called for the records and issued orders. Then, Sir, where is the remedy for these people? Moreover, there is another way in which these poor people are being harassed and that is by dragging them to the civil courts. I do not know if Government can find some means to relieve these people. Because the castemen are wealthy people and these men are poor, they could not meet them on the same level. In a particular village the castemen have collected Rs. 5,000 to put these people to some trouble or other and take away the land from them. In every village the peasant labourers have some grievance or other and I think the Government must find some means to relieve the trouble of these agriculturists."

* The hon. Mr. N. E. MARJORIBANKS :—"Mr. President, Sir, the hon. Mover has nothing to complain of in regard to the proposal to repair the irrigation works. He instances cases where poor people have been oppressed by their neighbours. He asks Government to take some means of preventing it. Well, one of the means, Sir, that has been taken is to have representatives of such people in this Council and the very case the hon. Member told us clearly shows that his intervention had the desired effect and resulted in justice being done to these poor people. As it becomes known that they are not unchampioned and that there are people who will bring cases of oppression to notice and so long as our officers do justice I feel sure that the grievances will diminish and people will realize that they have able and excellent advocates such as the hon. Member who has spoken."

The motion was by leave withdrawn.

* Mr. K. SITARAMA REDDI :—"Sir, I beg to move

'that the allotment of Rs. 14.36 lakhs for Irrigation—Civil Officers be reduced by Re. 1.'

"My object in tabling this motion is not in the least to suggest that any reduction should be made under this item but to suggest certain ways and means by which these works could be carried out. All the members of this House must be really glad to find that a sum of nearly 3½ lakhs has been provided extra this year for this kind of works. But a reference to page 85 of the Civil Budget Estimate shows that for the year 1924-25 actuals for maintenance and repairs were Rs. 5,70,000 and the establishment charges came to Rs. 2,19,000, thereby working up nearly to 35 per cent. Taking again the revised budget estimate for the current year we find for a proposed expenditure of nearly 8 lakhs the establishment has been provided for to the extent of 2 lakhs thereby coming to nearly 25 per cent of the whole expenditure. It is probable that before the closing of the year they may not be able to spend the whole of the allotment and then the establishment will work more than 25 per cent. What I wanted to suggest by tabling this motion was that there are officers of other departments who are traversing the same area as these minor irrigation officers. For instance take the Public Works Department. There are expert officers of that department who can be entrusted with this work. If any suggestion is thrown out that

[18th March 1926]

[Mr. K. Sitarama Reddi]

they are already overworked, I may say that there is the Local Fund department. As President of the South Arcot District Board I can say this with some authority. The Engineering department can spend this amount probably more usefully than the Minor Irrigation department is now doing. This question, I understand, has long been agitated upon and I do not see why Government do not give heed to the proposal."

* Mr. B. RAMACHANDRA REDDI :—"Mr. President, Sir, I move

'that the allotment of Rs. 14.36 lakhs for Irrigation—Civil Officers be reduced by Rs. 1,000.'

"I wish to point out that the vast area of land which constitutes the Nellore district is not adequately provided with irrigation facilities. I would like to take another opportunity of discussing the matter with regard to the bigger schemes and comprehensive projects. I will now confine myself to the existing minor irrigation tanks which have been neglected for decades by the Government. Many of the minor irrigation tanks have been neglected. Some of them have been encroached upon by the Forest department and the existing ones are not properly supplied with water. I would like to invite the attention of the Government to the condition of certain tanks the water-supply for which is inadequate. If only some care is taken by the Government, the advantages will be enhanced both to the ryots and to the Government. For example, Sir, in Kandukur taluk there is a long chain of tanks—Bitragunta, Somarazupalli Raju cheruvu, Somarazupalli Marri-cheruvu, Somarazupalli Kondrazugunta, Pakala new tank, Pakala old tank, Pakala Raju tank and Binginapalli tank. These tanks are in a chain and the first tank that receives supply is the Bitragunta tank. The surplus water of this tank feeds the Razu tank which can command the ayacut of Marri tank of Somarazupalli in case its supply is increased. From Razu tank water goes to the new and old tanks of Pakala. The old tank can command not only the whole ayacut of Kondrazugunta of Somarazupalli but also a greater portion of the ayacut of Binginapalli tank. At present there is no source of permanent and unfailing supply to these tanks and the only source of supply is the rain that falls in their catchment areas. In consequence of this, there have been failures of crops which resulted in the remission of assessment. Even during the years when full assessment was collected, the yield of the crops was very poor for want of adequate water-supply. In recent years the ryots of the locality have engaged a Bachelor of Engineering for surveying and taking levels from the bed of the Paleru within the limits of Veukana-palem, hamlet of Palukuru. The levels have been taken and plotted. The results are very encouraging as the bed of the river itself is 5.18 feet higher than the F.T.L. of the topmost tank, viz., Bitragunta tank. The ryots are assured that the channel might be constructed at a cheap cost and that it would relieve them of the constant loss that they are put to for want of water to their tanks. The ryots are assured that if the supply is increased to the existing tanks by taking a channel from Paleru it will give an additional income of Rs. 10,000 to Government every year and will irrigate an additional area of 2,000 acres. The existing acreage is 2,665 getting an income of Rs. 16,793 and a mamul tirwajasti to 432 acres.

"Then in the very same taluk there are the Machavaram, Mopad, Madanagopalapuram and Kandakur tanks. There are in these four villages 600 acres of unoccupied wet land left waste for want of adequate supply of water. There are besides 3,266 acres of dry land in the four Government

[Mr. B. Ramachandra Reddi] [18th March 1926]

villages mentioned above. Eight hundred and six acres in the Government village of Palur, 829 acres in Atmakur, 293 acres in Vogur village and 335 acres in the shrotriyam villages of Madanagopalapuram and Dondapad in all 5,479 acres commandable by these two tanks if properly improved. I mean the Mopad and Machavaram tanks. A major extent of the dry lands in the Government villages of Mopad, Kondamudsupaliam and Anandapuram are of saline soil and unfit for dry cultivation. The question of improving the two tanks with a view to bring this vast tract under irrigation occupied the attention of the authorities some years back but the scheme was dropped before proper investigation commenced. The Machavaram tank is now fed by the Tumuleru, a natural channel and the supply is not regular. The Mopad tank is mainly fed by the Pandivagu which carries with it a percentage of salt fatal to the agriculturist. The lands under the Mopad tank have become extremely saline on account of the saline water and crops do not thrive. If these two tanks have to be improved in their capacity and also in their water supply, the best method that can be suggested is that a channel might be taken off from Mannaru to these two tanks. There is already a channel that is in good condition except for half a mile at its mouth where it has silted up either on account of the neglect of the Government or of the ryots. If this scheme is taken up, it will not cost more than a lakh of rupees and it will be highly remunerative, as the estimated extent of increased irrigation is 5,500 acres. At the very lowest figure of Rs. 5 per acre, the gross revenue will be Rs. 24,500, and deducting the maintenance charge it will give a net revenue of more than Rs. 12,000.

"In addition to the two examples that I have given, in the Gudur taluk there is a channel called Ohallakalava channel which submerges nearly one thousand acres belonging to Kota, Zarugumalli and adjoining villages, and when these one thousand acres are being submerged, the Government is not kind enough to give remissions to the submerged portions. If a flood bank is raised on the other side of the channel itself, these one thousand acres will be saved, and the ryots also will improve their economic condition. I have given this example, Sir, only to show how far the Government has been either neglecting the whole question, or not realising the difficulties of the people. My submission, now, is that an immediate investigation be undertaken by the Government, and the non-officials and the more experienced ryots of the locality are willing to co-operate with the Government in suggesting the proper and advantageous methods of improving those facilities."

* The hon. Mr. N. E. MARJORIBANKS :—" Mr. President, Sir, the speech we have just heard, I think, indicates some misapprehension in the minds of some hon. Members as to the scope of this minor irrigation grant. Irrigation works generally are in the charge of the Public Works Department. This grant has only to do with small tanks and minor works which irrigate less than 250 acres each, and do not form part of any system. That is because it would be uneconomical to put them in charge of the Public Works Department; they have been entrusted to the Revenue Department, to safeguard the local interests of the villagers with the assistance of the Revenue officers who would be better qualified to look after them. The remarks of the hon. Member therefore do not apply to the works for which we have made provision here. He is referring to works which will need investigation by the Public Works Department, and to quite considerable schemes. I have no doubt my hon. Colleague

18th March 1926] [Mr. N. E. Marjoribanks]

has been listening with great interest to these remarks, and will bear them in mind when he comes to deal with the subject of irrigation generally.

"As regards the provision made for these smaller tanks, then it may still be interesting to my hon. Friend from Nellore to know that we have provided for the coming year for the repair of those tanks Rs. 32,500 in lieu of Rs. 18,000 for the current year. We hope that this will go far to keeping the smaller and minor tanks in good order.

"Coming to the larger question raised by my hon. Friend from South Arcot, although these works are not in charge of the Public Works Department, periodically that department reviews the conditions of all works in the district and put all tanks, big and small, into order, and it is for the purpose of maintenance and repairs they are then entrusted to the Revenue Department. It will not be an economical arrangement to employ the agency of the highly trained and highly paid Public Works Department to look after these petty and scattered out-of-the-way works. My hon. Friend suggests that the Local Fund Department might look after them. As to that he must remember that these works are very numerous in most districts, and are scattered, many of them in very out-of-the-way places. I do not think he will find that the Local Fund Department will be able to attend to this work without neglecting their present duties."

* Mr. K. SITARAMA REDDI :—" May I know the number of minor irrigation tanks that are proposed to be repaired in South Arcot ? "

* The hon. Mr. N. E. MARJORIBANKS :—" I am sorry, Sir, I have not got the figures here. I can assure him that these works number hundreds if not thousands, and are scattered over the districts. South Arcot is one of the districts where the tanks are most numerous. It is for this reason that, when investigation was made in the past, it was decided that it would not be a practical proposition to put them under the charge of the Local Fund Department. That was at the time, a bad old time, when all these things were under the Collectors. We heard yesterday from my hon. Friends from Cuddapah and from Anantapur all the difficulties which the local boards have of administering the lands entrusted to their charge with the existing establishments. Is it a wise thing at this stage to add yet another task to them, and give yet one more field in which there should be chance of friction between them and the Revenue Department ? The percentage of establishment, whoever employs it, to the works to be done must inevitably be high when we are dealing with a lot of petty scattered works where we cannot concentrate supervision and expenditure. If we succeed in keeping it down to 20 or 25 per cent, I think we ought to congratulate ourselves. I am afraid it is sometimes much higher. But if the Council will permit us in succeeding years, if we have funds, to spend as much as we propose to do this year, I think we can have a more satisfactory percentage of supervision to expenditure."

The motion was by leave withdrawn.

Demand VI was then put and carried, and the Grant was made.

DEMAND VII—IRRIGATION—PUBLIC WORKS OFFICERS.

* The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—" Sir, on the recommendation of His Excellency the Governor, I beg to move

'that the Government be granted a sum of Rs. 205.85 lakhs for Irrigation—Public Works Officers.'"

[18th March 1926]

Mr. A. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—" Sir, I beg to move

'that the allotment of Rs. 2,50,200 for maintenance and repairs of the Buckingham canal be reduced by Rs. 100.'

"In making this motion, I wish to draw the hon. the Irrigation Member's attention to two points which have been to a certain extent adverted to in the general discussion on the Budget in connexion with the Buckingham canal. The first point, as was referred to by my hon. Colleague from Chingleput at the time of the general discussion, is with regard to the nature of the Buckingham canal from Madras southwards, the silting up that has been going on, the extreme difficulty that is being felt by people in the way of navigation in the Buckingham canal. That amount of attention which ought to be bestowed on the canal to see to it that navigation is made possible towards the south of Madras has not been paid hitherto. My hon. Colleague drew pointed attention to the fact that here was a great navigation way meant not for so much human traffic as for traffic of goods, which was not being availed of owing to the fact that Government has not bestowed proper attention on it. Here, Sir, it seems to me that in this country we do not wish to have two competing systems working. The system of monopolies has been completely accepted in the case of railways. In other countries, it is just the opposite. Monopolies in the matter of communications is rather resisted by all local authorities and by Governments. In England, no railway company has got a monopoly for any particular area. My hon. Friend the Finance Member will bear me out when I say that there are at least four different means by which we can travel from London to Edinburgh.

"In other words, without a sort of communication, monopoly is not certainly allowed in England. The little scope that there is for navigation, for the plying of boats either for pleasure or for carrying on goods is availed of to the utmost capacity by all advanced countries. The river Thames is not very attractive, is not a wide river or a beautiful river, but it has been made all the three. My hon. Friend knows very well that one can go on the Thames to Buckingham, Windsor [Dr. P. Subbarayan. 'And to Oxford'] and to Oxford as my hon. Friend from Oxford says. Here it seems to me that a certain impression is abroad that communication by the Buckingham canal has been to a certain extent not made possible by Government or, if I may put it in an alternative way, has been discouraged by the Government because of the conflict it may have in competition with the Railways. I do not know what justification there is for that impression, but to a certain extent among the lay public the idea has been prevalent. For instance, on the Uddapah-Kurnool canal which has been a navigable canal and which was done as a famine work for the purpose of navigation mainly and secondarily for the purpose of irrigation, as much attention has not been bestowed after the system of railway has come into force; and there is the same sort of—I will not say accusation—impression regarding the Buckingham canal also. I think notwithstanding the very hopeful reply given during the time of the general discussion by the hon. the Irrigation Member, he will be well advised to reconsider his position and try to see whether the Buckingham canal, especially south of Madras, cannot be made more navigable than it is.

"The second and more important question that I wish to raise is in regard the eternal Cooum itself. This House has repeatedly discussed this question (Mr. T. M. Narasimhachari : 'ad nauseam'), and my hon. Friend,

[18th March 1926] [Mr. A. Ramaswami Mudaliyar]

the departed leader Sir P. Tyagaraya Chettiyar took special interest in it. As the President of the Corporation, and as a Member of this House, he has done everything to draw the attention of the Government to the necessity for making the Cooum less offensive than it is at present. He tried his best to improve the amenities of the city, and the health conditions of the city, but first and foremost to improve the Cooum and make it a tidal river, if possible. We thought at one time, at least from the communications in the press—and the special articles in the press led us to believe and hope—that it was going to be an accomplished fact very soon. We had had committees sitting in judgment over the scheme, we had a special officer brought from Calcutta who sat in the committee, whose advice was appreciated very much, and went into the whole question. We had more than one Chief Engineer of our own Government to look into the question. Last year a small provision was made for the purpose of making a beginning or for the purpose of finding out how it could be done. This year, there is no provision so far as I can see. I do not know what has become of this scheme. It is one of those abandoned schemes which are taken up in a hurry, which are considered very important when the fever of it lasts—if I may use the expression—and then are allowed to be dropped or abandoned. I consider that the health of the city will never improve unless Government tackle this problem more seriously. The hon. the Law Member I remember—at least I was not present at the time he gave his reply on the last budget motion owing to extraneous reasons—I believe the hon. the Law Member said that the difficulty of going ahead with the scheme was because the Corporation of Madras was not willing to come to terms with the Government of Madras. This is a question which raises a much larger issue than the matter of dispute between the Corporation and the Government. It may be that the Corporation does not want to give a share of its revenues for expenditure on this scheme which it ought to. I am not concerned with that. I am here merely speaking as a general tax-payer, not merely confined to the City of Madras. I feel whether the Corporation comes to terms with the Government or not, this scheme ought to be taken in hand and carried through. If the Government think that the Corporation ought to pay a share of it, well, either they can recover it from them or if they do not recover it it is open to them to cut the grant to the Corporation in some other respect. I do believe that in such a big scheme as this in a metropolitan city like Madras, where the conveniences will promote the health not merely of the residents of the city but also of the several thousands of people who are occasional visitors, the Government ought to take a move forward and not wait on the mere good will and pleasure of the Corporation. I should like to know from the hon. the Irrigation Member whether he has finally dropped the scheme or whether he means to proceed with it. His Excellency Lord Willingdon, when he was Governor of Madras, assured us that he was in great sympathy with this proposed improvement. I know he gave much thought to this scheme and gave personal attention to it. But somehow it has not progressed very far. I want to know from the hon. the Irrigation Member what is the position if the Corporation does not come to terms with the Government of Madras, if the Corporation refuses to budge an inch further, if it says that it cannot provide the funds either in a certain proportion or in any proportion at all to the ultimate expenditure which will be involved in this scheme. I feel myself, as I said, that the scheme itself is of such vast

[Mr. A. Ramaswami Mudaliyar] [18th March 1926]

importance generally to the health of the whole Presidency, because, Mr. President, as you know very well, disease in Madras is propagated all over the Presidency. An epidemic in Madras does not confine itself to Madras as an epidemic in rural parts. It is a vast distributary centre, it distributes epidemics all over the Presidency. Therefore a metropolitan city like Madras has to be treated as under exceptional circumstances. I therefore suggest to the Government that they should take the scheme on hand. I should like to know what the position really will be if the Madras Corporation does not come to terms. Am I to understand that the scheme will be dropped? I hope not. I move the motion that stands in my name."

Mr. C. MUTAYYA MUDALIYAR :—" Sir, as one that has tabled a similar motion, I beg to associate myself with the views expressed by my hon. Friend from Chingleput. I gave this as a token motion in order to draw the attention of the Government to the unsatisfactory condition of the Buckingham canal. I referred to this in the general discussion of the budget and also on more than one occasion before. The fact is that this canal which is very useful to the public is neglected in spite of the attention that has been repeatedly drawn to it in this House. Casuarina trees for fuel are brought to Madras through this canal. On account of the silting, fuel which was selling at 15 rupees a ton is now selling at Rs. 25. I hope the hon. Member will reconsider the question and see his way to find more funds to keep the canal in a satisfactory condition."

* Rao Bahadur C. NATESA MUDALIYAR :—" Mr. President, Sir, because, so much is talked about the Cooum and Madras I rise to speak on that subject. The ambition of every citizen of Madras is to see the Cooum and the Buckingham canal improved and made more navigable. I think last time the hon. the Law Member assured us that they were projecting a scheme for the purpose, and I do not know at what stage the matter now is. Late Sir P. Tyagaraya Chettiyar was agitating about this for many years, and he died without seeing the Cooum improved. Now, Sir, I ask the hon. the Law Member whether any step will be taken at least in my life time."

"About the remark made by my hon. Friend, Mr. Ramaswami Mudaliyar, it is not Madras that is spreading epidemics to other districts, but other districts bring epidemics to Madras. It is people coming from other places that bring the epidemics. We are trying to make Madras as far as possible healthy."

"Coming to the Buckingham canal, it is in a very disgraceful condition now. It is being silted up. There is a rumour that it is allowed to be silted up because the Government wants to encourage the Railways. Sir, I request the hon. the Law Member to look into this question. About 200 villages are sending articles of food to Madras. We are getting our firewood chiefly through the Buckingham canal and we are getting our lime shells and food-stuffs also through this canal. So the Buckingham canal is an important thing for us. You know that to get articles through water is much cheaper than getting it through railway. Moreover, this Buckingham canal keeps Madras cooler than what it would be without the canal. Of course the smell is bad in certain seasons. But it is on account of the Buckingham canal and the Cooum that Madras is not so hot as it would otherwise be. Taking these

18th March 1926] [Mr. C. Natesa Mudaliyar]

things into consideration, I hope the hon. the Law Member will give us a very satisfactory reply."

* The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—" Sir, I shall at once deal with the second of the questions which have been mooted in the course of the debate on this series of motions, regarding the Cooum. The position is shortly this: it has been rightly observed by the hon. Member from Chingleput that some time ago an expert committee, or rather a series of expert committees, was appointed for the purpose of examining the question of permanent improvement of the Cooum. After deliberating upon the rival schemes that were put forward in regard to this matter, the Government with its resources at its command came to the conclusion that the most feasible and the most economical course was to adopt measures, to keep the mouth of the Cooum open for tidal action and adopt a scheme of dredging. In this connexion I may interrupt the train of argument for a moment and point out that the two difficulties in regard to the Cooum are the following. Firstly, differently situated as Madras is from places like Bombay and Karachi, where the difference between the high tide and the low tide is sometimes anything between 10 and 30 feet, the difference between the highest tide and the lowest tide is less than three feet here. So that unless there is some other additional expedient adopted, the difference between the high tide and the low tide does not enable the tidal action to sweep out what may be called the scum, the sewage that is collected in the Cooum. In other countries, more fortunately situated, in such rivers as the Hoogli, the difference between high tide and low tide is so great that when the high tide comes in the water enters and during the low tide recedes very fast practically sweeping away all the scum. That is not the case here. You must also keep the mouth of the river open so as to prevent the silting-up action. On that I think I addressed certain remarks on the last occasion, that is, the action of the winds in Madras is such that the mouth of the Cooum is always liable to silting up. I think I pointed out last year that the East Coast has been formed in such a manner by the silting of oceanic or sea deposits. Now the second thing necessary is to have a dredger constantly working at the mouth of the Cooum. Also, we have to drain the Cooum and keep the banks within certain limits, so that such little tidal action as there is may operate beneficially. With regard to this, a scheme for nearly five lakhs has been approved. Now where the Corporation comes in and why there is no provision in the budget is this. The Corporation has not yet made any attempts to divert that constant influx of the Chintadripet sewage into the Cooum. Our main difficulty is that. If the difference between the high tide and low tide is bigger it would not matter. But the constant influx of the Chintadripet sewage which is dropped into the Cooum makes the position very difficult and unless the Corporation comes to the rescue—I am speaking wholly individually and not binding the Government—I cannot do it; if that problem is solved by the Corporation I do not think there will be any other difficulty."

* Rao Bahadur C. NATESA MUDALIYAR :—" Has the Corporation refused to do it?"

* The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—" More than once an attempt has been made in this direction but to no purpose. There is more than one influential Member of the Corporation present here and I am perfectly

[Sir C. P. Ramaswami Ayyar] [18th March 1926]

willing to initiate any conference if necessary. We have asked the Corporation whether they will pay any portion of the cost but they have not replied favourably. If they will pay one-third of the expense and if they will also make some arrangements to see that the Chintadripet sewage is not drained into Cooum, then I shall make a move in the matter. After all, I think the Madras Corporation should pay some share of the expenditure. I grant what Mr. Ramaswami Mudaliyar has stated, namely, that the improvement of the Madras City is not in any way a local question. It is the metropolis of the Presidency and therefore the improvement of Madras is an improvement which will affect the whole of the Presidency, and also it is true that otherwise the diseases that are prevalent in Madras will be carried elsewhere. Surely the Corporation is in some way responsible to the country at large and it ought to pay some share of the expenditure. Therefore my first appeal is that Corporation should pay some portion of the expenditure. I may assure the House that Government will not insist upon their paying 50 per cent of the expenditure or anything like that. The second point is that Chintadripet sewage should not be allowed to drain into Cooum. As soon as these outstanding questions are dealt with by the Corporation, Government, I may say, will make an immediate attempt to start a scheme which consists of two parts: (1) keeping the mouth of the Cooum open by training the bank as far as the sea and (2) by flushing the river with sea water up to the Napier bridge. There is no use of flushing the river up to the Napier bridge if all the sewage is dropped into the Cooum. I may say here that it is not with a view to postpone the scheme which it is stated, started just like 'hectic fever' some time ago that this small provision has been made. I appealed to the President of the Corporation at the time of the general discussion of the budget to help us in the matter but he did not reply. For many reasons unconnected with this matter he is away from the House just at present. There are many influential Members of the Corporation in this House, and if they will bring pressure to bear upon the Corporation to come to some settlement for the purpose of sharing the expenditure as far as their funds permit, and if they will also devise some means for preventing the Chintadripet sewage from draining into Cooum, Government will certainly make a move in the matter. That is what I desire to say so far as Cooum is concerned.

"Now, dealing with the Buckingham canal, I may say that Government are not actuated by a desire to discourage traffic. I say deliberately that they are not actuated by a desire to discourage traffic or to divert it to the South Indian Railway. On the other hand the Government recognize that there are certain kinds of traffic which it is easier to carry on through waterways than along the railways. The kind of traffic that goes through the Buckingham canal is casuarina fuel and it has been found cheaper to carry on this traffic through this waterway than through the railway. Hon. Members will realize that the expenditure on the Buckingham canal—Maintenance and repairs were Rs. 2,11,000 for 1923-24 and Rs. 2,33,000 for 1924-25 and the clearing of silt is regularly done.

"While I realize the improvement of Buckingham canal both from the point of view of the traffic which is carried on along that canal and also from the point of view of its influence upon the health of the city, the question is how far it is practicable to start any bigger improvements than what we are

18th March 1926] [Sir C. P. Ramaswami Ayyar]

attempting at present. I may say that the Superintending Engineer has reported with regard to certain proposals made by the Retrenchment Committee. In April 1923 the Retrenchment Committee suggested that the question of improving the Buckingham canal should be examined. They suggested also that the possibility of increasing the tolls and the possibility of closing what they call unremunerative reaches, and retaining such reaches as are likely to be self-supporting should be investigated. That matter was examined by the Superintending Engineer and I think he has arrived at the very sound conclusion that it is not practicable to close the reaches and that the fees cannot be raised in the present condition of the canal. With regard to the traffic that is now passing through the canal he has submitted certain proposals for the improvement of the canal and they are likely to cost some 2½ lakhs. One of the proposals is the deepening of the South canal. This matter has been in correspondence with the Chief Engineer and he has been asked to submit an approximate estimate for deepening the South canal by one foot and improving the reaches as far as possible. I may say that a provision of 2½ lakhs has been made and if it is found necessary to increase the provision to some extent it will be done. But any bigger schemes we have not been contemplating and it would cost us immense amounts if we were to bring forward any such scheme. Any bigger question of making the canal deeper will have to be considered with greater deliberation; and with our finances we have considered the scheme mentioned above as the only feasible scheme."

Mr. R. MADANAGOPAL NAYUDU:—"I only want to draw the attention of the hon. the Law Member to the fact that a greater portion of Chintadripet sewage is already being drained by underground drains."

* The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR:—"Only a portion."

The motion was by leave withdrawn.

Rai Bahadur Sir K. VENKATAREDDI NAYUDU:—"Sir, there are five motions tabled by me, namely,—

- 'To reduce the allotment of Rs. 3,000 for remodelling the Tapeswaram South side channel by Rs. 100 ;
- 'To reduce the allotment of Rs. 1,500 for remodelling the Thossipudi North side channel by Rs. 100 ;
- 'To reduce the allotment of Rs. 2,000 for remodelling Anathavaram channel by Rs. 100 ;
- 'To reduce the allotment of Rs. 2,000 for constructing an inlet on Sahapuram drain, etc., by Rs. 100 ;
- 'To reduce the allotment of Rs. 1,00,000 for improvements to the upper portion of Yenamadurru drain by Rs. 100.'

"It is not my intention to press any one of them to a division. I should like to put all of them under one category. All of them are intended to obtain information from the Government.

"The first of these is with reference to what is known as the remodelling scheme. The Godavari anicut was constructed nearly three-fourths of a century ago and the present canals are the result of a scheme which was evolved

[Sir K. Venkatarreddi Nayudu] [18th March 1926]

in those good old days. The scheme no doubt has been working very well, but in practice owing to the excessive increase in the ayacut that is brought under wet irrigation, circumstances have arisen which made it necessary for the Government to consider the question of remodelling the scheme. The question of remodelling has arisen in this way: under the same canal system lands of the same level and also lands of different levels have come under cultivation. The result was that even some portions were left without cultivation. The lower lands, if not actually submerged by the irrigation of the higher lands, at least received so much of the percolated water, with the result that if they were not cultivated in the earlier portions of the season, the crops thereon would be damaged owing to the percolated water. It is to remove this difficulty that the system of remodelling was thought of nearly one-fourth of a century ago, but unfortunately no progress has been made in that direction.

"I know some fifteen years ago a very well known engineer was appointed to remodel the canal in the Central delta in the Amalapuram taluk. We do not know what happened to that afterwards. Some money was spent but the scheme was not carried to its completion. What I want to know is whether Government have got a programme for a number of years during which they will complete this remodelling scheme and see that all lands are brought under cultivation by irrigation through canals which are now specially intended to irrigate certain type of lands only. The difficulty which may be removed by the remodelling scheme is that the lower lands may be irrigated from a different channel and their irrigation will not be affected by the irrigation of higher lands. That, Sir, is the scheme of remodelling. I know Government have got a scheme but nevertheless it is difficult to understand why they choose one canal or another and after choosing it they do not complete the scheme. That is all my difficulty. I only hope that Government will be able to complete the scheme of remodelling in the very near future. I do not know exactly the cost of the great Godavari anicut. But I know this much that the money which was borrowed at that time for the construction of this great anicut was borrowed at a very low rate of interest perhaps 3 per cent or so. I know the Government used to collect from us $2\frac{1}{2}$ per cent, 3 per cent, 4 per cent and then we reached a stage of paying Rs. 5 per acre and during the last three-fourths of a century Government have received not only all that was invested in that great work, but are now receiving something like 20 or 25 per cent on their investment. We are grateful to the Government for the construction of this great work and if to-day you should go to those parts you will find that Sir Arthur Cotton who was instrumental in constructing this great anicut is recognized as Maharishi Cotton. What I propose is this. You are getting lakhs and lakhs of rupees from this great work: why don't you spend a portion of it? We are not asking like other members of other districts to reduce the rates from other sources and thereby give relief to the people. Here is a case where we are paying crores and crores of rupees for generations. We have been paying these revenues for our own benefit. We want that some portion of it may be spent on schemes which will be beneficial to the national interests because it means larger production and increase of national wealth, and incidentally we the people of the districts will be benefited and Government also will be benefited because they will be able to bring more lands into cultivation and thereby derive larger revenue. That is my first submission.

18th March 1926] [Sir K. Venkatarreddi Nayudu]

"The second point is in reference to a new irrigation scheme. There are two streams which take their origin somewhere in the Agency tract of Godavari known as Pamileru and Chimmeleru. These two streams join together at a certain place and their combined waters sometimes submerge large areas of fields. We know that large quantities of water which are discharged from these two streams are now going as waste into the sea. A scheme has been suggested to the Government and that is of combining these two streams and utilizing their waters for the purpose of converting them into an irrigation work. This scheme is connected with another scheme known as the Thorrigada scheme. The Thorrigada scheme is this:—A few miles north of Rajahmundry there is a breach in the bank bund and it is a big breach and it has never been filled up. The damage that is caused to the fields in the surrounding area during the flood season is immense. What happens is this: Floods in the river Godavari sometimes rise by 30 to 40 feet and large volumes of water discharge themselves into the river during the season and when the fields are full of crops they are submerged in water. Not only this, all the drainage water in that area together with the waters of these two streams come and submerge thousands of acres and destroy the crops that are ripe for harvest. Now the scheme that is proposed is to block up the bund and fill up this breach not allowing Godavari water to go round that dry area.

"In ordinary times when there is no rain water it is easy enough; but in the months of September and October when the river is in floods the difficulty is great. The river water mixes with the rain water and thus submerges a great part of the land. My suggestion is to block up the river bund and combine the two streams. The water then can be utilized for irrigation purposes; a lakh of acres of land might then be brought under cultivation. It would benefit the city of Rajahmundry—I call it a city in spite of the fact that the census report shows its population as less than 50 thousands, for it was taken at a time when something like 10 or 20 thousand people had gone out for a festival. The drainage system was originally designed to send some water down to the river. There were complaints that the drinking water of the river was contaminated by the drainage water. There is a place known as Ava which is low enough. It is filled up during the rainy season. The present scheme is to combine the Rajahmundry drainage scheme with that of Ava, so that the drainage water of Rajahmundry can be discharged into Ava and the whole water may be used for irrigation purposes. The damage caused by the floods can be stopped. I mentioned this scheme an year or a year and a half ago to the hon. the Law Member, but I have not heard anything about it till now. If Government have not done anything till now there is no harm in Government promising to do something now at least.

"Then, Sir, we requested that six-inch pipes might be placed instead of the four-inch pipes. The smaller pipe does not work satisfactorily. Conference after conference has been held; argument after argument has been advanced including that of the heavy taxes paid by the ryots and the large income got by the Government, asking the Government to afford greater facilities by replacing the four-inch pipe by a six-inch pipe. I wonder whether hon. Members of the House clearly follow me when I complain of the difficulties caused by the presence of a small pipe only. It is not so well known in other parts of the Presidency. It is not like the Cauvery

[Sir K. Venkatarreddi Nayudu] [18th March 1926]

delta. The Godavari irrigation system is a scientific system where every drop of water is measured and then allowed to the ryots. It can be easily found out how much of water flows through a four-inch pipe. Of course, a great deal depends on the head of the fall. The Irrigation Officers who are intelligent in their own way have given certain figures showing that if the section of the pipe is increased there would be some difficulty to the crops. I quite concede that they might be right theoretically; but in actual practice the ryots have felt the difficulty of the four-inch pipe. I hope the hon. the Law Member will see his way to remove the difficulty, not because I ask for it, but because the people are actually feeling the difficulty.

"Then again, Sir, there is the question of raising the height of the Godavari anicut from 1' 9" to six feet. At first sight it looks as if it would be a very expensive item. But an experiment was recently made in the Kistna district. I must thank the hon. the Law Member for having completed the work. I know the people of the Kistna district and Guntur district are thankful to him for his work. But I submit to him that unless he takes up the Godavari district also which has a larger delta his work will be incomplete. If the height of the shutters of the Godavari anicut is raised a larger quantity of water will be stored. On account of the construction of the bridge over the anicut there are five or six huge pillars which stop the flow of sand. Of course a large part of it is washed away on account of the depth between the pillars. As a consequence the depth of the river is decreased on account of the sand hills that are formed. You may remember, Sir, that Godavari was once famous for its sugarcane production. But now, on account of the inability of the Public Works Department officers to supply water all through the year this crop had been given up altogether. It is not for me to speak here of the importance of the production of sugarcane in larger quantities. India is perhaps one of the countries where sugar is consumed in very large quantities. There was a time when India produced her own sugar; but to-day millions and millions of tons are imported from Java and other places. I request the hon. the Law Member to afford facilities for growing sugarcane in greater and greater quantities. It is a very long crop and requires water all the twelve months of the year. If the height of the anicut shutters is raised, not only will you be able to increase the area of the second crop zone, but also you will be able to supply water all through the year for the sugarcane crop. The attempts of the Agricultural department to plant Java varieties here have proved futile till now for the reason that water is not supplied all through the year. Kistna anicut costs five or six lakhs of rupees and if we want to raise its height it would not cost more than 20 lakhs of rupees. But as a consequence of it the production would increase hundred times. In the course of ten years you will not only be able to take back the money invested in the undertaking, but it would be bringing a permanent increase of revenue to the general purse.

"One other subject which I want to mention is the improvement of the Godavari delta, both the western delta and the eastern delta. I am sure that if my friend Mr. Peddiraju were here he would have given details. Reference was made several times to the unfortunate condition of this drainage system. In the evidence given before the Irrigation Committee of the year 1900-1902 an experienced Superintending Engineer said that the work of the irrigation system would be useless unless the drainage system also is kept in a way that is conducive to the free flow of water. Of course

18th March 1926] [Sir K. Venkatarreddi Nayudu]

paddy fields can retain a large quantity of water. But the water collects in the drainage for years and years together without being attended to. Sometimes this goes on for a quarter of a century. One of my hon. friends here suggests that malaria also would be produced; of course it is said that all irrigation works would produce malaria. But we will put up with malaria even, if we can produce all the food necessary not only for our districts but also for the so-called famine districts of Bellary, etc."

* Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR:—"Why 'so-called'?"

Rai Bahadur Sir K. VENKATAREDDI NAYUDU:—"I beg your pardon, Sir. I shall then say, 'for the famine districts'. If want of food is not felt by those districts now, it is due the excellent irrigation system of our districts which supply them with food. We only want to perfect it and to improve it. I hope that Government will do something in this matter in order that the people may be benefited, the country may be benefited and may, I also add that the Government may be benefited."

The House adjourned at 5 p.m. to meet again at 11 a.m. the next day (19th March 1926).

R. V. KRISHNA AYYAR,
Secretary to the Legislative Council.

[18th March 1926]

APPENDIX I.

[Vide answer to question No. 1619 asked by Mr. G. Rameswara Rao at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on the 18th March 1926, page 178 supra.]

Statement showing number of offences committed by members of various criminal tribes to whom the Criminal Tribes Act has been applied.

District.	Name of criminal tribes.	Year in which the Act applied.	Number registered.	Number of convictions, Indian Penal Code, before registry for five years.	Number of convictions, Indian Penal Code, after registry during the five years ending with 1924.
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
Cuddapah	D. Erukalas	1918	80	103	..
	N. Korachas	1918	29	17	2
	D. Dasaris	1917	67	93	1
	Kepmaris (Togamalai Koravars).	1913	10	17	..
	D. Woddars	1913	723	63	8
	P. Pamulas	1917	42	18	..
	J. Mahrattas (Kanjur Bhats).	1914	4	5	..
	J. Mixed Gang	1921	44	43	..
	H. Assassins	1914	27	17	..
	Total	..	1,066	376	11
Jeypore	Oriya Dombas	1921	474	263	44
	D. Eriakalas	1921	117	39	26
	D. Woddars	1913	16	7	9
	N. Korachas	1913	100	29	30
	D. Dasaris	1919	16	6	6
	J. Mixed Gang	1921	19	..	..
	Sugalis	1923	307	17	3
	D. Ur-Korachas	1923-24	515	52	25
	P. Boyas	1925	..	..	..
	Dommaras	1924	33	10	..
Anantapur	J. Mahrattas (Kanjur Bhats).	1924	10	2	..
	Iranis	1924	..	..	..
	Total	..	1,133	162	99
Nellore	D. Dasaris	1913	1,259	97	40
	D. Yerakalas	1913	1,200	106	6
	Dommaras	1913	772	122	30
	U. Yerukalas	1913	102	8	3
	Jogulas	1914	117	17	4
	D. Woddars	1918	95	22	16
	Total	..	3,545	372	99
Chittoor	N. Korachas	1913	225	20	25
	V. Paraiyas	1914	246	9	15
	Jogis	1914	93	5	..
	D. Dasaris	1917	101	30	43
	N. Korachas	1918	108	1	11
	A. Paligars	1921	64	1	3
	Dommaras	1921	97	..	..
	B. Turkas	1923	79	6	..
	Total	..	..	..	..

[18th March 1926]

District.	Name of criminal tribes.	Year in which the Act applied.	Number registered.	Number of convictions, Indian Penal Code, before registry for five years.	Number of convictions, Indian Penal Code, after registry during the five years ending with 1924.
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
Chittoor—cont.	Sugalis	1923	644	77	15
	Yenadis	1924	155	24	..
	Boyas	1924	35	9	..
	Total	..	1,837	132	112
Ramnad	V. Koravars	1916	649	31	49
	Ch. Valayars	1915	580	23	23
	A. Maravars	1923	107	7	1
	A. Karumbaravars	1923	97	17	5
	Po. Kallars	1920	..	12	15
	Pir. Kallars	1922	..	6	2
	Total	..	1,433	96	95
Godavari East.	T. Pamulas	1917	304	19	53
	Nakkalas	1913	143	5	21
	A. Malas	1920	28	7	14
	Total	..	475	31	88
Kurnool	D. Yerakalas	1913	694	44	89
	D. Woddars	1913	115	29	10
	Boyas	1918	303	13	30
	Nirshikaris	1922	99	8	1
	Sugalis	1923	99	7	..
	Malas and Madigas	1924	29	3	..
	Total	..	1,338	104	130
Tinnevely	K. Koravars	1915	232	9	9
	P. Maravars	1919	116	14	1
	Th. Naiks	1922	258	13	4
	J. Mahrattas (Kanjur Bhats).	1924	10	..	2
	Iranis	..	..	..	..
	Total	..	616	36	16
Chingleput	Kepmaris (Thogamalai Koravars).	1913	60	24	21
	Jogis	1914	519	28	27
	Kaloddars	1923	67	10	2
	Nokkars	1924	6	..	..
	Koravars	1925	13	..	..
	Total	..	665	62	50
Bellary	D. Dasaris	1918	332	120	39
	D. Yerakalas	1916	102	38	15
	Sugalis	1923	781	83	..
	Total	..	1,215	241	54

* Register not available.

[18th March 1926]

District.	Name of criminal tribes.	Year in which the Act applied.	Number registered.	Number of convictions, Indian Penal Code, before registry for five years.	Number of convictions, Indian Penal Code, after registry during the five years ending with 1924.
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
North Arcot ..	Jogis	1914	396	47	50
	S.M. Koravars	1913	293	63	27
	P. Koravars	1921	29	5	..
	S. Madi Koravars	1917	148	14	20
	V. Paraiyas	1914	24	1	5
	Dommaras	1922	74	32	8
	R. Kepmaris (Thogamalai Koravars).	1913	9	1	..
	Ch. Koravars	1921	28	..	..
	T. Naiks	1922	18	..	..
	Total	..	1,019	163	110
Kistna ..	Yerukalas	1913	1,276	113	76
	Woddars	1915	151	16	23
	Pamulas	1917	34	..	..
	Total	..	1,461	129	99
Salem ..	S.M. Koravars	1913	2,674	169	153
	A.K. Koravars	1914	454	49	23
	A.M. Koravars	1923	333	22	8
	P.P. Koravars	1922	126	25	9
	Th. Koravars	1920	50	3	2
	U. Koravars	1921	145	7	1
	U. Koravars	1924	32	8	1
	S. Koravars	1924	8	18	..
	M. Gollars	1924	176	28	..
	U. Koravars	1925	18	2	..
	Total	..	4,011	331	197
Madura ..	P. Kallars	1918	32,054	1,198	1,287
	S.M. Koravars	1921	400	46	34
	V. Koravars	1917	961	26	68
	P. Valayars	1924	187	34	19
	Total	..	33,602	1,304	1,408
Tiruchinopoly ..	S.M. Koravars	1913	2,166	59	78
	A.K. Koravars	1913	166	20	4
	Thog. Koravars	1913	214	207	63
	Uralai Goundans	1917	502	11	37
	Kooth Kallars	1917	42	8	1
	Vara Koravars	1923	67	5	..
	Thot Naiks	1922	342	47	4
	Jod Mahrattas (Kanjars Bhats).	1924	11	..	..
	M. Ambalagars	1924	53	19	1
	P. Bettuvars	1924	14	7	..
	V. Koravars	1923	19	..	1
	Total	..	3,596	383	189

18th March 1926]

District.	Name of criminal tribes.	Year in which the Act applied.	Number registered.	Number of convictions, Indian Penal Code, before registry for five years.	Number of convictions, Indian Penal Code, after registry during the five years ending with 1924.
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
Ganjam ..	Dandasis	1923	1,675	185	16
	T. Pamulas	1917	168	4	6
	K. Bhats	1934	26	6	5
	Total	..	1,867	195	27
South Arcot ..	Thog. Koravars	1913	110	34	20
	V. Paraiyas	1913	1,160	184	79
	A.K. Koravars	1913	58	2	10
	Jogis	1914	254	14	11
	V. Padayachis	1914	145	25	60
	Chak Koravars	1920	93	3	5
	Gudu Dasaris	1922	60	..	14
	Thot. Naiks	1922	31	6	..
	Khanjar Bhats	1924	95	..	6
	Iranis	1924	..	..	..
Guntur ..	Total	..	2,007	268	205
	Yerukalas, VI, VIII, IX.	1913	2,988	91	78
	Do. IV	1913	145	14	10
	Do. V, X	1913	149	4	4
	R. Korachas	1913	292	27	10
	Korachas, XV	1913	314	39	21
	D. Woddars, XI	1918 & 1917	322	16	22
	G. Woddars, IV	1924	67	8	1
	J. Madigas, V	1924	49	7	..
	P. Fuda Budakalas	1924	475	8	..
Coimbatore ..	Total	..	4,791	214	146
	Valayars	1916 to 1919, 1921, 1922, 1923.	1,675	167 + 11 = 178	155 + 2 = 157
	Koravars	1916 to 1919	743	179	117
	Th. Naiks	1923	33	1	2
	K. Bhats	1924	36	..	..
Total ..	Total	..	2,487	358	276

[18th March 1926]

APPENDIX II.

[Vide answer to question No. 1645 asked by Rao Bahadur A. S. Krishna Rao Pantulu at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on the 18th March 1926, page 190 supra.]

List of village panchayats constituted during the years 1921-22—1924-25.

Districts.	1921-22.	1922-23.	1923-24.	1924-25.
1. Anantapur ...	...	11	22	48
2. Arcot, North ...	...	8	36	109
3. Arcot, South ...	...	5	15	17
4. Bellary ...	...	4	4	3
5. Chingleput ...	2	10	5	1
6. Chittoor ...	8	20	3	2
7. Coimbatore ...	...	22	3	...
8. Cuddapah ...	...	1	1	...
9. Ganjam ...	...	...	...	...
10. Godavari ...	...	1	6	2
11. Guntur ...	...	1	3	...
12. Kistna ...	...	1	12	9
13. Kurnool ...	...	9	...	...
14. Madura ...	...	2	6	6
15. Malabar ...	...	1	...	...
16. Nellore ...	...	3	6	1
17. Nilgiris, The ...	...	...	...	...
18. Ramnad ...	...	...	8	12
19. Salem ...	...	19	7	2
20. South Kanara ...	...	2	...	2
21. Tanjore ...	...	3	13	26
22. Tinnevely ...	...	13	11	4
23. Trichinopoly ...	...	8	13	7
24. Vizagapatam ...	...	...	...	...
	10	144	174	251

579

Number of informal panchayats in each district at the end of 1918.

Name of district.	Number.	Name of district.	Number.	Name of district.	Number.
1. Anantapur ...	23	10. Godavari ...	10	19. Ramnad ...	6
2. Arcot, North ...	80	11. Guntur ...	25	20. Salem ...	2
3. Arcot, South ...	20	12. Kanara, South ...	1	21. Tanjore ...	33
4. Bellary ...	53	13. Kistna ...	19	22. Tinnevely ...	70
5. Chingleput ...	22	14. Kurnool ...	13	23. Trichinopoly ...	152
6. Chittoor ...	39	15. Madura ...	11	24. Vizagapatam ...	47
7. Coimbatore ...	42	16. Malabar ...	7		
8. Cuddapah ...	2	17. Nellore ...	...		
9. Ganjam ...	14	18. Nilgiris, The ...	...		
					691

THE MADRAS LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

Friday, the 19th March 1926.

The Council met at 11 of the clock, the President (the hon. Mr. M. RUTHNASWAMY, M.A., Bar.-at-Law) in the chair.

PRESENT:

Ramaswami Ayyar, K.C.I.E., The hon. Sir C.P.	Narasimhacharlu, Rai Bahadur T. M.
Marjoribanks, C.S.I., C.I.E., The hon. Mr. N. E.	Narayanan Nambudiripad, Rao Bahadur O. M.
Usman Sahib Bahadur, The hon. Khan Bahadur Muhammad,	Natesa Mudaliyar, Rao Bahadur C.
Moir, C.S.I., C.I.E., The hon. Mr. T. E.	Noyce, C.S.I., C.B.E., I.C.S., Mr. F.
Raja of Panagal, The hon. the.	Oboledappa, Mr. B.
Patro, Kt., The hon. Rao Bahadur Sir A. P.	Pandrang Row, Mr. V.
Sivagnanam Pillai, Kt., The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir T. N.	Ponnuswami Pillai, Mr. K. S.
Abbas Ali Khan, Mr.	Prabhakaran Tampan, Mr. K.
Abdulla Ghatala Sahib, Mr.	Premayya, Mr. G.
Ari Gowder, Mr. H. B.	Raghuobhendra Ballal, Mr. K.
Arpudaswami Udayar, Mr. S.	Raja, Rao Bahadur M. C.
Arumuga Nadar, Mr. P. K. S. A.	Raja of Ramnad.
Bhanoji Rao, Mr. A. V.	Rajan, Mr. P. T.
Boag, Mr. G. T.	Rajappa, Mr. P. S.
Chidambara Nadar, Mr. A.	Ramaabandha Reddi, Mr. B.
Devendrudu, Mr. N.	Raman, Rao Bahadur P.
Ellappa Chettiyar, Rao Sahib S.	Ramaswami Mudaliyar, Mr. A.
Evans, C.S.I., I.C.S., Mr. F. B.	Ranganatha Mudaliyar, Mr. A.
Gopalan, Rao Sahib P. V.	Rencontre, Mr. A. E.
Guruswami, Mr. L. C.	Sagaram, Mr. P.
Haji Qasim Sahib Bahadur, Khan Bahadur Haji Abd-ul-Jah.	Saldanha, Mr. J. A.
Heggide, Mr. D. Manjappa.	Sarvarayudu, Mr. K.
Kesava Pillai, C.I.E., Diwan Bahadur P.	Sesha Reddi, Mr. B. P.
Khadir Mohiddin Elyas Khan Sahib, Mr.	Sitarawa Reddi, Mr. K.
Khalif-ul-Jah Sahib Bahadur, Khan Bahadur P.	Srinivasan, Rao Sahib R.
Krishnan Nayar, Diwan Bahadur M.	Subbarayan, Dr. P.
Krishnaswami Nayudu, Rao Bahadur K.	Subramania Pillai, Mr. K. Chavadi.
MacDougall, Kt., Sir Alexander.	Sundaramurti, Rao Sahib P. V. S.
Madanagopal Nayudu, Mr. R.	Tangavelu Pillai, Rao Sahib T. C.
Madurai, Hony. Lieut.	Veerian, Mr. R.
Marthandam Pillai, Mr. P. N.	Venkatachala Padayachi, Mr. K.
Moidu Sahib, Mr. T. M.	Venkatarama Sastri, Mr. T. B.
	Venkatareddi Nayudu, Kt., Rai Bahadur Sir K.
	Windle, Capt. E. O.

[19th March 1926]

I

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

[Order made by the President of the Madras Legislative Council under Standing Order No. 15 on the 4th December 1924.]

1. Starred questions to be put at a meeting of the Council with their answers shall be printed and placed on the Council table an hour before the President takes his seat.

The Secretary shall call out the name of each interpellator in the order in which the names are printed, specify the serial number of his question and make a sufficient pause to give him or any other member a reasonable opportunity of rising in his place and putting a supplementary question. Supplementary questions must be put immediately after the principal questions to which they relate.

2. If a member responsible for a starred question happens to be absent when it is called it will be open either to him or to any other member to put supplemental questions thereon after the other starred questions for the day have been answered, provided question-time is not thereby exceeded.

3. Questions, not starred, will not be called in Council, but they will be printed with their answers and placed on the table of the House along with the list of starred questions. Oral supplementary questions will not be allowed in regard to unstarred questions.]

STARRED QUESTIONS.

Electricity.

Proposed hydro-electric schemes in the next five years.

* 1653 Q.—Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state in what places the Government propose to create hydro-electric power within the next five years with the power expected to be created in each of those places and the cost of creating the power, the cost proposed for selling a unit and the probable time when the work is expected to be commenced and finished in each case?

A.—The Government cannot at present forecast their programme for the next five years. The schemes that are likely to be taken up first are—

- (i) the Pykara which will supply 37,200 kilowatts, and with which may ultimately be connected a Moyar scheme to give another 10,560 kilowatts.
- (ii) the Pinjikavi scheme, with a Kumbhar connexion, to develop about 18,000 kilowatts.
- (iii) the Papanasam scheme to develop about 21,000.

The latest estimate of cost for the Pykara scheme full development is about 238 lakhs. Figures cannot be given at present for the others—nor is it possible to say yet what will be the selling price per unit. No dates can yet be given for the beginning or completion of the several schemes—but the Government hope to begin on Pykara, at least, during 1926.

Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR:—“The hon. the Law Member says that ‘no dates can yet be given for the beginning or completion of the several schemes’. May I know if he can say at least within how many years the Pykara scheme is expected to be completed?”

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR:—“Two and a half years. In regard to this question I would suggest to the hon. Members that I am going to make a statement.”

[19th March 1926]

Rai Bahadur T. M. NARASIMHACHARLU:—“Is the scheme expected to yield any profit?”

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR:—“All I can say is that the Mysore Government hope to cover a portion at best of their revenue deficits by means of the profits from the hydro-electric scheme.”

Rai Bahadur T. M. NARASIMHACHARLU:—“We also hope to do the same.”

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR:—“That will depend upon other factors.”

Irrigation.

Estimates for the Bellary West Canal project.

* 1654 Q.—Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state the orders passed by the Government on the estimates submitted by Mr. Hawkins with his report No. 2040/25-A 1-D, dated 18th August 1925, for the Bellary West Canal project?

A.—No orders have yet been passed. The proposals have been referred to the Director of Agriculture and the Chief Engineer has been asked for some further information about the effect which the scheme may have on the Kurnool-Cuddapah canal irrigation.

Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR:—“May I know with reference to what points a further reference has been made to the Director of Agriculture?”

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR:—“It is with regard to the question whether the soil is apt for extensive wet irrigation.”

Rai Bahadur T. M. NARASIMHACHARLU:—“May I know, Sir, what is the meaning implied in the last sentence, here—‘the Chief Engineer has been asked for some further information about the effect which the scheme may have on the Kurnool-Cuddapah canal irrigation’?”

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR:—“With regard to that matter I propose to make a statement on the Ceded Districts Irrigation Committee report which, I think, will elucidate the matter.”

Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR:—“What guarantee is there that it will be reached at all?”

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR:—“I am ready to make a statement now. The question is whether the Kurnool-Cuddapah canal may itself be utilized and become part of the bigger scheme which has been referred to in by the final report of the Ceded Districts Irrigation Committee. Whether the existing canal can be made an integral part of the bigger scheme is one of the questions to be discussed.”

Rai Bahadur T. M. NARASIMHACHARLU:—“May I ask the hon. the Law Member through you to make a statement with regard to the steps the Government are going to take with reference to the report made by the Ceded Districts Irrigation Committee. What I fear is that under the grant, this item will not be reached at all. We have only one hour.”

[19th March 1926]

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR:—"I do not know what the reasons for the hon. Member's diffidence are. Because after all, only 48 minutes have elapsed. We have nearly two hours more. I do not think there is any difficulty."

Marine.

Sale of the steam launch at Mangalore.

* 1655 Q.—MR. J. A. SALDANHA: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Port Officer of Mangalore, who had under his control a steam launch, has sold it;

(b) if so, for what price; and at what loss or profit as compared with its original price;

(c) (i) what use it was put to,
(ii) why it was sold,
(iii) whether it is intended to replace it and if so, at what cost,
(iv) whether it is quite necessary to have a steam launch for the use of the Port Officer or his establishment or for any other purpose,
(v) whether a life boat cannot serve the purposes of the port; and

(d) to what fund the price and cost of maintaining the steam launch are charged, whether the Landing and Shipping Fees Fund or any other Port Fund?

A.—(a) The launch was sold on the recommendation of the Landing and Shipping Fees Committee.

(b) For Rs. 17,500 at a loss of Rs. 61,470.

(c) (i) For port purposes and for towing native vessels.

(ii) Because it was found unsuitable for the port as the river had silted up.

(iii) The question is under the consideration of Government.

(iv) A launch is required for the port.

(v) No.

(d) The charges on account of the launch are debitable to the Mangalore Landing and Shipping fund.

MR. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR:—"It is said that the steam launch is to be replaced. Have the Government ascertained whether the new one will not share the same fate as the previous one having regard to the fact that the river is silted up?"

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR:—"It is with reference to the conditions of the river after silting up, that the launch will be purchased."

Appointments.

Government Order No. 493, dated 18th May 1925.

* 1656 Q.—MR. R. VEERIAN: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether a G.O. No. 493, dated 18th May 1925, has been passed relating to Staff Selection Board; and

(b) if so, whether a copy of the Government Order will be placed on the table of this Council?

19th March 1926]

A.—(a) Yes.

(b) Yes.

Depressed Classes.

Facilities for drinking water in Sindavalam village.

* 1657 Q.—MR. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(a) the strength of the depressed class population in Sindavalam village, Bellary district; and

(b) the action taken on the petitions of the depressed class members of the village complaining of lack of facilities for drinking water for their use?

A.—(a) & (b) The Government have no information.

MR. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR:—"Have the Government any objection to call for the information?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—"I have absolutely no objection."

MR. R. VEERIAN:—"May I know if the Government have taken any steps to enquire from the president of the local board whether any sum is set apart in the budget every year for water-supply to the particular area?"

The hon. the PRESIDENT:—"That is a separate question."

MR. R. VEERIAN:—"With reference to clause (b) I think, Sir, that the people would have submitted a petition to the president of the taluk board. Therefore I want to know whether the Government have made any enquiries whether any amount is set apart for water-supply to this locality every year."

The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—"In the first place, the Government do not know to whom the petition was sent."

MR. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR:—"The hon. the Home Member was good enough to say that he would call for the information. May I ask him whether he will call for a list of villages where there are no wells for the depressed classes?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—"I shall consider it."

Mahazar from Virapandianur depressed classes.

* 1658 Q.—MR. R. VEERIAN: With reference to question No. 1183, regarding the mahazar from Virapandianur depressed classes, answered at the meeting dated the 18th December 1925, will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state whether any enquiries have been made by the Commissioner of Labour and, if so, with what results?

A.—The mahazar was forwarded to the Commissioner of Labour for necessary action. The Government have not received any report from him.

[19th March 1926]

Mr. R. VEERIAN :—" May I know whether the Commissioner of Labour disposes of such petitions of his own accord without making a reference to the Government ? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—" If he thinks that a reference to the Government is necessary he will do so. "

Mr. R. VEERIAN :—" The same answer was given to my question answered on the 18th December 1925. I want to know whether he can dispose of the matter even if it is an important one. "

The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—" If he thinks so he can dispose of the matter. "

The RAJA OF RAMNAD :—" May I know how long the senior Member of the Board of Revenue is likely to be Commissioner of Labour ? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—" Till Mr. Paddison returns to Madras. "

Local Boards and Municipal Councils.

Representation of various communities on the Therkupatti Village Panchayat, Tinnevely taluk.

* 1559 Q.—Mr. K. Chavadi SUBRAHMANYA PILLAI: Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) what the strength of the Therkupatti Village Panchayat, Tinnevely taluk, is according to the communities to which the members belong;

(b) whether any of its members are related to the President of this Village Panchayat; if so, how many; and

(c) whether it is a fact that additional members have been sanctioned to it by the Registrar of Village Panchayats; and, if so, why?

A.—(a) The panchayat consists of seven members, of whom four are Adi-Dravidas, two are Konars and one is a Muhammadan.

(b) The Government have no information.

(c) Yes. It is reported that all the seven members originally elected belong to one of the two factions in the village. The strength of the panchayat has therefore been increased by six in order to enable all parties in the village to obtain representation on it.

Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—" It is said that the strength has been increased by six to enable all parties to obtain representation. I wish to know how this can be reached. Have they a system of proportional representation or what ? "

The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL :—" I should like to have notice of the question, Sir. "

Alleged illegal collection and misappropriation of taxes by the President, Therkupatti Village Panchayat.

* 1660 Q.—Mr. K. Chavadi SUBRAHMANYA PILLAI: Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that memorials were submitted by the villagers to the Registrar of Village Panchayats in respect of certain improper and

[19th March 1926]

unjust measures taken by the President of the Therkupatti Village Panchayat, Tinnevely taluk, against the villagers, and, if so, what steps were taken by him for the amelioration of the grievances of the people of this village;

(b) whether it is a fact that the taxes collected by the president of this village panchayat remained in his hands for some months and, if so, the total of such amounts and the time for which they were kept by him;

(c) whether there is any limit of time during which public money can be under the custody of the president of the village panchayat;

(d) whether any steps were taken by the Registrar of Village Panchayats to investigate the temporary misappropriation, in cases where there were delays in making payments into Government treasuries or Post Office, of taxes collected by the president of this village panchayat; and

(e) whether any tax collected by the president of this village panchayat from the villagers was considered to be illegal by the Registrar or Assistant Registrar during their inspection and ordered to be refunded, and, if so, what was the total amount so ordered to be refunded to the parties and what steps were taken by the Registrar or Assistant Registrar of Village Panchayats to obtain the explanation of the president of the village panchayat for his unjust and improper collection of such taxes?

A.—(a) The answer to the first part is in the affirmative. The Registrar-General of Panchayats deputed his Personal Assistant to enquire into the matter. This officer visited the village in company with the President, Taluk Board. They were of opinion that the taxes had been assessed by the village panchayat in an unsympathetic manner and that one of the two factions in the village alone was represented in the panchayat. The Registrar-General has, on their recommendation, increased the strength of the panchayat by six to give a fair chance of representation to all parties in the village.

(b) The Government have no information. At the time of the visit of the Personal Assistant to the village, the President had with him about Rs. 200.

(c) & (d) Panchayat funds are not remitted into Government treasuries. They may be lodged in the local post office savings bank or may, with the Registrar-General's approval, be kept in any bank or in the local co-operative society. They may also, with his approval, be left in the custody of the President or other respectable person. There is no post office in the village. The President of the panchayat has been directed to send a resolution of the panchayat requesting the Registrar-General to authorize the President to have custody of the Panchayat funds.

(e) The panchayat's proposal to levy a tax on dealers in sheep and goats at three pies per head sold was sanctioned by the Registrar-General. It did not, however, levy the tax on the number actually sold but on an estimate of the approximate number that the dealers would sell in a year. The Personal Assistant to the Registrar-General held that this levy was illegal and the President of the panchayat has been warned. The question of refunding the tax already collected is under correspondence.

[19th March 1926]

Supersession of municipalities and municipal chairmen by Government.

* 1661 Q.—Mr. S. SATYAMURTI: Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government propose to vest in themselves the power to supersede municipalities and municipal chairmen if in their judgment they act in a manner calculated to bring municipal administration into contempt;

(b) if so, the reasons for this step; and

(c) whether the Government propose to take the opinion of the Legislative Council in this matter?

A.—(a), (b) & (c) The attention of the hon. Member is drawn to clauses 21 and 22 of Bill No. 1 of 1926 which has been published for general information. No further change in the existing law than is embodied in these clauses is at present proposed.

Delegation of powers of municipal and local board chairmen.

* 1662 Q.—Mr. S. SATYAMURTI: Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government propose to empower chairmen of municipalities and presidents of other local bodies to delegate their powers to others than vice-chairmen and vice-presidents;

(b) if so, the reasons for this step; and

(c) whether the Legislative Council will be consulted in this matter?

A.—(a), (b) & (c) The persons to whom and the extent to which chairmen of municipalities and presidents of other local bodies can delegate their powers are prescribed by the Madras District Municipalities Act and the Madras Local Boards Act, no amendment to which can be made except by the Legislative Council.

Election of Mr. Prakasa Rao to a vacancy in the Cocanada Taluk Board.

* 1663 Q.—Mr. S. SATYAMURTI: With reference to the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government's answer to question No. 60 given on 4th February 1925, will he be pleased to state—

(a) whether his reply to a supplementary question of Mr. A. S. Krishna Rao, namely, 'The Government are awaiting the decision of the High Court in appeal' was based on any information supplied to him by his subordinate officers, and if so who they were;

(b) if not, the source from which the information was obtained; and

(c) whether the Government had ascertained that the petition to the High Court had been filed?

A.—(a) & (b) The President, District Board, informed the Government that the petitioner had expressed his intention to file a revision petition against the order of the Subordinate Judge, Cocanada.

(c) The revision petition was filed in the High Court on the 16th March 1925.

19th March 1926]

Nominations to district boards.

* 1664 Q.—Mr. J. A. SALDANHA: Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) the number with names of the Indian Christians nominated by Government as members of the various district boards in the Presidency and still holding those appointments as well as the members elected;

(b) the number with names similarly of the Adi-Dravidas, Adi-Andhras, Adi-Karnatakas and Adi-Keralas who have been nominated and elected as members of various district boards; and

(c) whether representations have been received from any members of these communities or their representative associations asking for nomination from among them to seats in district boards, and what action Government have taken on them?

A.—(a) & (b) The hon. Member is referred to the annual Civil List for 1926 which will issue shortly.

(c) The question does not admit of answer, as no specific period has been mentioned.

District boards without elected presidents.

* 1665 Q.—Sriman SASIBHUSHAN RATH Mahasaya: Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state how many district boards are still without the power to elect their presidents?

A.—Nine.

*Roads and Communications.**Sweepers of Rasipuram Agraharam road.*

* 1666 Q.—Mr. R. VEERIAN: With reference to question No. 1036, regarding sweepers of Rasipuram Agraharam road answered at the meeting of the Council on the 15th December 1925, will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state whether the Government will be pleased to state whether any information has been called for and what it is?

A.—A report has been called for from the President of the Salem District Board, but it has not yet been received.

Mr. R. VEERIAN:—"It is stated in the answer that a report has been called for from the President of the Salem District Board. I want to know whether the President has got anything to do with the right of the depressed classes to pass through public roads and pathways."

The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL:—"I do not think there is any. A report was received recently. The President has been asked to supply some other information."

*Education.**Appointment of a peon in the Government Girls' Secondary School, Salem.*

* 1667 Q.—Mr. R. VEERIAN: Will the hon. the Minister for Education be pleased to state—

(a) whether the post of a peon appointed by the Inspectress of Girls' Schools, Western Circle, Coimbatore, recently in the Government Girls' Secondary School, Salem, is filled by an ex-military man or otherwise;

[19th March 1926]

- (b) what salary the post carries; and
 (c) how many applications were received for the post?

A.—The Government have no information.

Depressed classes girls in the Government Girls' Secondary School, Salem.

* 1668 Q.—MR. R. VEERIAN: Will the hon. the Minister for Education be pleased to state how many girls belonging to the depressed classes are reading in the Government Girls' Secondary School, Salem, in each standard?

A.—The hon. Member is referred to the subsidiary tables appended to Volume II of the Report on Public Instruction in the Madras Presidency for 1923-24. The report for 1924-25 will be published shortly.

Communal representation in the office of the Inspectress of Girls' Schools, Coimbatore.

* 1669 Q.—MR. R. VEERIAN: Will the hon. the Minister for Education be pleased to state how many Brahman clerks and how many non-Brahman clerks are appointed in the office of the Inspectress of Girls' Schools, Coimbatore?

A.—The Government have no information. A report has been called for.

MR. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR:—"Is it the idea of the Government that there should be proportionate representation of different communities not only in each department of the whole province but in each office of the department also?"

THE hon. Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. PATRO:—"The question does not arise out of the answer given."

MR. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR:—"In answer to the question how many Brahman clerks and how many non-Brahman clerks there are in the office of the Inspectress, the Government say that a report has been called for. There must be something behind that answer and I take it, it is to see whether there is adequate representation of the communities. So, may I ask whether it is the idea of the Government that there should be proper representation of different communities for the province not merely in each department but in each office?"

THE hon. Mr. N. E. MARJORIBANKS:—"That does not represent the idea."

The medium of instruction in secondary schools.

* 1670 Q.—MR. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR: Will the hon. the Minister for Education be pleased to state the schools the managers of which have so far chosen one or other of the mother tongues of the Presidency as the medium of instruction in Forms IV, V and VI of secondary schools?

A.—The Government have called for a report.

[19th March 1926]

Singanallur Board Elementary Girls' School.

* 1671 Q.—MR. R. VEERIAN: With reference to question No. 1195, regarding Singanallur Board Elementary Girls' School, answered at the meeting, dated 18th December 1925, will the hon. the Minister for Education be pleased to state—

(a) whether the report said to have been called for has been received; and

(b) if so, whether the Government will be pleased to lay a copy of the same on the table of this House?

A.—(a) Yes.

(b) The substance of the report has already been communicated to the hon. Member.

Excise.

Location of toddy and arrack shops.

* 1672 Q.—MR. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR: Will the hon. the Minister for Education be pleased to give the number of (a) arrack shops and (b) toddy shops which are being located (1) on, or close to, the roads in each district, (2) close to weekly markets in each district, and (3) close to factories in each district?

A.—The Government have no information.

Co-operative Societies.

Co-operative credit societies for depressed classes.

* 1673 Q.—MR. R. VEERIAN: With reference to question No. 1021 answered at the meeting of the Council on the 15th December 1925 regarding co-operative credit societies and stores in North Arcot district, will the hon. the Minister for Development be pleased to state—

(a) how many co-operative credit societies and stores are in each of the other districts except North Arcot district, solely intended for depressed classes and run by them, stating the qualifications of the presidents and secretaries of such societies, including conservancy societies and stores of the municipalities and local boards for their menial servants belonging to depressed classes;

(b) what are the principles adopted in appointing honorary assistant registrars; and

(c) why there are no honorary assistant registrars among the depressed classes in several of the districts?

A.—(a) The following statement gives the number of societies as on 30th June 1925 composed wholly or mainly of members of the depressed classes. It does not include special societies for Kallars, fishermen, hill tribes, municipal menial employees, and

[19th March 1926]

criminal tribes. There are also two trading unions in the Tanjore district which perform the function of distributive societies for Adi-Dravidas besides their other activities:—

District.	Number of societies.	District.	Number of societies.
Anantapur	20	Madras	47
Arcot, North	25	Madura	10
Arcot, South	156	Malabar	9
Bellary	6	Nellore	80
Chingleput	148	Nilgiris	..
Chittoor	17	Ramnad	28
Coimbatore	44	Salem	16
Cuddapah	81	Tanjore	417
Garjam	5	Tinnevely	42
Godavari, East	227	Trichinopoly	16
Godavari, West	20	Vizagapatam	1
Guntur	126		
Kanara, South	45		
Kistna	70		
Kurnool	82		
		Total	1,738

No records are maintained in the offices of the Registrar or his subordinates from which the qualifications of Presidents and Secretaries of societies can be ascertained. This information can be secured only by making an elaborate enquiry all over the Presidency which the Government are not prepared to undertake.

(b) & (c) Honorary Assistant Registrars are appointed to such of the unions as desire them and the unions are generally given a free hand in selecting them.

Mr. R. VEERIAN:—“With reference to clause (c), may I know the number of the honorary assistant registrars belonging to the depressed classes?”

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir T. N. SIVAGNANAM PILLAI:—“Notice, Sir.”

Mr. R. VEERIAN:—“My own information is that there are ten. I do not know whether it is correct. I want to know how long such appointments last? Is it for one year?”

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir T. N. SIVAGNANAM PILLAI:—“They last for one year.”

Mr. R. VEERIAN:—“May I know by whom these appointments are made by the Registrar himself or by the Government?”

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir T. N. SIVAGNANAM PILLAI:—“They are made, on the recommendation of the Registrar, by the Government.”

Mr. R. VEERIAN:—“I want to know the approximate date when candidates are selected for these appointments.”

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir T. N. SIVAGNANAM PILLAI:—“Some time before the end of the co-operative year.”

Mr. R. VEERIAN:—“In the statement it is given that there are 1,738 societies in all the 24 districts intended for the depressed classes. May I know the reason why members of the depressed classes are not appointed? Is it for want of suitable candidates or for any other reason?”

[19th March 1926]

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir T. N. SIVAGNANAM PILLAI:—“If the question refers to the honorary assistant registrars, the answer is given for clauses (b) and (c). If the societies ask for honorary assistant registrars among the depressed classes, the Government have no objection to appoint them.”

Mr. R. VEERIAN:—“No such opinion was taken from one of the unions in the North Arcot district. The appointment was given after a petition was submitted by an individual candidate and after it was recommended by the Assistant Registrar. I do not know what the principle involved is.”

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir T. N. SIVAGNANAM PILLAI:—“I do not know what particular reference is made to the North Arcot district. If it is a point of reference I shall make the necessary inquiries.”

Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR:—“With reference to clause (c), I wish to know what arrangements exist in the matter of the selection of these officers by the unions?”

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir T. N. SIVAGNANAM PILLAI:—“They are consulted in the matter.”

Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR:—“Are their recommendations invariably acted upon by the Registrar?” 11-15 a.m.

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir T. N. SIVAGNANAM PILLAI:—“Generally.”

Rao Sahib P. V. GOPALAN:—“May I ask the hon. the Minister for Development whether there is any proposal to appoint honorary assistant registrars for the economic amelioration of the depressed classes societies, and without any special reference to unions?”

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir T. N. SIVAGNANAM PILLAI:—“I do not think the question arises.”

Fisheries.

Purchase, etc., of the fishing trawler.

* 1674 Q.—Mr. J. A. SALDANHA: Will the hon. the Minister for Development be pleased to state—

(a) whether the fishing trawler, the purchase of which was sanctioned by the Legislative Council at the last sitting, has been purchased; and if so, at what cost;

(b) what its dimensions and conditions are and the purposes for which it can be used, and its capacities;

(c) whether it has arrived in India and if not, when it will arrive;

(d) the cost of its voyage from England to India;

(e) what establishment it will require for being used in India; and

(f) for what use it will be put during this year, and with what profit or loss?

[19th March 1926]

A.—(a) Yes; the prime cost was £3,000.

(b) & (f) The Government have not yet received information regarding the dimensions, condition and capacity of the vessel but presume that as she was purchased by the India Office in consultation with Captain Gribb, she would be found serviceable for the purposes which they have in view. It is not possible to say whether the deep sea fishing experiments which will be conducted from the vessel would result in profit or loss.

(c) The vessel is expected to arrive in India in April 1926;

(d) It is estimated at £2,000.

(e) The question is under consideration.

The RAJA OF RAMNAD:—"From the answers given to clauses (b) and (f), I am led to think, Sir, that the Government sanctioned the purchase of this boat or trawler without any idea as to its dimensions, condition or capacity. They also had no idea of the establishment that would be required for the purpose for which it was purchased. Am I to understand from the answers given that this is a fact?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir T. N. SIVAGNANAM PILLAI:—"The dimensions and capacity are of the ordinary type and the ship also is of the ordinary type."

The RAJA OF RAMNAD:—"What is ordinary or extraordinary type? The question asked is about the dimensions, condition and capacity of the vessel, and the answer given is that the Government have not received any information regarding them. The hon. the Minister now says that the vessel is of the ordinary type. I think this is an answer of the ordinary type."

The hon. the PRESIDENT:—"Hon. Members must not expect extraordinary answers from Ministers."

Industries.

Sale of jam manufactured at Coonoor Government Fruit Preserving Institute.

* 1675 Q.—Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR: Will the hon. the Minister for Development be pleased to state the agents or firms, if any, with whom they have entered into an arrangement for the sale of jam manufactured at the Government Fruit Preserving Institute, Coonoor, together with their addresses?

A.—A list* of wholesale distributors and stockists appointed is appended.

Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR:—"May I know, Sir, the terms entered into between the agents and the Government regarding the commission to be allowed to them?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir T. N. SIVAGNANAM PILLAI:—"I shall have to make a long statement, Sir. But in the absence of records, I cannot make it."

* Printed as appendix on page 382 infra.

[19th March 1926]

Promotion of bone-crushing installations.

* 1676 Q.—Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR: Will the hon. the Minister for Development be pleased to state whether the Government are giving any special help to promote bone-crushing installations and, if so, of what kind and where?

A.—No.

Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR:—"Sir, was any representation received by the Government that help should be rendered to promote bonecrushing installations, either from the public or from their officers?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir T. N. SIVAGNANAM PILLAI:—"I think the answer is contained in the one already given that there has been no special help given to promote bone-crushing installations. I do not believe that any representation has been received."

Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR:—"Sir, has not the Director of Industries, for example, recommended that bone should not be allowed to be exported from the country?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir T. N. SIVAGNANAM PILLAI:—"It is the Director of Agriculture that recommended it."

Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR:—"Yes, has he not recommended that?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir T. N. SIVAGNANAM PILLAI:—"Yes, he did."

Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR:—"May I know what action has been taken by the Government thereon?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir T. N. SIVAGNANAM PILLAI:—"The matter is under consideration."

Veterinary.

Veterinary dispensaries in the province.

* 1677 Q.—Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR: Will the hon. the Minister for Development be pleased to state the number of veterinary dispensaries in the province and whether service bulls are maintained at each of them and, if not at all, at how many of them?

A.—There are 79 veterinary institutions in the Presidency. Breeding bulls are not usually kept at the veterinary institutions, but the Government understand that two bulls which have been lent to the Madura municipality are kept at the Veterinary Hospital, Madura.

The RAJA OF RAMNAD:—"May I ask the hon. the Minister for Development how many bulls are kept, and where, whether the Madura municipality applied and whether the department entrusted the bulls to the care of the Madura municipality, and also whether other municipalities have been asked as to whether they would also take these bulls and use them in their veterinary hospitals?"

[19th March 1926]

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir T. N. SIVAGNANAM PILLAI:—"The stud bulls are generally in charge of the Agricultural department. The Madura municipality specially asked for two bulls, as they wanted them in the station for the Veterinary Hospital, Madura. Their request was complied with."

The RAJA OF RAMNAD:—"What is their number and where are they kept?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir T. N. SIVAGNANAM PILLAI:—"Possibly, the hon. Member will see that this question cannot be answered without notice."

Rai Bahadur T. M. NARASIMHACHARLU:—"What is the result of these bulls, i.e., of keeping these bulls—whether they have produced any good results?"

Mr. ABBAS ALI KHAN:—"Sir, I come from Madura and I may say that they produce very good results."

Mr. R. VEERIAN:—"May I know, Sir, the charges levied for the services rendered by the bulls?"

The hon. the PRESIDENT:—"That is a separate matter and a separate question should be put."

[*Note.*—An asterisk (*) at the commencement of a speech indicates revision by the Member.]

II

WITHDRAWAL OF CERTAIN UNPARLIAMENTARY EXPRESSIONS USED.

Mr. ABBAS ALI KHAN:—"Mr. President, Sir, before we proceed to the next order of the day, I crave your indulgence for a few minutes to make a personal statement about what took place yesterday. In the heat of the moment, I made certain remarks which are calculated to cast some reflections upon the hon. the Minister for Education. As I am very anxious to build up, along with my Colleagues, parliamentary traditions in this country and also in this House, I want to express my sincere regret for the expressions that I used; and I withdraw them. I hope the hon. the Minister for Education will accept this. As regards the other expression that I used in the course of the budget debate, that the Ministerialist party would like to be the bridegrooms in a marriage procession and corpses in a funeral procession, if they . . ."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT:—"That is very ancient history."

Mr. ABBAS ALI KHAN:—"I was only giving a quotation from Mark Twain."

* The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL:—"It is only an apology for a statement made weeks back. Is this the time for an apology to be tendered for a statement made weeks back?"

* The hon. the PRESIDENT:—"That is what I was suggesting to the hon. Member."

Mr. ABBAS ALI KHAN:—"I trust, Sir, that the hon. the Minister will relegate it to the limbo of past history."

19th March 1926]

III

ELECTION OF MEMBERS TO THE MADRAS AND SOUTHERN MAHRATTA RAILWAY ADVISORY COMMITTEE AND THE COURT OF THE INDIAN INSTITUTE OF SCIENCE.

* The hon. the PRESIDENT:—"I have to announce to the House that Mr. R. Madanagopal Nayudu has been elected as a Member of the Court of the Indian Institute of Science. I have also to announce to the House that Diwan Bahadur P. C. Ethirajulu Nayudu and Rao Bahadur M. C. Raja have been elected as members of the Advisory Committee of the Madras and Southern Mahratta Railway Company."

IV

MOTIONS ON THE BUDGET FOR 1926-27.

DEMAND VII—IRRIGATION—PUBLIC WORKS OFFICERS—*cont.*

* The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR:—"Mr. President, I am sorry to find that the hon. Member Sir K. Venkatarreddi Nayudu is not here, because he made very exhaustive statements relating to the position of irrigation in the Godavari delta and made several constructive suggestions for which I may say the Government must feel thankful to him. And out of regard for the trouble he had taken, I prepared a statement which I want to read. Therefore I feel some kind of regret that he is not here. With your permission, Sir, I will make the statement."

"In July 1925, Mr. Peddiraju put down a question asking whether the Government have called for a programme of work with regard to silt clearance and conservancy of the irrigation channels in the Godavari delta and also with reference to the appointment of a special staff for remodelling of channels and a programme for the purpose. At that time, the Government stated that they awaited detailed proposals from the Chief Engineer for the constitution of a special division for the investigation of the remodelling of the channels and the improvement of drainage in the delta. This was rendered necessary because notwithstanding that a prior discussion was initiated in March 1924, no action could be taken for want of staff."

"When Mr. Sitayya moved a motion on the 6th February 1925 in the matter of improvement of irrigation and drainage of the Godavari and Kistna deltas and desired the appointment of a committee to consider the matter, it was observed that what was wanted was not committees but staff."

"In this connexion, it must not be forgotten that this and allied questions were also discussed when the Polavaram Island project was sanctioned as a productive work and plans and estimates amounting to 18½ lakhs were sanctioned on the 23rd April 1925. It must not also be forgotten that to relieve the irrigation staff of the Kistna delta and the Godavari Western Delta from the heavy work thrown on them, two subdivisions and 12 additional sections have been proposed. The Chief Engineer has now sent in a proposition statement embodying detailed proposals for the constitution of a special division for the investigation of the remodelling of the channels and the improvement of drainage in the Godavari delta. That is now undergoing scrutiny."

[Sir C. P. Ramaswami Ayyar] [19th March 1926]

"With regard to the six and four inches pipes, the Government have admitted the cogency of the arguments underlying the observations of the Members from the delta. I stated that we have no doubt about the policy, that we were taking away the smaller pipes and that what was wanted was extra staff to go on with the work. I added during the last budget debate that proposals for an increase of staff in the Kistna district were under consideration as the existing staff was altogether inadequate. The hon. Member will, no doubt, be gratified to see that two subdivisions and 12 additional sections in the delta area in the Bezvada circle have since been sanctioned.

"So far as the Polavaram project is concerned, it will be noticed that Rs. 2,16,535 have been entered for the year under reference. Subsequently, however, on a further representation from the Chief Engineer, the amount has been fixed at three lakhs. If more money is required by the local officers in the course of the year, there will not be special difficulty in finding it and the hon. Member may rest assured that the project will not be allowed to drag on for want of funds.

"*Higher shutters for the Godavari and the general question of the Anicut.*—In October 1925, after dealing with the construction of new shutters over the Kistna anicut and pointing out that irrigation to the extent of about 14,000 acres is anticipated, I stated that data for the construction of higher shutters over the Godavari anicut and for improving the Vijeswaram head sluice were under scrutiny. We have not yet been able to collate the data and arrive at a decision; but the importance of the two deltas to the prosperity not only of the areas immediately affected but their general importance as great food-producing tracts will not be lost sight of.

"During the budget debate of last year, the remodelling of the Thossipudi North Side channel, and the combination of Pammuluru and Sithapalleru for the purpose of irrigating the Rajahmundry taluk were brought to the notice of Government as well as the Torrigedda scheme. I stated then that Government proposed to investigate the scheme for constructing a reservoir across the Sithapalli vagu, one of the tributaries of the Godavari. The investigation of the scheme for the construction of a reservoir just above Ramanayyapeta was also under contemplation. But the investigation has not been done for want of the necessary staff. The original proposal to construct the Torrigedda outfall sluice has been abandoned and the scheme for utilizing the waters of the Sithapalli river and supplementing the supply with water from Pammuluru was found financially impracticable. The scheme, however, for the proposed reservoir above Ramanayyapeta village will be taken up for investigation. It will be noticed that we have been steadily increasing the staff and that there has been no remissness on the part of the Government in this matter."

* Khan Bahadur P. KHALIF-UL-LAH SAHIB Bahadur:—"Mr. President, Sir, in moving this motion . . ."

* The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR:—"Sir, I believe Sir K. Venkatarreddi Nayudu yesterday moved a cut and said that he did it only as a token motion. He was making some observation relating to one particular cut that he moved—I believe it was the one standing against his name, No. 257. He started with that and made the observation. I think it will be more formal to take it now."

19th March 1926]

* Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR:—"I do not know what has become of motion No. 257 on the paper on which Sir K. Venkatarreddi made a speech. Has it been withdrawn? Who has withdrawn it? I quite remember that he did not want to move the motion."

* The hon Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR:—"It is quite open to you, Mr. President, to take it as not moved, because it has not been pressed."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT:—"My impression is that he made a speech and referred to the points raised in the notice given. My impression is that he did not formally move it."

* Diwan Bahadur M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—"What he stated was that he would speak on the motions but that he had no intention of moving them."

* Khan Bahadur P. KHALIF-UL-LAH SAHIB Bahadur:—"Mr. President, Sir, in making my motion to reduce the allotment of Rs. 2,70,000 for Kattalai scheme by Rs. 100, my object is to impress upon the Government the urgent necessity for starting the dam work at Kattalai. As I feel that I cannot put the case more strongly than the Mirasidars' Association of Trichinopoly I shall, with your permission, Sir, read what they say on the matter: 11-30 a.m.

"The Kattalai anicut is long over-due, as the irrigation of our district has been classified equal to that of Tanjore so early as 1894 and high assessment levied from us without the corresponding equality in the system.

"The history of the korambu irrigation of this district has swelled into a big volume. The precariousness and the uncertainty of water-supply from korambus had been the very reason for classifying the korambu channels as II class sources in the first settlement of 1864 and the Government published for the guidance of the Settlement Officers the Manual of the Madras Revenue Settlement compiled in 1887 by Diwan Bahadur J. Lakshmikantha Rao Garu under the orders of the Government. Section 8 of Chapter II of the said Manual reiterated the old principle that only anicut channels are to be grouped as I class sources—other channels being graded lower.

"Despite this, the korambu channels of this district were however raised to I class sources, in the resettlement of 1894 and the rates of assessment of the Tanjore anicut system were introduced here also and collected till now.

"And in 1903, when Tanjore was affected by floods, the masonry bar across the Coleroon at the Upper anicut was lowered by three feet either not caring for the interest of this district or not knowing its effect. Since then, the cry of the landowners of this district had been incessant and increasing. The Government considered it absolutely necessary to improve the irrigation scientifically and with that object . . ."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT:—"I am sorry to interrupt the hon. Member. Is the hon. Member going to read out the whole of the document on the floor of the House? I suppose he intends reading only extracts from it."

* Khan Bahadur P. KHALIF-UL-LAH SAHIB Bahadur:—"I am only reading portions from it, Sir:

"The total failure in the last three years has necessitated the grant of remissions. The poor yields in the previous years had impoverished many a land-owner. The disastrous Cauvery floods of July 1924 have completely destroyed the padugaie, the leading channels and the banks of almost all the korambus, and have made it absolutely impossible to retain the korambus. The Public Works Department expressed that it would be impossible to give any regular supply unless an anicut at Kattalai is constructed and that the existing irrigation and revenue could not be maintained without it."

"Finally they say:

"The construction of the anicut is necessary especially on economic grounds. The recurring annual expenditure on korambus is about Rs. 1.85 lakhs in 1925-26 and yet the gauge readings in many of the channels were zero for weeks together. The remissions granted in 1924-25 and 1925-26 prove the failure of our irrigation beyond doubt. For instance, the assessment on the aysut of the Marudur Nattu Vaikkal is about Rs. 56,000 of which more than Rs. 20,000 had to be remitted in 1924-25 . . ."

[Mr. P. Khalif-ul-lah Sahib] [19th March 1926]

"So also, Sir, with reference to other channels that take their source from the Cauvery. I beg to point out therefore that unless and until the supply to these channels is regulated by some permanent means there will be absolutely no redress for the people of Trichinopoly. Not only the people but even the Government will have to suffer a great deal by way of grant of remissions of revenue. I feel grateful to Government for the several promises that they have given in this matter. We all hope however that some provision would be made in this year's budget for putting up the dam and we still hope that the Government will come to our rescue by making a provision for the purpose even now. It is only with a view to impress this necessity that was being keenly felt in the district that I move this motion."

* Mr. A. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—"Sir, I beg to associate myself with the remarks made by my hon. Friend from Trichinopoly. It is regrettable that more representatives from that district are not here to press the case of the ryots of the district on this very important subject. I know how acutely this is felt by the residents of the Trichinopoly district. And it was only recently, I believe, that a large deputation of the landholders of Trichinopoly waited on the hon. the Irrigation Member on this matter. It seems to me that Trichinopoly has been peculiarly affected by flood damages and a grievance like this which has been long before the public and before the Government deserves some consideration. My hon. Friend has referred to the peculiar system now in operation. I had had the advantage of being present at the time when the deputation waited on the hon. the Irrigation Member and I am sure the hon. the Irrigation Member would also have seen the numerous photographs that were brought by the members of the deputation to show how the scheme was working. Thousands of coolies are being employed on temporary work year after year and the practice is not economical. I would suggest to the Finance Department in particular to consider whether the time is not come to get rid of these barbaric, primitive methods and to once for all undertake the construction of a permanent dam which will be of immense help to the locality. I believe, Sir, there is an idea, I do not know if the hon. the Irrigation Member is impressed with it, that to a certain extent the lower riparian owners may be adversely affected. At any rate I had the impression that citizens of Tanjore are likely to object to some extent to the scheme. I do not feel myself that there will be any justification for that objection. Of course, I am not an expert nor have I examined the question as carefully as I should like to. But *prima facie* from the opinion that has been expressed I do not think that there is any good ground for any such objection. It is usual that wherever a thing like this is taken up there is alarm at once created. There was the alarm with reference to the Kannambadi dam but to a certain extent it was perhaps justified. But this is nothing compared to the Kannambadi dam and that ought not to influence the hon. the Irrigation Member. It seems to me, as I have said before, that it is more economical to construct the dam than to have this sort of work carried on annually as at present. With these words, I beg to associate myself heartily with my hon. Friend, Mr. Khalif-ul-lah and join in his hope that the Government will do something in the matter."

* The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—"Mr. President, Sir, I think I may at once meet one of the contentions that have been adverted to—I will not say raised—by the hon. Member from Chingleput and that is

19th March 1926] [Sir C. P. Ramaswami Ayyar]

with reference to the apprehensions of some of the mirasidars of Tanjore. Many of the ryots in Tanjore and indeed even persons who ought to have known better, imagine or seem to imagine that this work was a kind of big reservoir and would impound the waters on a large scale and would therefore hold up waters going down to Tanjore. I think my hon. Friend from Trichinopoly who did me the honor of accompanying me during my survey of the tracts in question will bear testimony to the fact that wherever possible—I was also seen by a large number of Tanjore mirasidars at that time—I impressed upon them and also at a public meeting said that the apprehension was unfounded and that there was no idea of impounding water and of having anything like a dam in the ordinary sense of the word. The exact expression, 'bed regulator' was not properly understood. What was said to have been contemplated was a reservoir or a dam. It seems to me that I can at once give an assurance from my place here that this scheme of a bed regulator has absolutely nothing to do with the impounding of water but is a device for the purpose of regulating the proper and adequate supply of water without resort to the korambu system. From that point of view, if the hon. Members from Tanjore who unfortunately are not here and those who share any misapprehension in the matter bear in mind what I have stated now, their fears should cease forthwith.

"The second point that I wish to make is this. It is no doubt a fact that within the last few days a number of telegrams and letters emanating from the hon. Member for Trichinopoly or rather one of the hon. Members from that place were sent to His Excellency, and other telegrams to me and to the department under the belief or mistaken impression that the Government have come to some kind of conclusion to give up the Kattalai scheme altogether. It has been pointed out that under the detailed Irrigation Budget, page 34, a sum of Rs. 2,70,000 has been budgeted for in the estimate for 1926-27 and the marginal note will make it clear that the revised estimate for Rs. 10,56,000 is under consideration of Government. When it is borne in mind that the first estimate that came to Government was for about 6½ lakhs, and that the revised estimate is for 10½ lakhs, hon. Members will realize that the Government cannot at once arrive at a conclusion on the matter and that a great deal of scrutiny is necessary. It is that kind of scrutiny that is taking place. And we shall go into the matter, investigate the question and no avoidable delay will take place. If necessary, we shall be going on with the scheme and shall come before the House with a demand for a supplementary grant. There is no difficulty in a matter of this kind. It is of great importance and has been very much pressed forward by a number of people. The provision is made, I think, for as much as could be spent on the work. If the scheme is sanctioned and the work is started and if more funds are required, we shall come to the House for more money. But my submission to the House at present is that the whole subject is under the consideration of the Government just now. With reference to the telegrams and the number of representations and letters, and the personal statements made by an influential deputation from Trichinopoly, and in reply to the various hon. Members of this House who were good enough to call upon me, we have called for information especially as it seems to have been thought that the local officers had condemned the scheme or wanted to give it up. I may say that the proposal is under investigation with reference to the further estimate that has been made and that the investigation will be made

[Sir C. P. Ramaswami Ayyar] [19th March 1926]

as soon as possible. I do not want to say more than this, that there is no intention on the part of Government at present to give up the scheme which as I said is under investigation."

* Mr. A. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—" May I ask, Sir, whether the allotment in the budget is made for this scheme ? "

* The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—" The present budget allotment is for part of the bigger scheme."

* Khan Bahadur P. KHALIF-UL-LAH SAHIB Bahadur :—" The apprehension in the minds of the people is about this matter. The allotment made in the budget is stated to be for canal improvements which has nothing to do with the bed regulator about which we are now debating. The apprehension in their minds is that absolutely no provision has been made for the bed regulator as such and if only the hon. the Law Member would give us the assurance that a part of this provision would be spent on the bed regulator, our apprehension would cease."

* The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—" I think I shall make a statement which may satisfy hon. Members. As soon as the investigation by the Chief Engineer with regard to the estimate is made, a communiqué will be issued by the Government without any avoidable delay saying what the Government propose to do, how they intend to make use of the money and what period would be taken by them."

The motion was by leave withdrawn.

* Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—" Sir, I move

*' that the allotment of Rs. 1,18,06,100 for Irrigation Works—
Productive be reduced by Rs. 101.'*

" Sir, the hon. the Law Member has more than once said in this House that the need of the Ceded districts among which Bellary is included for improved sources of irrigation is very urgent.

" He added further, Sir, that the needs of the districts would not be met by small projects, but can only be met adequately by a big project which will depend not on the local rainfall, but on supplies which depend on rainfall elsewhere. And he has been good enough also to employ a staff for a certain period of time in order to make investigations into this matter. The result of it was that an estimate was prepared for what is called the West Canal Project. It was hitherto said that any project which may be initiated in these districts was not likely to be remunerative. But when once they seriously tackled this question and investigated it and prepared plans and estimates, the plea hitherto urged forward, namely, that the projects initiated there may not prove remunerative holds no longer good. What does the Chief Engineer for Irrigation say in his report of this scheme? He says that more than 60,000 acres of wet crop might be raised under this canal and that the return on the money spent on that would be somewhere about 8.38 per cent. So, considered from the point of view of remuneration, this seems to be quite as good as any of the other schemes which may be tender the consideration of the Government. And as regards the need for these schemes in these districts, Sir, there are no two opinions, and yet I am sorry to say that this scheme seems to make no further progress from where it was in August 1925. In answer to one of my questions

[19th March 1926] [Mr. A. Ranganatha Mudaliyar]

the hon. the Law Member said to-day that the matter had been referred once again to the Director of Agriculture and the Chief Engineer for further information. He said that a reference was made as to whether the soil was fit for growing wet crops thereon. I would only refer him to the remarks made in the report of the Chief Engineer wherein it is stated that the soil is entirely red loam and is fertile and is entirely suited to wet crops. Where then is the need for this further reference, Sir? It cannot be contended that this scheme should be hung up because of other schemes that may need investigation. The hon. the Law Member admitted the other day that even if this West Canal Project is executed and subsequently the East Canal scheme is initiated, the loss to the Government would not be considerable being limited to the submersion of a thousand acres. That surely cannot stand in the way of the initiation of this project. And then, I want to know what provision he has made in the budget for the execution of this project or whether he intends to apply for a supplementary grant in regard to this. Then again, what about the East Canal Project? Is he going to employ any staff for revising the old estimates and adapting them to the present requirements? On these points I want information from the hon. the Law Member, and I have tabled this motion for that purpose, Sir."

* The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—" Mr. President, Sir, I am glad to have the opportunity to review the position with regard to the irrigation of the Ceded districts, especially as my hon. Friend from Cuddapah put some questions to me regarding the Cuddapah-Kurnool canal and his queries have been supplemented by what has fallen from the hon. Member, Mr. Ranganatha Mudaliyar. Now, Sir, hon. Members of this House are fully aware that a committee composed of the representatives of the Ceded districts with Mr. Arokyaswami Mudaliyar, a very experienced Irrigation Engineer, who had special knowledge of the Ceded districts as Chairman, was constituted for the purpose of going into the whole matter. They submitted a preliminary report and they have also now submitted their final report. May I, Sir, with your leave, advert very briefly to the conclusions embodied in the final report? I may say at once that the Government have not yet considered and passed final orders on the report of the Ceded Districts Irrigation Committee but expect to do so very shortly, indeed almost immediately after the budget season is over and we have some time for the necessary conferences."

* Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—" I have to state one thing, with regard to that final report. Many members have not signed it or seen it. I think it is still under circulation, and so far as I am concerned, I do not know what its contents are."

* The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—" I shall then not refer to it, Sir, inasmuch as I do not want to raise any question of controversy. It may be that in the formulation of the recommendations or final report of which I have got only a proof copy, the hon. Members may have some differences *inter se* and therefore I wish to say nothing which might prejudice this question. But I think I am perfectly safe in stating this, that they, in the main, taking the final report in conjunction with the preliminary report, agree with the proposition that these small reservoir and irrigation schemes in the Ceded districts have failed because of the soil and rainfall of those districts except in certain isolated instances and because of the difficulty of

[Sir C. P. Ramaswami Ayyar] [19th March 1926]

retaining water sufficiently well and long in order to produce the effect desired, and that therefore the best solution of the difficulty would be to embark upon some such project as the Bellary West Canal Project or the Tungabhadra Project. I find that my hon. Friend, Mr. Ranganatha Mudaliyar, is looking very distressed just now over the statements that I have made. Apparently he is referring to the ancient and supply channel schemes from Chinnahagari river and the schemes of the Hadagalli taluk and so forth which I know are very dear to his heart. (Mr. A. Ranganatha Mudaliyar: 'Along with this'.) Yes. I am not referring to specific schemes like that. There are certain small schemes which are useful and can be initiated in the Ceded districts."

* Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—" May I just say this, Sir, that my distress was not so much about the references to the small schemes by the hon. the Law Member as about what he said about the soil, etc. I did not quite catch what he said."

* The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—" In the case of some reservoir schemes that have been started and which have failed in the Ceded districts, they have failed, because the water is not retained and the scantiness of the rainfall and the nature of the soil are such that the water cannot be retained. That has been the report submitted to us. Now, Sir, I may at once refer to what has happened. This question of irrigation facilities for the Ceded districts has been urged on the Government for some time and the preliminary report was considered by Government, and we found it necessary to call for a final report. There has been no delay in action being taken on the Committee's report because the final report has not even been circulated wholly. The West Canal Project, I may say, has been referred to the Director of Agriculture for examination and report on the suitability of the soil, its irrigable nature and other conditions, and has also been referred for revenue forecast. The point is this. Hon. Members will have noticed that there has been a certain amount of experience gained both with regard to the Sukkur Barrage scheme and with regard to the Punjab scheme. What was once taken to be axiomatic, namely, that the bringing in of water to a tract will necessarily be useful for the purpose of production of wet crops is not now accepted at face value as it was some time ago. Very much depends upon the soil, and there are questions raised which went up to Parliament with regard to Sukkur on the topic of the suitability of the soil for wet cultivation from the waters impounded in the barrage. The question of alkalinity has also been raised in the Punjab. It is in order to meet all these difficulties that the Director of Agriculture has been asked to report on that matter, and I do not think there will be much delay over his report. I realize that the Chief Engineer has already stated that the soil is favourable for the purpose of irrigation. Now, I may also say that as soon as the reports from the Director of Agriculture and the Chief Engineer are received, we shall take up the Bellary West Canal Project for execution. The Government are pledged to do so. I have said so already last year and we are pledged to it, and it may be taken that Government are anxious to make a beginning with a really useful scheme of irrigation in the Ceded districts and to relieve the undoubted distress there, as the best form of famine insurance, as I said more than once,

19th March 1926] [Sir C. P. Ramaswami Ayyar]

" So far as the bigger project, the Tungabhadra Project or the Sangameswaram Project is concerned, hon. Members are aware of the difficulties of the Madras Government. I do not want to repeat the remarks I made on the last occasion as to what those difficulties were. A reservoir could very advantageously be started on the borders of Hyderabad State and of Madras. That was the original scheme, and there were many difficulties encountered in that matter, because His Exalted Highness the Nizam of Hyderabad wanted the transfer of allegiance in regard to some of the territories of this Government as a compensation for submergence. That could not, for various reasons connected with high state policy, be acceded to. At present the idea is to explore the possibilities of a reservoir on the borders of Bombay and Madras where similar difficulties will not arise. Government are convinced that in order effectively and adequately to meet the problem of the Ceded Districts irrigation, it is not much use tinkering with small schemes, but they should take up a big scheme of impounding waters in a dam like the Mettur or the Kannambadi dam and proceed on that basis. At the present moment, I think the Ceded Districts Irrigation Committee has arrived, tentatively at all events, at the conclusion that the best means of approaching this problem would be to explore the possibilities of a reservoir on the borders of Bombay and Madras. Now, that being so, as soon as the report is considered by the Government, if Government finds itself supported by the report, the investigation will be started without any avoidable delay with regard to that matter. And I may say that in the budget provision is made for a certain amount of work apart from the big schemes. I do not say it is sufficient but the question of appointing a staff for investigation of the Hagari river scheme has been now referred to the Revenue Department for remarks, and after the report is received orders will be passed upon it almost immediately. I have expressed myself so often on the whole question of the Ceded Districts irrigation that I do not wish to repeat my remarks, but would only say that we are awaiting with anxiety and interest the final report and the observations of hon. Members who are members of that Committee, and will take action on the matter as soon as the report has been considered by the Government."

* Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—" Sir, I have to refer, I think to two or three points made by the hon. the Law Member. The first of them refers to the small schemes. My idea is not that the Government should embark on small schemes which will become superfluous by the execution of either the West Canal or the East Canal Projects. There are certain tracts in the districts which will be unaffected by the execution of either of these schemes and they are also in need of irrigation facilities. I agree with him when he says that any scheme that might be initiated in those districts would be insecure if it depends only on the rainfall of the district. So I do not want that he should embark on any schemes depending on the rainfall of the district. But there are rivers like Chinahagari and Peddabagari which take their source in plateaus where there is abundant rainfall and which will give enough supply to any fairly big irrigation scheme that might be executed in those parts. It was with reference to those possibilities that I have mentioned those two or three schemes which were read out by the hon. the Law Member. They are paying schemes and the money spent on them will not be much, and the return will be adequate, and they depend for their supply on water which comes down that river due to rainfall which falls in the Mysore

[Mr. A. Ranganatha Mudaliyar] [19th March 1926]

State. So, I do not think his argument that no small scheme in that district is likely to prove remunerative because of the climatic conditions there has much weight."

* The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—" Sir, I think I was careful in my speech to say that my general remarks do not apply to Hagari or other schemes which have been put before the Revenue Department for forecast and investigation."

* Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—" Very well, Sir, then as regards the other thing, I too am not for the carrying out of any scheme which is dependent upon the generosity or the caprice of His Exalted Highness the Nizam."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" Order, order. Hon. Members must not use words like 'caprice' with reference to an ally of the Government."

12 noon.

* Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—" On his pleasure shall I say it ?"

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" That is more parliamentary."

* Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—" As a matter of fact there are many sites within the British territory on which these reservoirs may be built up. In fact the Chief Engineer's report mentions that fact. He said that the possibility of a huge reservoir higher up was under consideration and that the prospects were very bright. So it only remains with the Government to push forward investigations in these directions and expedite matters. These are the two observations that I wanted to make and without further taking up the time of the Council I will withdraw the motion."

The motion was by leave withdrawn.

* Mr. B. RAMACHANDRA REDDI :—" I move

'that the allotment of Rs. 1,26,92,500 for Irrigation works be reduced by 1 lakh.'"

* The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—" May I venture to enquire from the hon. Member whether he means a reduction or a token motion ?"

* Mr. B. RAMACHANDRA REDDI :—" I was just going to say that it will be a token motion."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" He might modify it into 100."

* The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—" If it is merely an expression of his feelings, Sir, I do not object to it."

* Mr. B. RAMACHANDRA REDDI :—" The feeling was so much that I had to put it as one lakh." (Laughter)

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" Why did the hon. Member stop with one lakh then ?"

* Mr. B. RAMACHANDRA REDDI :—" Sir, yesterday while I moved a cut with reference to the minor irrigation tanks and the necessary improvements to be made for them in the Nellore district, I informed the House of the very bad state of the minor irrigation tanks. But when the hon. the Revenue Member was replying to that he gave me to understand that the hon. the Irrigation Member was giving a patient hearing to those things. And now when answering the previous motion the hon. the Irrigation Member has said that the Tungabhadra project scheme is almost dropped."

19th March 1926]

* The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—" No, Sir, on the contrary."

* Mr. B. RAMACHANDRA REDDI :—" Then, Sir, my position is easier. For more than two decades this Tungabhadra scheme has been under consideration and for the last couple of years I think it has been seriously taken into consideration. In Mr. Morgan's report it is said that Bellary, Anantapur, Kurnool, Cuddapah and Nellore districts are going to be benefited by this Tungabhadra project. Now, Sir, the Ceded Districts Irrigation Enquiry Committee that has been appointed and that has submitted a report has totally neglected the interests of Nellore district. On a former occasion I invited the attention of the hon. the Irrigation Member to this mishap and I once more, if I do not tire his patience, ask him."

* The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—" May I crave your leave, Sir, to say a word which though not on a matter of personal explanation might have the effect of shortening the observations of my hon. Friend? It is no doubt a fact that the preliminary report of the Ceded Districts Irrigation Enquiry Committee did not consider any schemes directly affecting the Nellore district. But I think I can say that in the final report that will be shortly placed on the Editors' table they have proposed a modification of the original Tungabhadra project in which they have indicated certain component works in the order of priority and have included the extension of irrigation in the Nellore and the Sangam deltas."

* Mr. B. RAMACHANDRA REDDI :—" Now that this information has been given to me I do not like to take the House once more into the details of the Irrigation Committee report. I would only urge upon him the necessity of looking towards the Nellore district also when considering the Tungabhadra project. Further the existing irrigation sources in the Nellore district apart from those that I have dealt with yesterday are not quite adequate. The Pennar river canal system and the Kanigiri reservoir, the Sangam delta, as it is called, all these require some attention. It is not even four decades since the reservoir has been formed and the full tank level of the reservoir is 21 feet. Within these few years it is silted up to the extent of 7 feet and the supply channel that takes water from the Pennar river to the reservoir is also silted up thereby making the supply into the reservoir unsatisfactory. Some means must be devised to see that the silt is removed gradually at least though not all on a sudden. If that is not done, the project that has been first constructed to serve a lakh and a half acres in Kovur taluk will not in the long run, nay, even very soon, be able to irrigate even a quarter of that. As it is, the fullest extent that has been irrigated under this reservoir has come to only 70,000 acres and even for the first crop water is insufficient and a great deal of difficulty is felt by the ryots in reaping their first harvests. We have been hoping that the extension of the Tungabhadra project will go a great way to diminish the difficulties of the ryots under this delta and if that is realized that will surely be conferring a boon upon that locality. Another thing to which I wish to draw the attention of the hon. the Irrigation Member is that that particular reservoir is not properly provided with a drainage scheme."

* The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—" Which ?"

[19th March 1926]

* Mr. B. RAMACHANDRA REDDI:—"The Kanigiri reservoir. Estimates have been prepared I was told but none of them have been properly considered and none of them have been passed. The result is that the difficulties with regard to the drainage system of that particular reservoir, the Kanigiri reservoir, stand where they are. It so happens sometimes in the rainy seasons that on account of the excess of supply both from the Pennar river and also from the catchment area of this reservoir there will be an imminent danger of the tank bunds breaking up. At that juncture there is no possibility of removing water from the reservoir out into the sea or into the Pennar river once more. The consequence is the ryots in that particular locality are always under the apprehension whenever the reservoir is full that the tank bunds will break involving considerable loss to all concerned. This is a thing which should engage the attention of the Government immediately. I hope, Sir, the hon. the Irrigation Member has taken note of all that I have said yesterday and to-day and will provide for remedying the grievances."

* The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR:—"Mr. President, Sir, to continue what I stated by way of interruption when my hon. Friend from Nellore was speaking, may I say that the Ceded Districts Irrigation Enquiry Committee recommends the extension of irrigation in the Nellore and Sangam deltas and second-crop extension? It contemplates a reservoir on the Pennar at Someswaram. It adverts to the north canal from Someswaram to Panneru and the south canal from Someswaram to Palar. The committee has not been unmindful of the interests of Nellore but on the other hand a very ambitious scheme has been provided. So ambitious is it, Mr. President, that I must at the risk of disappointing certain expectations say this that this is not only a 3-crore or 4-crore scheme but an 8-crore scheme as now finally adumbrated. It has therefore to be designed with great care and many factors have to be examined and put in proper perspective before it can be set in motion, not the least of these factors being the financial aspect of the matter, and I already see my hon. Friend to the right (Finance Member) looking somewhat sombre at the possibility of an 8 crore scheme being suddenly dumped on his devoted head. In any case it seems to me there are possibilities of immediate mitigation of distress in some of these tracts. That is possible, so I have been told, and portions of these schemes can be started separately to be connected up with the bigger schemes when they come to pass. The possibility will be explored and the idea will not be lost sight of. I have kept in view the remarks that have fallen from the hon. Member for Nellore and I shall remember all that has fallen from the hon. Member and see what I can do."

The motion was by leave withdrawn.

Khan Bahadur P. KHALIF-UL-LAH SAHIB Bahadur:—"May I know what has become of my motion?"

* The hon. the PRESIDENT:—"I thought he was not moving that: he can now move."

* Khan Bahadur P. KHALIF-UL-LAH SAHIB Bahadur:—"Mr. President, Sir, as I have already stated my only object in making this motion, viz., that the allotment of Rs. 95,00,000 for Cauvery-Mettur Reservoir project be reduced by Rs. 100 is to impress upon Government the very strong necessity

19th March 1926] [Mr. P. Khalif-ul-lah Sahib]

that is being felt by not only my district of Trichinopoly but also the neighbouring districts of Salem and Coimbatore in the matter of taking advantage of the large schemes which are connected with the Mettur project.

"I should think that every Member of this hon. House is aware that all these three districts may very well be classed as famine-stricken, or at any rate that famine conditions are prevailing very often in these districts of late. I do not know personally the actual conditions of Coimbatore and Salem. But with regard to Trichinopoly, my district, I may say that famine conditions are obtaining on account of several reasons. We have suffered very heavily on account of the rains and also for want of rains. Every one of us is aware how Trichinopoly suffered during the last floods of 1920 and 1924, and also, Sir, we are aware how we are suffering now, in the year 1925-26. If any proof is needed, I need only refer to the very flourishing progress made in recruitment by the Labour Commission which has its headquarters at Trichinopoly. The very rapid way in which numbers of labourers accumulate in the depots at Trichinopoly is ample evidence of the fact that the conditions that obtain to-day at Trichinopoly are not favourable for the retention of its labouring classes. It is therefore, Sir, that I beg to point out that it is the primary duty of the Government to see that something is done to this district to relieve the situation, and so far as it strikes me I should point out that the Mettur project affords a very good occasion for some material good being done to my district. If my information is right, at one time in the life of this project my district had come in for its own share of the scheme. When last I had a talk with the hon. the Irrigation Member what he told me was that we were rather too late in urging our demands upon Government. From that I would not be wrong if I say that the hon. the Law Member was really convinced of our claims, and it was only for that reason, I take it, he said that we were rather late in urging our claims. If I am right in my interpretation, I should think that justice can never be demanded too late and it can never come too late, and provided you are satisfied with the justice of our claims, you must render it whether we ask for it early or late. So far as Trichinopoly is concerned, what I urge here is that, instead of taking the water that is conserved for the Mettur project along the beaten tract of the Coleroon, and taking it right through all those three districts for the supply of the Pattukkottai taluk in the Tanjore district, it may be taken through another tract to the same Pattukkottai taluk, at the same time giving a little share to the dry portions of the Trichinopoly district, the main portion of which lie in the Trichinopoly and Kulittalai taluks of the Trichinopoly district. There are in this area very large tracts of dry land which are capable of being converted into first-class wet area and it is in this area especially that the Kallar class of the Trichinopoly district are mostly congregated. If you convert this area into good cultivable land, Government will be not only doing their duty in the matter of irrigation but also will be relieving the Labour Department and also other departments of this Government of a good deal of their work. This Kallar class would be induced to give up their nefarious ways. Most of these people who are now engaging themselves in illegal practices will by this irrigation process be induced to resort to a more honest means of living. This will lead to a direct increase of revenue not only of the Government, but also of the local boards, and I cannot be wrong if I include also the municipalities in this matter. By bringing a larger area of land under irrigation, the source of revenue of local

12-15
p.m.

[Mr. P. Khalif-ul-lah Sahib] [19th March 1926]

boards is directly improved, and thus there will be a good increase in the revenues of the local boards which will be utilized for the improvement of the local roads, for the improvement of education of these classes, and for the improvement of the health of these people. So, it is, Sir, that I urge that this is a prime necessity for the district of Trichinopoly, and I also feel that will be the same for the districts of Coimbatore and Salem. I am only sorry that hon. Members from Salem and Coimbatore are not present here except Dr. Subbarayan. I hope he will himself give more definite information than I have given, so far as Salem and Coimbatore are concerned. I urge, Sir, that the case for Trichinopoly and the other two districts is very strong, and it deserves the most urgent consideration at the hands of Government. I only hope that the hon. the Law Member will be pleased to give due consideration to our very legitimate claims and come to our rescue."

* The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—" Mr. President, Sir, I think I may say a few words in elucidation of the general programme and position with reference to the Mettur Reservoir scheme. It will be remembered, Mr. President, that not one of the least important objects of the Mettur scheme, I may almost say the primary object of the particular scheme—is to impound within a reservoir water which is flowing fitfully in 'uneven lumps' as has been put in a note before me and at diverse times, and is often wasted in the sea, in order to impound all that water for the purpose in the first place of conserving the present irrigation of the Cauvery delta. In much of the discussion that has taken place with regard to the Mettur scheme, it is forgotten that the extension of irrigation to the extent of 300 or 400 thousand acres that is to be one of the results of the Mettur scheme is when properly considered only a secondary aspect, or a bye-product of the scheme. The main object of the Government is to see to it that alternations of scarce water and over abundant water do not disturb the irrigation of the Tanjore and Trichinopoly tracts, so that Trichinopoly and Tanjore might have an assured supply at all times, by means of a reservoir from which water can be passed out in regulated and adequate quantities. That is the first proposition which I am contending for this House, namely, that the object of the Mettur scheme is not so much for the purpose of increasing or extending irrigation to the Pattukkottai and Arantangi taluks of the Tanjore district, as for safeguarding the variable floods and regulating the manner in which water goes down to the deltas and impounding it so that you may be sure of a continuous and sufficient supply at all times. The next position is one which was very correctly, and, if I may say so, very accurately put by the hon. Member Sir K. Venkatarreddi Nayudu in speaking of Godavari and Kistna deltas. He pointed out with great force that the object of the State should be at the least cost to produce the greatest amount of food grains. Now, the question is if we are going to spend 5 or 6 crores for the scheme what is the way of spending it so as to produce the greatest amount of food grains for the least expenditure. That is, if you can by spending X Rs. produce a certain amount of grain at the least expense in a particular locality that is not really benefiting that locality so much as conferring a benefit to be derived by the country as a whole. Now, Sir, Government is at present considering—I may probably save labour on the part of other hon. Members by saying so—the Chief Engineer is considering the question of Salem and Coimbatore also. As regards Coimbatore, I may at once say

[19th March 1926] [Sir C. P. Ramaswami Ayyar]

this; the hon. Members from Coimbatore have urged as an alternative a scheme called the Upper Bhavani scheme which really will bring into cultivation about 300 to 400 thousand acres in a tract which is at present naturally dry. That matter is now receiving immediate attention from Government. Mr. Macmichael recently visited certain localities in the Punjab where dry tracts were irrigated by a scheme like that, and we are awaiting his report; and the Upper Bhavani scheme will be adopted if it is found to be more expedient, for the reason that it would be more advantageous to bring a big tract of dry land under irrigation rather than merely intensify wet irrigation. That is so far as Coimbatore is concerned. So far as Salem goes,—the hon. Member for Salem has already referred to it—the question of possible extension to Salem is a question of engineering possibility. You cannot make water flow uphill, and the levels are the problem. The matter has been very carefully considered by Government from that point of view.

"In regard to Trichinopoly, what I meant to say was this: the particular extension to Trichinopoly which was advocated by my hon. Friend from Trichinopoly and certain others was considered years and years ago when the original Mettur scheme was on the tapis and was given up. Then there was no lack of willingness on the part of the Government to help Trichinopoly. But somehow or other they let it slip. Then plans were formulated, schemes were prepared and for 30 years discussion has proceeded on the schemes formulated on the basis that a particular tract which was proposed to be irrigated by the original scheme was not within the ambit of the new scheme. Now that we have gone to the Secretary of State and obtained the sanction to a particular scheme and made a move on, it is very difficult to change the whole aspect of the scheme. But the Mettur Committee has made certain reports, and we shall place the results of the reports in regard to Salem, Coimbatore and Trichinopoly on the table of the House. I do not wish to give any hope but I do not wish to say anything which will shut the door. All I can say is that the question will have to be considered from the two points of view, which I have stressed, namely protection with reference to the existing irrigation of the Cauvery delta and the extension only so far as would be most economical from the point of view of food production with reference to the conditions of the Presidency taken as a whole."

Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN :—" Sir, I am very glad of the assurance given by the hon. the Law Member and I quite agree with the two points he made. I only want to traverse the conclusions drawn by him. The engineering experts whom I have consulted and who have served in the district have assured me that it is not such an impossible feat as all that and the levels are not so hopeless as the Law Member and his advisers make out. It is only from that point of view I wish to consider the scheme. The Cauvery is the chief source of irrigation in the district I come from. If you cannot do anything from the Cauvery, it is impossible to do anything for the district. For the last four or five years when the monsoon failed in this particular locality, there is not even fodder for the cattle, let alone food-grains for the people. I only wish the hon. the Law Member will take the trouble to go through the whole area through which the Cauvery passes and he will then realize what difficulties the people are subject to there.

[Dr. P. Subbarayan]

[19th March 1926]

"Secondly, I am glad to hear he is considering the Upper Bhavani scheme and if it is advantageous he would take it up. I am only referring to the second point, that is, the large quantity of grain that is to be produced in the presidency. I shall refer the hon. the Law Member to the report of the Director of Agriculture wherein he says that the agricultural population of the Coimbatore district and the two taluks of Salem district which the community to which I have the honour to belong inhabit, are the most scientific agriculturists in the whole presidency and they generally try to produce as much as they can out of the land. Even though their methods of agriculture may be crude, still they are shrewd agriculturists. From that point of view alone, I hope the hon. the Law Member will take the matter into consideration and see to the Mettur project being useful to Coimbatore and Salem, as the two taluks to be affected are the taluks in which the particular community resides."

* Khan Bahadur P. KHALIF-UL-LAH SAHIB Bahadur :—"Sir, the hon. the Law Member remarked that the main object of the Mettur project is to conserve the present supply of water in the Cauvery. Even on that view I would urge the necessity for its diversion across the district of Trichinopoly. Of course, as the hon. the Irrigation Member knows too well, any new diversion will only help to lessen the floods in channels and thereby act as a very good medium for conserving the present channels. I do not want to press the motion."

The motion was by leave withdrawn.

Rai Bahadur T. M. NARASIMHACHARLU :—"I rise to move

that the allotment of Rs. 1,26,02,200 for Irrigation, Navigation, etc., be reduced by Rs. 1,000.

"Sir, I would not have moved this motion at all but for certain remarks which fell from the honourable lips of the hon. the Law Member." (Laughter.)

* The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—"Is it Parliamentary, Sir?"

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—"Does the hon. Member (Mr. Narasimhacharlu) mean it ironically?"

Rai Bahadur T. M. NARASIMHACHARLU :—"Honourably. I always consider that whatever falls from his lips is uttered with the object of fulfilling it." (Laughter.)

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—"It is not necessary to describe the lips as honourable because the whole includes the part." (Laughter.)

Rai Bahadur T. M. NARASIMHACHARLU :—"Only I wanted to put it more expressively. If it is not wanted, I am not going to give it. (Laughter.) He says with reference to the Ceded districts—I wish particularly to invite his attention to the Cuddapah district, where there are a number of rivers which are not of any use to the district but which may be made useful in several ways—'what is the use of thinking about small schemes?' I submit, Sir, that from his point of view they may not be very useful, but from the point of view of the district I consider them to be very useful. When he is dealing with crores and crores of rupees perhaps he may ignore these small lakhs as unworthy of his consideration."

* The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—"No, Sir."

[19th March 1926]

Rai Bahadur T. M. NARASIMHACHARLU :—"I am very glad to hear that. So I submit, Sir, that even if they are small schemes they should be taken up, investigated and estimates prepared and then the schemes should be carried through. As regards the Cuddapah-Kurnool canal, even in February the canal dries up, so that there is no hope of any second crop being successfully raised on the land. It may be that this canal may not be productive from the Government point of view, but I submit that if you consider Cuddapah separately, you will find that, so far as Cuddapah district is concerned, this canal is very largely used and is really productive, but when tacked on to Kurnool it does not appear to be productive. I therefore submit that every effort should be made to improve the water that is now being let into the Cuddapah-Kurnool canal, so far as the Cuddapah district is concerned."

"Thirdly, we thought of a scheme whereby water from the Kistna may be drawn on through the Kurnool district and to Badvel taluk. This taluk contains a large number of tanks. Therefore, if water is brought from the Kistna through Kurnool into Badvel and Sidhout taluks it would afford a very useful supply not only to the existing tanks but also for new facilities for the purpose of irrigation in these taluks. I submit this is a matter which should not be ignored. There are also some other schemes, for instance, the Cheyyur project and other projects. All this will be useful to particular taluks. This, on account of the smallness, should not be ignored altogether. It should not be the policy of the Government to give water to those that already have it and ignore the interests of those that have not got it. Sir, this is a famine zone. You have spent a large amount of money in affording relief to the famine-stricken. My hon. Friend from Trichinopoly said that Trichinopoly is a famine-stricken place. If Trichinopoly can be called famine-stricken, I do not know by what name to call the Ceded districts and more especially Cuddapah. I submit that there is no one to look after our interests. I have no doubt the hon. the Law Member has got a very good case here, but all his attention is being diverted to Mettur project, Kattalai dam, Kannambadi dam or some such thing."

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—"The Maharaja of Mysore will not allow us to divert our attention to the Kannambadi dam because it is his property."

Rai Bahadur T. M. NARASIMHACHARLU :—"He has devoted some attention and brought about a useful compromise. I am only referring to that. So, I say he is only diverting his attention to these things. But if he will divert his attention to these small things that I am referring to, he will earn the gratitude of thousands and thousands who are now starving. Let him not forget small schemes. In addition to that, he may launch upon big schemes which will bring perennial supply of water to those districts."

"The hon. the Law Member then dwelt upon the nature of the soil. He said that the soil is such that it is unfit for wet cultivation. I do not know who gave this information to him. I do not find any such thing. We have got a large number of tanks which retain water. The soil there is very fertile and people in the Cuddapah district really wish to convert their dry lands into wet. It is only in Kurnool that people find it otherwise. I think he is not properly informed so far as the conditions in Cuddapah district are concerned. I find no provision at all for any kind of estimates for the

[Mr. T. M. Narasimhacharlu] [19th March 1926]

Ceded districts or for investigation or preparation of plans. Nothing of the kind is provided for in the Budget estimates. I submit he ought not to leave the matter here, but he ought in right earnest to take it up. If he does so, the thanks and the blessings of the really famine-stricken districts will be upon him and his posterity. I ask whether he is going to earn them or leave this world without earning them."

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—" It was, I think, on a different occasion that my hon. Friend adverted to his prerogative of offering advice and blessing in a sacerdotal capacity. Sir, I have listened with some interest and with much profit to what has fallen from the hon. Member from Cuddapah. And if I give an answer which may not wholly please him, I trust I shall not earn those rewards which I am afraid he is preparing to bestow. Now, Sir, it is not a fact that Government have solely concentrated their attention either upon Mettur or upon any such scheme as the Bhavani scheme to the detriment and disadvantage of the famine-stricken parts. The fact of the matter, as my hon. Friend Mr. Narasimhacharlu will realize, is this. During the last two years we have had to spend large sums continuously for the purpose of relieving people from flood and distress. What may be called our normal irrigation programme has really been deflected by the fact that from time to time we have to spend out of revenue large sums of money in Tinnevely, Trichinopoly, Tanjore and other places. (Rai Bahadur T. M. Narasimhacharlu: 'All in the South.') For the South has suffered from the floods, and surely my hon. Friend—I won't call him provincial—is too Cuddapaish; if all the sufferings take place in the Tambraparni tract on account of floods there or if on account of the unparalleled and devastating havoc that was wrought in Tanjore and Trichinopoly the people there are suffering, then am I to take it that all these things will not move his heart?

12-45 p.m. " Now, with regard to the first observation that he made, what I was endeavouring to point out was that, following upon projects designed long ago, a number of reservoirs were constructed in various places in Ceded districts and many of them have turned out to be failures because these projects and reservoirs depended, and frankly depended, upon seasonal rainfalls. The reservoirs which were constructed for the retention of water retained it for sometime but afterwards failed. Such failures are well known to residents, certainly of Kurnool, and also of Cuddapah. It is in order to obviate such risks and in order to prevent such avoidable waste of money the Government after a very careful consideration came to the conclusion that it was no good spending upon schemes depending for their supply of water upon local rainfall but the best plan is to concentrate upon schemes which might get a perennial supply of water so that they might be useful not only to the districts in which they are started but also to districts outside. It is only with reference to this consideration that I said that Government were not very much enamoured of schemes which were embarked upon in the past. We are all anxious to concentrate our attention upon schemes which would bring water from outside to fertilise the areas in the Ceded districts. That is one point I wish to make clear. I, however, realise the point made by my hon. Friend, viz., the distinction between Kurnool and Cuddapah with regard to those schemes. He pointed out in regard to Cuddapah that there

[19th March 1926] [Sir C. P. Ramaswami Ayyar]

are certain rivers and other sources of water-supply which may be availed of. He has been a diligent student and naturally should have gone through Morgan's report."

Rai Bahadur T. M. NARASIMHACHARLU :—" That report is antediluvian."

* The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—" It is antediluvian but we must also learn from the past. It is dated 1921. Five years may be in certain cases equivalent to five millenniums. All I can say is the report was published and the scheme was estimated in it to cost 42·8 lakhs of rupees, and it was expected that this outlay would return an yield of 356 lakhs which is equivalent to a return of 2 per cent. It is on account of this poor return the scheme was given up, and not because people were oblivious to the interests of the Ceded districts.

" My Friend from Cuddapah also referred to the possibility of starting investigations with regard to small works in Cuddapah district. All I can say is I shall bear this in mind and if any differentiation can legitimately be made between Kurnool and Cuddapah in the starting of certain schemes and if such schemes were to be beneficial to the district as a whole, they will receive my due consideration. But if they are small schemes which would be of use only to isolated tracts, they cannot be embarked upon. However, it seems to me that the real solution of the problem of the Ceded districts irrigation apart from those large schemes of Sangameswaram or the Tungabhadra is a big expansion of well irrigation. It is on these lines that irrigation of the Ceded districts should be developed. It is in this direction the activities and energy of the Members of Government can most usefully and legitimately be employed, and I may say that Government are not oblivious to this aspect of the problem."

The motion was by leave withdrawn.

V

MOTION FOR THE ADJOURNMENT OF THE HOUSE *sine die*.

* Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—" Before I go to move my motion I propose to move, under Standing Order No. 34, the adjournment of the present business in which this Council is engaged *sine die*."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" In the absence of a seconder I am afraid the motion falls to the ground."

* Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—" No, Sir, I thought you wanted to read the rule. However, I am going to give my reasons."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" Why did the hon. Member resume his seat?"

* Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—" Because you got up. You were referring to the book. I thought you were referring to the Standing Orders."

" I move under Standing Order No. 34 for adjournment *sine die* of the present business in which this Council is engaged, namely, the budget debate, because this House has practically ceased and finds itself impossible to function from these causes among others—(1) the exodus and absence of the majority of its elected Members in their hopeless despair to effect anything good."

[19th March 1926]

* The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—"Not shared by the hon. Member."

* Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—"And (2) the failure of Government to take the small rump into confidence . . ."

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—"I must object to the use of this objectionable expression with reference to any portion of the House."

* Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—"I am sorry. However the word is used in the English History."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—"That everybody knows. But the hon. Member must not use such expressions."

* Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—"I shall then use the word . . ."

* The hon. Mr. T. E. MOIR :—"The hon. Member has not withdrawn it."

* Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—"Yes, I withdraw it. I think the word 'remnants' would be better."

"Coming to my motion, I may say (2) the failure of Government to take the small remnants of the House into confidence by a clear enunciation of the principles and policy underlying the excess demands on some very important matters and (3) the impossibility of pressing any reasonable motion to a division with any hope of success on account of Government's determination to take undue advantage of their official majority in an unrepresentative House. These reasons need hardly be proved by facts. I may only draw attention to the fact that the elected Members of this House have been defeated on some important motions which had been pressed with success on several previous occasions, disasters which my hon. Friend from Chingleput could not evidently have foreseen when he gloried over the exodus of the Congress Members from the House as if it left his party to win its spurs unfettered and unchecked. The evasive way the hon. the Minister for Education faced the question of representation of the minorities in the Registration department was soon matched by the superficial manner of and unwarranted display of indignation by the Treasury Bench . . ."

* Mr. A. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—"On a point of order, Sir. The hon. Member is attacking other hon. Members in the guise of making a statement to which we will have no chance of replying. I am sure he is aware that he will have no seconder and therefore he is taking this opportunity of making this speech without any deliberation."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—"The hon. Member may make a speech after he has secured a seconder."

* Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—"I second it."

* Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—"The hon. Member from Chingleput is quite mistaken in his idea that I am making this speech without any deliberation. I say that I am making it after due deliberation."

"Coming to the point, I may say that the evasive way the hon. the Minister for Education faced the question of representation of minorities in the Registration department was soon matched by the superficial manner of and unwarranted display of indignation by the Treasury bench over the quite justifiable suspicions of those Members who attacked the forest policy

[19th March 1926]

[Mr. J. A. Saldanha]

of Government for want of details and a clear explanation of the new mysterious development which ought to have been furnished at the very commencement of the debate rather than at the close of the controversy that naturally arose. I might mention by the way that after a further study of the facts I am still at a loss to see why Government should not use members of the Forest service which is being gradually relieved . . ."

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—"The hon. Member is making a speech on the various questions which have been disposed of. The hon. Member should adduce arguments as to why the House should be adjourned and not repeat arguments which have been used in attacking the forest policy."

* Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—"Of some of its functions; for what is after all the same old work of regeneration as mentioned in the budget is now what is explained to be working plans. This work can as well be done by the old staff instead of adding considerably to the establishment. Sir, the impatience shown by Government in hurrying through this budget debate leaves no hope for a patient discussion of the most important part of the budget estimates, namely, the hydro-electric schemes on which very little light has been thrown in order to show us a proper basis for starting discussion and, unless the hon. the Law Member follows the Gladstonian policy of taking the House into confidence by giving life and light to his figures which we now behold in a lifeless mass amidst gloomy darkness, we cannot realise the position. I specially refer to the hydro-electric schemes."

* The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—"When, why and where?"

* Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—"I put a question long ago, and I asked for information on various points. What I contend is that we ought to be furnished with more information before we are called upon to vote for a particular grant. The burden of proof lies upon the hon. the Law Member --the Law Member can understand what is meant by 'burden of proof' because he is a lawyer (laughter)--to give us all possible facts before ushering in any big schemes, and then only we can have a basis for discussion. We are laymen and we therefore expect him to furnish us with information on the various points raised in any motion."

"Sir, the House is thinning and our debates are becoming hopelessly stale. Is it fair to our dignity and fair name that we should sit idle, gape and even sleep without being able to do the least good to our electorate and the poor masses of this Presidency? For the honour of this House and in public interests let us end this debate by a formal adjournment, or I respectfully beg the elected hon. Members of this Council to walk out in all solemn dignity as did the hon. Congress Members the other day. The several defeats sustained by the Ministerial Party within the last few days ought to be a ground for the hon. the Ministers to tender their resignation to His Excellency the Governor and to ask him to dissolve the Council and to order immediate re-election and walk out with their followers."

* Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—"Sir, when you asked whether any hon. Member was going to second the motion I said I would second it. Would that prevent me from what I am going to say hereafter?"

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—"No."

[19th March 1926]

* The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—" Sir, very large questions have been raised indirectly and a surprise motion has been placed before this House without the possibility of that consideration and deliberation which a motion of that kind ought to have evoked and exacted if adequate notice had been given of it. But, Sir, if my hon. Friend from South Kanara will permit me for the moment to be personal, may I say that his speech is in marked distinction with his own conduct? If he believed that his presence here was ineffective or ineffectual and that the 'remnant' was one not worthy of serious consideration as a Parliamentary body, it is unaccountable—I hope the hon. Member will forgive me for saying this—that he should have stayed. He spoke of persons who gaped and slept and passed through other intricate evolutions. Any one who had listened to the series of speeches delivered by the hon. Member will see that he practically monopolised the attention of the whole House during those two or three days. Certainly he neither gaped nor slept, but felt that business was being done and much attention was directed to the business. It seems to me that this remark does not come quite appropriately from the hon. Member from South Kanara. Then, Sir, what did he ask us to do? He said that the Government were riding roughshod over the will of the people and that they were impatiently hurrying through the budget and that they did not pay sufficient consideration to the feelings of Members either elected or nominated. Sir, I wish now, once and for all, to dispel the illusion which is often produced in this House by the marked cleavage that is sought to be drawn between the nominated and the elected Members. I must say this by way of protection of the nominated Members that they have as much right to be present here and to voice the desires and the aspirations of those whom they represent as the elected Members have. (Hear, hear.) Why is it that some Members are nominated? It is because there are certain communities which have not regimented themselves sufficiently and have not acquired sufficient coherence to function for the purpose of election. In order that their interests and aspirations may be sufficiently protected and voiced forth in the House, His Excellency the Governor has been vested with the right of nominating certain Members. Once they are nominated they are in every sense Members of the Legislative Council as much as the elected Members. It may be five years later, or ten or 15 years later, that every one of these communities will send up their own representatives either through the general electorate or otherwise. But to draw a distinction between the elected and the nominated Members as is often sought to be done in this House is neither fair to the elected Members nor to their colleagues the nominated Members. They are performing a duty which is as sacred, inviolable and useful for the development of the constitution as the duty performed by any one else. Surely those who have thought over the proceedings of the Council during the last two days will see, albeit some of the hon. Members have withdrawn themselves from the House, that the business of the House has not been interrupted and that it is going on as thoroughly as ever before. I do not see where this question comes in. If some hon. Members for reasons of which they themselves are the best judges have chosen to walk out of the House, do they make the House the less a House so long as there is a quorum? Does not this House function as it is its duty to function? Is there not a duty which each hon. Member owes to his constituency, the elected Member to the constituency which sent him and the nominated Member to the constituency to represent which he has been nominated? Mr. President, let us not have more of this diversion; let us proceed with the business of the House." (Applause.)

[19th March 1926]

* Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—" Sir, the very fact that I refused to go out but chose to remain and do my work here shows conclusively that I hold the view and still maintain it that the House, thin as it is, is capable of doing some useful work. Yet, Sir, I seconded the motion of my hon. Friend Mr. Seldanha. I owe an explanation to you and the House why I seconded the motion in spite of my belief that walking out of the House is a mistake and not conducive to the interests of the poor people. I may allude to two or three useful concessions that have been gained to the people. The hon. the Home Member promised that he would take steps to permit grazing in different ranges with a single permit. The value of it to the poor people cannot be appreciated by the more fortunately circumstanced people here. Again, can any one have a proper conception of what it meant to the poor people when the hon. the Law Member from his place pledged himself to put into execution the West Canal project? Further, Sir, the hon. the Revenue Member was approached with a request to put off the collections of loans in villages where more than a year's land revenue was collected for this year and I am sure, Sir, he is going to do it. I cannot be sufficiently thankful on behalf of the poor people. One who identifies himself with the poor people cannot but be thankful for these concessions. In spite of these considerations I seconded the motion of my hon. Friend from South Kanara for two reasons. I did not want that the motion should go for want of a seconder. Secondly, the hon. Member from Chingleput said that the hon. Member for South Kanara had deliberately sprung this resolution on this House in order to make a speech knowing full well that he had no seconder, that he might have all his say and leave his opponents without a chance of replying. I did not want that charge to be levelled against him for having brought forward this discussion."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" Generally hon. Members second resolutions with which they are in agreement." (Laughter.)

* Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—" I do not know, Sir, if I am wrong; but I feel I would have done this for any person even on the opposite side of the House."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" Seconding a resolution merely for the purpose of making a discussion possible is entirely foreign to the whole principle governing the seconding of resolutions."

Rai Bahadur T. M. NARASIMHACHARLU :—" Sir, a similar question arose in the time of your distinguished predecessor Sir P. Rajagopala Achariyar, and he said that there was no objection to a seconder of a motion opposing it."

* The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—" If I remember aright; the question arose this way. A motion was moved and seconded and the seconder proceeded to vote against the motion which he had seconded. The question arose then and your distinguished predecessor said that there was nothing to prevent either the mover or the seconder of a resolution from being converted by the arguments advanced on the floor of the House. If the seconder has been converted, let him demonstrate his conversion."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" Evidently there is here a conversion before discussion."

The motion for the adjournment of the House *sine die* was put to the House and lost.

[19th March 1926]

VI

MOTIONS ON THE BUDGET FOR 1926-27—cont.

DEMAND VII—IRRIGATION—PUBLIC WORKS OFFICERS—cont.

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" The time allotted for the discussion of this demand being over, I have to put the demand to the House."

* Diwan Bahadur M. KRISHNAN NAYAR :—" Will you not allow us the time taken to discuss this question? "

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" It is out of question altogether."

* Mr. A. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—" By this action of the hon. Member for South Kanara he has deprived himself and others of an opportunity to discuss the hydro-electric scheme about which he himself complained that very little was known of it."

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" I think the hon. Member himself realized what he was doing when he brought forward this motion."

The question that Government be granted a sum not exceeding Rs. 205.85 lakhs for Irrigation—Public Works Officers was put to the House and carried, and the Grant was made.

DEMAND VIII—GENERAL ADMINISTRATION—HEADS OF PROVINCES.

The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—" On the recommendation of His Excellency the Governor I move

'that Government be granted a sum not exceeding Rs. 7.67 lakhs for General Administration—Heads of Provinces.'"

Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—" Sir, I beg to move

'that the allotment of Rs. 20,500 for Government House furniture be reduced by Rs. 101.'

"I wish to urge upon the Government that Government buildings should not be leased out for racing clubs. The House is already familiar with this matter and I shall only refer to a very short paragraph from the speech of the hon. Member, Mr. U. Rama Rao, in the general discussion of the budget in the year 1924-25—

"I feel so strongly on this subject that I am constrained to protest with all the emphasis I can command against the conduct of Government under whose very nose things inimical to the interests of the people are being committed and yet are condoned, nay, even applauded by them as acts of chivalry and sportsmanship. I do not object to racing pure and simple, but when racing is something more than mere sporting, where indiscriminate betting is openly permitted, there comes the rub. The Race Club, in this respect, is an offender of the highest magnitude and the Members of the Government and other notables are its accomplices. Sir, in my daily rounds as a medical man, I have to visit several patients in the city, mostly middle and poorer classes, and the cry everywhere is the financial wreck caused to their families by the Guindy Races."

"If these things are done by private individuals, perhaps it might not be a matter so much for us to notice. But, however, when it is made to some extent possible by the help of the Government, we are justified in asking the Government not to be a party to this business. That is my object in moving this motion."

DEMAND VIII—GENERAL ADMINISTRATION—HEADS OF PROVINCES 297

[19th March 1926]

* The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—" Sir, the House knows that Government have been letting these buildings for the last two or three years. I understand that the Club is building its own quarters and it will not be long before they move out of the Government buildings. I hope my hon. Friend will not press his motion."

* Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—" Will the hon. Member please tell us approximately when the buildings will be completed? "

* The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—" It will not be more than a year, Sir."

The motion was by leave withdrawn.

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" The question is that the Government be granted a sum not exceeding 7.67 lakhs for General Administration—Heads of Provinces." 1-15 p.m.

The Demand was put to the House and carried and the Grant was made.

DEMAND IX—GENERAL ADMINISTRATION—LEGISLATIVE BODIES.

* The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—" Mr. President, Sir, on the recommendation of His Excellency the Governor I move

'that the Government be granted a sum not exceeding 3.10 lakhs for General Administration—Legislative Bodies.'"

* Mr. K. PRABHAKARAN TAMPAN :—" I beg to move

'that the allotment of Rs. 1,12,000 for travelling allowances be reduced by Rs. 1,000.'

"My object in moving this motion is to suggest to you and to the House the desirability of changing our method of sitting in the Council. Instead of sitting for a few days every month or every other month, we might adopt the procedure of the Assembly and of some of the other Provincial Legislatures. Let us have seasonal or periodical sittings in the autumn and winter, budget sittings in March, etc., at a stretch until the work accumulated in the period is disposed of. We, coming from the mufassal, have our own business to attend to and we find it inconvenient to come here almost every month."

* The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—" This is a very important matter. May I request the hon. Member to illustrate what he means when he speaks of, for instance, seasonal sittings and what he would have? "

* Mr. K. PRABHAKARAN TAMPAN :—" We may have a March sitting for the budget. We may have a sitting in June or August for a month at a stretch and another towards the end of the calendar year in December for about a month or 20 days until the whole business is disposed of; so that we need not come to Madras almost every month. I am sure there will be enormous saving in the travelling allowance also. I think the majority of the Provincial Councils and the Imperial Assembly and the Council of State have therefore adopted that procedure. I wish to suggest to you and to the House the desirability of adopting that procedure at least in the future."

[19th March 1926]

* The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—" Sir, I did not know from the terms of the motion the exact object which the hon. Member had in view. In another connection I had occasion to elicit information from various hon. Members as to whether they would prefer the course suggested by my hon. Friend, to the present, viz, whether they would prefer to sit each month for a few days or sit at a stretch for two weeks or three four weeks, or finish the business and go away. Among the hon. Members of this House there are a number of busy men, not only professional men but also others, land-owners, etc., who will find it difficult to stay away from their places for three weeks at a stretch. I may say that the opinion of the bulk of the House would be against any change and I do not want to say anything more. We are here all the time. Any course would suit us. But in the interests of the hon. Members at large, it would be extremely detrimental to their business to be here continuously at a stretch."

* Diwan Bahadur M. KRISHNAN NAYAR :—" It seems to me that my hon. Friend, the Law Member, is right and my hon. Friend from Malabar is wrong. (A voice :—" as he is always.") He is not always in the wrong. Except in the matter of the Malabar Tenancy Bill he is always in the right (laughter). As my hon. Friend, the Law Member, stated, I think it will be more inconvenient not only to the hon. Members of this House who are professional men but to others as well if the sittings be held at a stretch for a month or more. My friend, Mr. Prabhakaran Tampan, the mover of this motion, says that it will be more suitable for the transaction of their private business if the meetings are held at a stretch for a long time instead of sitting for a period of a week or so every month. So far as I am personally concerned, it will be more inconvenient for the transaction of my private business to be here in Madras and attend the sittings of the Council for a month at a stretch than to sit every month for a week. I think that this question was informally discussed on a former occasion in this House and the general opinion of the House on that occasion was that the present course would be better."

Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN :—" I think that if the hon. Member, Mr. Krishnan Nayar, were in the Assembly, he would have to sit continuously. If the hon. Members of the Assembly sit continuously, I do not know why the Provincial Legislatures should not come into line with the Assembly. It will be more convenient for the transaction of business if the House meets day after day as the House of Commons does in London."

Mr. A. V. BHANOJI RAO :—" I entirely agree with the hon. Member, Mr. Krishnan Nayar. It is not possible for us to be here and attend the Council day after day for a month or more. The hon. Member, Dr. Subbarayan, said that in the Assembly they sit for a month. It is so there because the Members have got beautiful and special quarters. They have a few days rest in the interval. It is possible for them to sit continuously. They do not sit every day. They have rest for a week or so every month. It will not suit some of the hon. Members of our Council. It is better to follow the present course of sitting for a few days in the month instead of having to sit for a month or two at a stretch."

Rai Bahadur T. M. NARASIMHACHARLU :—" The Members of the Assembly have to come from all Provinces, from Burma, Bengal and so many other places. It will be extremely inconvenient for them to attend every

19th March 1926] [Mr. T. M. Narasimhacharlu]

month. Under those circumstances they all assemble together for a period and afterwards disperse. I think that the analogy of the Legislative Assembly will not be applicable so far as the Provincial Councils are concerned. I think that the existing practice may continue."

* Mr. K. PRABHAKARAN TAMPAN :—" I have no objection to withdraw the motion."

The motion was by leave withdrawn.

Rao Bahadur K. KRISHNASWAMI NAYUDU :—" Mr. President, Sir, I move

'that the allotment of Rs. 1,12,000 for travelling allowances be reduced by Rs. 100.'

"This is to raise the question of reduction of the rate of travelling allowances to Members of the Legislative Council to one first and one third class fares."

* Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—" I move, Sir,

'that the allotment of Rs. 1,79,200 for Provincial Legislative Council be reduced by Rs. 101.'

"In doing so, I beg to suggest to the House that the rules of the travelling allowance of the Legislative Council Members may be modified so as to make it more fair to all the Members concerned. I wish to illustrate what I mean by referring to specific examples. Take two places—Dharmavaram and Berhampur. The distance from Berhampur to Madras is 650 miles, and that between Dharmavaram and Madras is 350 miles. Let us take it that they travel by first class. But over and above a first class fare to which the Members are eligible for their own journey, the present rules allow them to claim an additional three-fifths of the fare I take it for other conveniences. The gentleman coming from Berhampur is eligible for Rs. 45 and the other from Dharmavaram is eligible for Rs. 20. But so far as the trouble, the inconvenience, the expense and the time involved in the journey are concerned, I think, Sir, that they are more or less the same; and perhaps they are really more in the case of one who comes from Dharmavaram. The time taken for the journey from Berhampur to Madras is 26½ hours and that for the comparatively shorter distance—which is not even half—is 25½ hours. Judged by any standard, it seems to me that there is no plausible objection for allowing only Rs. 20 in the one case and Rs. 45 in the other case. As my hon. Friend who has preceded me said, I would suggest that hon. Members may get an allowance equivalent to one first-class fare and one third-class fare if a servant accompanies them. As regards the extra expenses, I have no objection to their being given a daily allowance for the days spent in the journey, not exceeding Rs. 15. It may be Rs. 10; because if it is Rs. 15 it will cost us more."

* The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—" If I may venture to make a suggestion to the hon. Member from North Arcot and the hon. Member who spoke last, may I say that the more convenient course will be to have a small committee which, I think, may be appointed to examine this question with reference to the points adverted to by both the speakers. Otherwise it will be very difficult to work out the proposal. It may be that the figures indicated by my hon. Friend point to one conclusion. It may be on the

[Sir C. P. Ramaswami Ayyar] [19th March 1926]

other hand that there are other aspects of the matter which have not been kept in mind and which may make the proposal really a matter of inconvenience. If I may give this undertaking, with your permission and with your consent, let a small committee be appointed of five or seven of those interested in this matter, let them thrash out the matter and make suggestions for action. I think that is far preferable to discussing this matter now without all the data before us."

Rai Bahadur T. M. NARASIMHACHARLU:—"I submit, Sir, that there seems to be a good deal of misconception as regards the travelling allowances drawn by Members of the Legislative Council. The hon. Mover says that we are pledged to do service to the country and therefore we may take something less. Let the hon. Members from North Arcot and from Bellary take it or do away with it. I do not understand these self-denying ordinances. It depends upon the individual pleasure of every Member to forego it. I cannot understand how you can ask the professional men to give up the allowance. If I am there, I will get Rs. 100 daily. I devote my time here and I do work for the people. That itself is a sacrifice. I submit, Sir, to come forward before this House and say that we shall take something less than what we actually take is not right. I submit there is no reason in it."

1-30
p.m.

"It may look of course disinterested. But I think, Sir, that people do not expect us to be disinterested in that way. I do not like to be in any way less than the public officers. The Collector draws one and three-fifths and the other public officers draw the same thing, and I do not like to be put in any lower class than these public servants and public officers. We do want to make a sacrifice, but I would sacrifice in the way in which we are now doing it. Let us at least be paid out of the public exchequer the travelling expenses that we are put to now and I do not see any reason for altering the rules. I very much thank the hon. the Law Member for his readiness in so quietly telling you to form a committee. I oppose any such committee and I oppose any such reduction. I crave your pardon for being open in my speech."

* The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR:—"Sir, if I may borrow an expression from my hon. Friend from Cuddapah, I am afraid there is some misconception in regard to this matter. It is not that I was convinced by the arguments of Mr. Krishnaswami Nayudu or Mr. Ranganatha Mudaliyar. I said certain facts have been presented by them, certain inconveniences elucidated or adverted to; but there may be other arguments tending the other way and therefore instead of adopting it in this House, I said let us have a committee. Now, Sir, so far am I from misconceiving the position of the hon. Member from Cuddapah that I may point out a circumstance perhaps very well known to you, Sir, and to other hon. Members who have paid any attention to this matter, that in the House of Commons there is a scale of allowances; but what happens is, as has been indicated in the speech of the hon. Member for Cuddapah, there are a large number of Members. I venture to say the majority of Members never draw it (Hear, hear), with the result that there is money accumulating. Of course, every one is entitled to the allowances; but it is quite open to them either to draw or not to draw the allowances. But there is one other argument, viz., railway fare. One and three-fifths railway fare is not intended for the purpose of the railway journey alone, but for various incidental expenses

19th March 1926] [Sir C. P. Ramaswami Ayyar]

incurred during the journey. Now, Sir, it is immaterial to Government whether they have any self-sacrificing ordinance passed and placed before them; but it seems to me that if you are going to debate this matter and adopt the heroic remedy suggested by the hon. Member from Cuddapah, it will be very necessary that this matter be discussed in a committee."

* The hon. Mr. T. E. MOIR:—"Sir, I may, on behalf of the Finance department, say that all we wish in this matter is that the rules now framed on the subject of travelling allowances to the hon. Members of this House should receive general acceptance and be recognized as reasonably providing for all ordinary contingencies in travelling to and fro between mofussal centres and Madras. For that reason, I was quite prepared to accede to the suggestion of my hon. Colleague, the first Member, that, if necessary, these matters should be rediscussed in a committee; but we have no desire to call a committee if the House regards it as unnecessary. If any of the proposals which are at present before the House receive its support and the general opinion of the House is that the present rules and conditions are not reasonably satisfactory, we should not challenge that in any way. But I am not quite sure what exactly is the aim of the resolution of my hon. Friend from the Ceded districts. He proposes that the rules as regards railway fares should be modified, but that there should be an increase of 50 per cent in the daily allowances."

* Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR:—"I hope, Sir, the hon. the Finance Member heard me when I said that I would leave it at Rs. 10, the present rate."

* The hon. Mr. T. E. MOIR:—"I did not quite understand, and it seems to me that on the question of actual expenditure his proposal would, so far from reducing the expenditure now incurred, only increase it. But personally I should like as far as possible in order to avoid complications, and to keep the travelling allowance rules applying to the Members of this House on lines which apply to Government officers, because in the case of Government officers—and this subject has been discussed threadbare—the existing provision of one and three-fifths fare has been agreed upon as reasonably representing an allowance for those various contingencies—porters, bandy to stations and other incidental expenses on a journey; also the cost of servants' tickets when any one travelling takes servants with him. It is regarded as a reasonable adjustment of these various contingencies; and it was assumed that if it was a satisfactory arrangement in the case of the higher Government officers, it would similarly meet the incidental expenses of the Members of this House. Of course, if there is any real grievance, the Finance Department will be perfectly prepared to consider any suggestion which the House regards as necessary. But in respect to individual cases such as a journey between Berhampur and say Dharmavaram or Bellary or some other place between which and Madras distances vary, I am afraid that no possible rules could be devised which will accurately adjust the incidental expenses one has to incur in a journey of 400 miles as compared with another journey of 600 or 700 miles. (Hear, hear.) If we attempt to go into greater detail and try to regulate our rules by every 50 miles of travel or call upon hon. Members to submit statements of actual expenses, I am afraid that it will not promote any greater satisfaction. All we should do would be to burden ourselves with more elaborate accounts, with further clerks to

[Mr. T. E. Moir]

[19th March 1926]

keep them, and worry, in my opinion quite unnecessarily, the hon. Members of this House with the necessity of keeping detailed accounts or remembering them and preparing statements and so on. But, as I said, if the general feeling is that the present allowance rules are not satisfactory, I shall have no objection to any machinery by which the question may be considered."

* Diwan Bahadur M. KRISHNAN NAYAR :—"Sir, before you put this motion to the vote, I wish to know how we can ascertain the views of the committee, I mean of the Council, with reference to the appointment of a committee for the motion will either be carried or negatived. From that, what conclusion can be drawn with reference to the need for appointment of a committee? For instance, there may be Members in this House who may be against the appointment of a committee but who may at the same time vote for this motion. It seems to me that it will not be possible to ascertain the views of this House with reference to the appointment of a committee by putting one of these motions to vote. I do not want to controvert any course that is named by you, Sir."

* The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—"I take it, Sir, that what is meant is this : that the sentiments of the House are that if this matter is to be investigated at all, it should be investigated by a small body or committee. Therefore, the vote that will be taken now will be either for no investigation or, if there is investigation, for investigation by a committee."

The motions were put to the House and lost.

The House then (1-41 p.m.) adjourned for lunch.

After Lunch (2-30 p.m.)

* Diwan Bahadur M. KRISHNAN NAYAR :—"Sir, I move the motion standing in my name, namely,

'that the allotment of Rs. 1,79,200 for Provincial Legislative Council be reduced by Rs. 100.'

"The object of my motion is to bring to the attention of this Council and also of my hon. Friend, the Law Member, the need for increasing the pay of the reporters of this Council. The reporters of this Council, I may submit, Sir, are on the whole an efficient staff. Some of them, of course I shall not mention names, are particularly clever and on the whole they are a very efficient body and, I submit, deserve encouragement. And though they are under your personal disciplinary control, so far as the financial consideration is concerned they are under the financial control of the Government. And I urge upon the Government the need for increasing their pay.

"This subject was brought to the attention of this Council during the time of the budget discussion last year and it was then pointed out that the pay of the official reporters in the Legislative Councils in the Punjab, United Provinces, the Legislative Assembly and other legislative bodies up in the north was very much higher than the pay of the official reporters of this Council. With reference to that, my hon. Friend, the Law Member, I may say, rightly pointed out that the pay of this staff, that is, the official reporters of Madras, should not be compared to the pay of those in the north of India for two reasons, one of those being that in the north efficient

9th March 1926] [Mr. M. Krishnan Nayar]

reporters cannot be had and that practically all the reporters that are employed in the offices there are from Madras. For that reason it is necessary that the pay of the men who are taken to the north should be higher than that of those who are employed in the province itself. It was also rightly pointed out, if I may say so, that the cost of living in the Punjab and other places is very much higher than the cost of living in Madras. For that reason also the pay of our official reporters cannot be compared with that prevailing there. But there was another argument which was adduced and which I should repeat on this occasion and that is this. The pay of the reporters of this Council may rightly be compared with the pay of the shorthand writers in the High Court. I would invite my hon. Friend's attention to page 470 of the Civil Budget Estimate where it will be found that the shorthand writers of the High Court are paid a minimum of Rs. 150 and maximum of Rs. 250 with annual increments of Rs. 10, so that they reach their maximum in a period of ten years. In the case of the reporters of the Council on the other hand, the minimum is found to be Rs. 125; though the maximum is the same, the maximum is reached only during a period of twenty years, double the period which obtains in the case of the shorthandwriters of the High Court. The scale is fixed at Rs. 125—5—200—10—250. There is thus a difference also in the annual increments fixed in the two cases. I submit it is not quite fair to our reporters. My hon. Friend himself saw the justice of the representation on their behalf in this Council, and what my hon. Friend stated on the last occasion during the time of the budget discussion was this :

"One thing, I might at once say, namely that there is a great deal of force in the argument while comparing the scale of pay obtaining in the High Court with that of the Council Reporters."

"And after making some other observations, he wound up by saying

"While I am perfectly prepared to pursue the analogy with regard to the High Court, I am not quite so convinced by the analogy of the pay drawn in other Councils."

"So that, practically my hon. Friend himself made a promise on the last occasion that he would consider the case of the official reporters of this Council. But I do not find any provision made in the current budget for increase of their pay to the level obtaining in the High Court. Though no provision is made in the budget, if my hon. Friend would accept the motion the necessary changes can be made in the budget. And I hope in consonance with the practical promise he made—I do not say he made a distinct promise, but it is a promise which he practically made on the last occasion—he will accept this motion."

* The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—"Mr. President, Sir, I think till now we have proceeded on the basis (though I understand that two opinions have been held on that matter) that the staff of the Legislative Council including the reporters are under the Madras Legislative Council Rules, Rule 5, deemed to be appointed by His Excellency the Governor and they are deemed also to hold office during his pleasure. I may say at once that the only thing that I can promise to do on this occasion is to place the proceedings of this debate before His Excellency the Governor and my hon. Colleague, the Finance Member, for consideration. It was in G.O. No. 356, dated 6th September 1924, that time scale of pay was sanctioned by His Excellency, a scale of Rs. 125—5—200—10—250, the rule also making it clear that the efficiency bar should be strictly enforced. The question of

[Sir C. P. Ramaswami Ayyar] [19th March 1926]

the inadequacy of the rate of pay was raised in the Council in the shape of a motion by Mr. R. Srinivasa Ayyangar and I think my hon. Friend also took part in that motion. And I promised to look into the matter. I may say that the matter was considered by Government and the Government came to the conclusion that we could not in the present circumstances make any modification. I know that something can be said on both sides of the case. The argument on the other side is of course that though the quality of the work compares and compares favourably with the quality of the work done by the shorthand writers of the High Court, they have not got such continuous work as those in the High Court. The other argument is, and I want the hon. Members of the House to realize that, we sit only for about 70 days and even taking committee work into consideration it will not be more than 100 days in the year. It cannot be said to be commensurate with the quantum of work turned out by the shorthand writers of the High Court. On the other hand, the argument has been urged and urged with force that the shorthand writers of the Legislative Council have to take down the speeches of those who speak fast and those who speak slow, speakers who vary in very many particulars and that their task is one of great difficulty and that high equipment in their own profession is needed for the purpose of effective and adequate discharge of their duties. I am not minimising that for a moment but at the present juncture I cannot do more than this, to say that I shall place my hon. Friend's opinion and all that can be said on this matter before His Excellency the Governor and my hon. Colleague."

* Diwan Bahadur M. KRISHNAN NAYAR :—" I wish to say only one word in reply and that is this. My hon. Friend himself has stated things that can be said in favour of and also against the reporters. In addition to what my hon. Friend has said in favour of our reporters, I may add this. Though no doubt the reporters in the High Court have to work all the year round and though our reporters have to work only when the Council is sitting, the actual work that they have to do during the days on which the Council actually sits is very much greater, when spread through the whole year, than probably the work which the shorthand writers of the High Court do. Our reporters work under very high pressure; for instance during this sitting which lasts for about a fortnight or so, they work at very high pressure, practically the whole day from eleven till five, taking down what is spoken on the floor of this House. If this work is spread through the whole year, it will compare very favourably, I think, with the quantum of work and would even be greater than the work turned out by the shorthand writers of the High Court. Though the answer to my motion given by my hon. Friend is not quite disappointing, allow me to say that it is not quite satisfactory. What he said was that he would place it before his hon. Colleague, Mr. Moir, before His Excellency the Governor and I suppose before the Government as a whole. I believe the hon. the Finance Member will sympathetically consider their case when it is placed before him and I do not think he will be so hard-hearted as to turn the proposal down altogether. As for His Excellency, I feel confident that His Excellency will be very kind. Having regard to what fell from my hon. Friend by way of reply, I do not wish to press my motion."

The motion was by leave withdrawn.

19th March 1926]

Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN :—" May I have permission to move motion No. 330 on the paper ? "

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" That is Mr. Koti Reddi's motion. I have been following a rule that in the case of these budget motions permission should be given only to those who have given notice of those motions." 2-45 p.m.

* The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—" May I point out also, Sir, that while it is useful to follow the rule which has been formulated by you, there are other occasions in this demand, for instance motion No. 334, when my hon. Friend can place his views before the House. It is not as if there is no opportunity."

* Mr. R. VEERIAN :—" I beg to move, Sir,

'for the reduction of the allotment of Rs. 62,000 for elections by Rs 100.'

" Since there are differences of opinion regarding the coming representation of the members of the depressed classes in this House, I wish to make my humble suggestion that while making such nominations for representation, it is advisable to consult the different leaders of the depressed classes."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" But who is the appointing authority ? "

* Mr. R. VEERIAN :—" His Excellency the Governor is vested with that power, Sir, and it would be advisable to take the advice of the leaders of the depressed classes. They may be of service in making some useful suggestions."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" Is there any Member of the Government who would advise His Excellency the Governor in regard to these nominations ? If there is, then I would allow the discussion of the motion."

* Diwan Bahadur M. KRISHNAN NAYAR :—" I suppose the hon. the Law Member advises the Government."

* Mr. R. VEERIAN :—" The hon. the Law Member is in charge of the portfolio and I think, Sir, that he advises His Excellency."

* The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—" Mr. President, Sir, though it is not correct to say that any one Member advises His Excellency particularly with regard to nominations, I may say this. Because this matter is dealt with in the portfolio of elections, these nominations pass through me."

* Mr. R. VEERIAN :—" It is left to the option of His Excellency to nominate the Members, but it would be useful and advisable to take the opinion of the different leaders of the depressed classes. It is only a guide so that the members of the depressed classes in the various districts may not grumble after the appointments are made. It is in order to avoid that, I wanted to make this humble suggestion, and I hope it would appeal to the hon. the Law Member. The nomination is entirely left in the hands of His Excellency the Governor, but I suggest that this kind of consultation with the Leaders would be useful and helpful."

* The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—" Mr. President, Sir, as has been rightly pointed out, the right to nominate hon. Members to this House is solely vested in His Excellency the Governor, who is at liberty to take advice from every one qualified to give advice, and indeed he generally does

[Sir C. P. Ramaswami Ayyar]

[19th March 1926]

so. All that I can say on this motion is that I shall convey to His Excellency the idea that has been adumbrated in the course of this debate that there is this avenue to be explored, and that the leaders of the depressed classes may also be consulted in the matter. I cannot say more."

* Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR:—"Sir, I am not able quite to understand the efficacy of the machinery suggested by my hon. Friend Mr. Veerian."

* The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR:—"I may say frankly, Sir, that there is no machinery. His Excellency can consult any one or may consult none. The idea is that the leaders of the depressed classes who are presumably entitled to advise as to who are the best men to be nominated are also to be consulted."

* Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR:—"If the idea is to choose such people as would be most acceptable to the depressed classes, I do not think that that object will be achieved by consulting one or two members here who may be more in evidence before the Government than other people. The proper thing, I submit, would be to constitute an electorate of these classes and ask them to choose the Members for the Council. They may be taken note of by His Excellency in nominating Members to this Council. Otherwise, I think there will be plenty of room for misunderstanding and difficulty."

* The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR:—"I think the hon. Member who spoke last is not aware of what has really happened in this matter, as my hon. Friend Mr. Veerian is aware. Arising out of certain discussions that took place in this House, an attempt was made to see whether electorates or constituencies could be created for the purpose of making recommendations to His Excellency the Governor in regard to nominations. Certain groups of people were invited and the opinions of various persons were also sought, but I think I am right in saying that the representatives of these classes themselves, excepting in two centres—I think the two centres mentioned were Madras and the Nilgiris were impressed by the difficulty of the task of creating in the present circumstances and in the state of education among these communities, effective constituencies which will function so as to bring about the result contemplated by the framers of these rules and they concluded that they would rely upon the discretion of His Excellency the Governor."

The motion was by leave withdrawn.

* Mr. A. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—"Mr. President, Sir, I beg to move

'that the allotment of Rs. 62,000 for elections be reduced by Rs. 100.'

"As will be seen, this is just a token motion and I wish to raise very important issues under it. The elections are coming on and there has been recently a debate in this House on the point as to how by-elections are conducted. At any rate, there was an attempt at a debate. I wish to emphasize the necessity of so providing a proper machinery for the conduct of the elections that there may be no room for complaint from any source whatsoever. In the first place, I wish to suggest that the number of polling booths is not adequate at present. In several districts the complaint is that

[19th March 1926] [Mr. A. Ramaswami Mudaliyar]

several voters are not able to exercise their franchise as too many voters are grouped under one polling area, and as too many of them have to go to the polling booth during set hours. In many of the polling areas in my district, 800 to 900 and sometimes 1,000 voters are grouped under one polling area, and it is not possible for them all to exercise the franchise. I do not suggest that all the 800 or 900 people come. But even if 500 or 600 come, it is sometimes found very difficult to exercise the franchise. I think the highest number that it has been possible to register in my district has been about 550."

Rai Bahadur T. M. NARASIMHACHARLU:—"The number is 300 in our district."

* Mr. A. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—"As usual, the Ceded districts are backward, and the polling officers there are able to register only 300. But it seems to me that there must be some arrangement by which the other polling areas may be multiplied, or additional relieving polling officers may be appointed and better facilities provided for these pollings. It is also true, as some of us have known by experience from the last two elections, that in the grouping of these villages under one polling area villages far removed from the polling centre have been included. What happens is, generally speaking . . ."

* The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR:—"Would my hon. Friend please repeat his last observation? I did not quite catch it."

* Mr. A. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—"In grouping villages under a single polling area, villages far removed from the actual polling centre are sometimes clubbed together. What seems to happen is this, that revenue divisional officers and others take the geographical area of the district and find out that the villages are within a radius of five or six miles, and bring all these villages within the jurisdiction of a single polling area, whereas, as a matter of fact, the man has to walk ten or thirteen miles to come to that polling centre. I know that wide latitude has been given to the revenue divisional officers in this matter and they are the final authorities within certain limitations—I suppose limitations that have been laid down by rules, or orders of the Government from time to time. Wide latitude has been given to the revenue divisional officers to see that villages are properly grouped under certain polling areas. But even so, it is very difficult to get them to make a move in this matter, and still more difficult to make them increase the number of polling centres. The difficulty seems to be that the increase of polling centres is not encouraged because that leads to additional cost."

"There is another matter which is likely to be dealt with soon—in fact, I believe the committee is sitting this evening—and that is with reference to illiterate voters. I myself believe that this is not the time for tinkering with that question. I do not think that it can be satisfactorily solved at this stage, and any attempt at a solution will lead to greater difficulties than have been experienced hitherto. We have had two elections so far run on the same system and I would prefer to have the third election also working under the same system. Of course I know that there may be abuses, and I understand that in one district there is reason to believe that there have been abuses inasmuch as literate voters have been compelled to declare themselves illiterate, but I am sure that this is not the experience of all districts. An

[Mr. A. Ramaswami Mudaliyar] [19th March 1926]

objection may also be raised that the illiterate voter is threatened or coerced and therefore the secrecy of the ballot is not kept up. But I feel that at the stage of illiteracy existing in this country now, no other alternative system can be useful or will in any way better the situation. That, of course, I need not discuss at present because the whole thing is before a committee and I do not wish to anticipate its decisions.

"There is one other matter, Sir, which I want to touch, and here I feel that I am on very delicate ground. It is possible that my observations may be very much misunderstood, but I have to make them all the same because as representatives of the people it is not always given to us to undertake pleasant tasks. I have been as the chief organizer of my party, going about several districts in the mufassal, and have been therefore hearing many things from many persons. I am perfectly willing to concede that all I heard has not got proper justification. But impressions are abroad regarding the attitude of this or that gentleman, or the conception that people have of the attitude of this or that gentleman with regard to the coming elections."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT:—"Is that said to be the attitude of public officials?"

* Mr. A. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—"It is with reference to public officials, Sir. And I cannot put it higher than this, that we should take every opportunity to prevent such conceptions forming among the generality of the public. It is possible to say that Caesar's wife must be above suspicion, but I am sure Caesar's wife, if she is told about it, would have said that it is the very last task that she can fulfil with satisfaction. It is not given to any of us to see to it that we are above suspicion. We can only try to act in such a manner that we should be beyond suspicion, and I feel therefore that something must be done to prevent that suspicion while realizing the limitations as far as possible. It is possible that there are people in the districts who are so unreasonable as to believe that merely because the hon. the Law Member for instance is in charge of this portfolio therefore a certain amount of prejudice is created in the minds of the electors with reference to the coming elections. I do not want to give the slightest credence to that sort of thing. But I am certain and I say this not with hesitation but after deep thinking that the hon. the Law Member will consult his own dignity if he were to think of changing the subject to another of his Colleagues. As I said in the course of my speech, nobody can be responsible for the impressions that are abroad."

"I realize it more than anybody else. And while I feel it is possible that my remarks may be misunderstood, I feel also as one who is interested in trying to see that the prestige of every Member of the Government is kept up, that no man of any party should be in a position to say that any particular member is either in favour of or against any organization. I do not wish to put it higher than that, Sir, but I feel that a wide impression is abroad. I do not say that there is any justification for it, but I make the suggestion for what it is worth."

* Diwan Bahadur M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—"I wish to say one word so far as the polling stations are concerned, Sir. Probably the conditions in different districts vary. My Friend Mr. Ramaswami Mudaliyar stated that

19th March 1926] [Mr. M. Krishnan Nayar]

in his district of Chingleput some polling stations are at considerable distances from the residences of the voters. So far as Malabar is concerned, Sir, we have a real grievance in the matter. No doubt I know very well that if the distances between the polling stations and the residences of the voters are decreased, the number of polling stations will have to be increased. The number of polling stations during the last elections and the one before that in the district of Malabar was about 250 speaking in round figures. I had to appoint roughly about 249 agents to represent me at the polling booths. The voters have to walk over a distance of about ten miles and that means they have to walk a distance of ten miles for coming to the polling stations and ten miles for returning home. Practically the whole day is spent in coming to and going back from the polling stations. I think it is very desirable and certainly it must be possible to increase the number of polling stations, so that the voters may have to walk only shorter distances. In the interests of the electors, in the interests of the candidates and in the interests of the public, it is desirable that the number should be increased. With reference to the other complaint referred to, namely, that the number of polling officers also should be increased, I do not know what the practice in his district is. So far as Malabar is concerned, we have no cause for complaint, for, in each station according to the number of voters we have sometimes one, sometimes two, and sometimes three and even four polling officers. So far as the polling officers are concerned, the average number of votes which one has to record is 250, so that when we have 750 voters in a particular station the Collector appoints three polling officers. So far as that is concerned, we in Malabar have no complaint. So far as the number of stations is concerned, I hope the number will certainly be increased so as to afford relief to these voters. After all, we could not shut our eyes to existing facts. No doubt it is well and good to say that it is in the interest of the people themselves that the voters have to walk some distances. But it is not practicable. Many of these present voters are agriculturists and all of them, it must be admitted, have not yet been able to follow and realize the value of votes. That is another consideration that has to be kept in view by the Government."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT:—"I think I should ask all hon. Members who have given notice on allied subjects to speak on this because they are subjects connected with elections."

* The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR:—"Let them deal separately with their various topics. But if any hon. Member wishes to speak on this, he may speak because there may be special features."

Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"I agree with what has fallen from the hon. Member for Chingleput regarding the polling stations. So far as Salem is concerned, the polling stations are at long intervals and sometimes people have to go 14 to 15 miles and the number of voters in the Salem district is 66,000 for whom there were 146 polling stations. In some big stations there were 1,100 voters. Even if additional polling officers are appointed, they find it difficult to cope with more than 500. In a particular polling station there were 800 voters, out of whom 3 or 4 had to return as not being able to vote within time in spite of the fact that there were two polling officers. The second thing that I wanted to say is this. I disagree that the same method should be followed in regard to these illiterate voters. In my personal

[Dr. P. Subbarayan]

[19th March 1926]

experience even though the voter may be willing to vote for a particular individual, he is not allowed to do it because the agents are around him. He has to mention the name to the polling officer and he gives the name of one for whom the number of agents are more influential than the one who is a poorer man though he originally did not want to give his vote to the former. The other general complaint in the district is that the polling officers themselves do not mark correctly. Under these circumstances, it would be desirable if some method could be devised by which the illiterate voter could record his vote in favour of the man whom he prefers."

Mr. R. MADANAGOPAL NAYUDU :—" Mr. President, Sir, I also feel that provision ought to be made for the increase of polling stations. A number of people from the mufassal districts have stated their grievances in this respect. They ought to be very great considering the difficulties that we have been feeling even though there are 30 polling stations. There are certain divisions where the area is broad or where we find it difficult to get all the voters to come together. Though there were 23,000 voters, the total number who came were about four thousand and odd. That shows even in such a small area as Madras owing to the fact that there is not a sufficiently large number of polling stations, people do not turn in sufficient numbers. Further, Sir, there is rush in certain quarters in the mornings and evenings and it is not possible to distribute them the whole day. Therefore special arrangements should be made for providing sufficient number of polling officers. Relief ought to be given in the mornings and evenings when generally there is a rush.

"I agree there has been some difficulty in the matter of illiterate people voting. The difficulty experienced in the city was that proper instruction was not given. The polling officers do not feel inclined to read all the names. They want to read the first four names within which the whole thing is finished though they wanted to vote for other people. Therefore proper instructions in that way ought to be given in this election. The question of cost ought not to weigh with the Government and the number of polling stations ought certainly to be increased. As regards the illiterate voters excepting that instructions can be given in a particular manner as regards their free choice, I do not think that any other thing will be correct; for the vote will become invalid. In the circumstances, the present system of voting provided for the illiterate people ought to be continued unless something extraordinary could be found out and suggested to the Council later on which is better than what at present obtains. Till then, Sir, the present system ought to be continued. I therefore appeal that even though it costs something, some special arrangements ought to be made to increase the polling stations and provide a large number of polling officers to see that larger people go to vote. I hope Government would see that as much as possible the voters go to the polling stations and the number is not curtailed for want of facilities which Government might provide."

Rai Bahadur T. M. NARASIMHACHARLU :—" Mr. Deputy President, Sir, I whole-heartedly agree with many of the suggestions made by the previous speakers. I feel it my duty to raise a protest against the statement made by my very particular and hon. Friend Mr. Ramaswami Mudaliyar with reference to the portfolio held by the hon. the Law Member."

19th March 1926]

* The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—" I would beg all hon. Members to leave that matter to be dealt with by me."

Rai Bahadur T. M. NARASIMHACHARLU :—" I know he is capable of defending himself. Anyhow I do not want to mention anything about it. I have got only one or two suggestions to make with reference to the question of these elections. It is well known that in the mufassal the distances between the polling stations and the places where the voters reside are generally very large, say ten miles on an average. Then they say that they should not be provided with any sort of convenience. The rules also say that although these people in the heat of the day come from long distances they should not be given even drinks or kanji or coffee or tea. I submit, Sir, that these rules might have been very good in England. But I do not think that these rules could be of any usefulness or efficacy in India. We know, Sir, as a matter of fact that India is famous for its hospitality. We won't allow any person who comes for our business, i.e., for the business for which he is called upon, viz., to vote on a public matter, to be starving, or should be feeling thirsty or feeling hungry. I hope, Sir, that Government will relax the rule in this matter and say that it is not opposed to any rule or that it is unlawful if these people are given every convenience. There are ladies among these people and there are also old men. I submit, Sir, in these circumstances the rules relating to these matters may be relaxed and that they may be provided with these necessities."

* The hon. the DEPUTY PRESIDENT :—" By the candidates?"

Rai Bahadur T. M. NARASIMHACHARLU :—" Of course by the candidates. Otherwise, there is no meaning in my urging that point at all. Why should I urge upon the generosity of others leaving the candidates out? Let it be provided by the candidates. What they do now is they do everything secretly. They evade the rule. You make them dishonest. Why not allow this rule and say 'All right, do it openly'. I think Government is indirectly causing the evasion of the rules by making such rules. We cannot see other people starve or feel thirsty under those circumstances. That rule is in existence more for breaking it than for observing it."

"Another thing is that in my district there is one taluk, Kamalapuram, which has got only three polling stations. If for one taluk you have got only three polling stations, you can easily see what difficulties and hardships the voters will be put to. So, I think the suggestion as to the increase in the number of polling stations may be very usefully adopted."

* Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—" I have to urge a few points for the consideration of the hon. the Law Member. First, I would request him to see that places which have the larger number of voters are constituted polling stations. If, for instance, a place has 250 voters, it is wrong, I consider, to make the voters of that place to go to another place where perhaps there are only 50 voters. Taking into consideration the numbers involved, I think it is but fair that as little inconvenience as possible should be caused to the larger number of people."

"Secondly, I should so arrange the polling stations that no one of them would be required to serve the needs of more than a specified number of voters. Analysing the figures of the last elections, you may fix the number at 500 or 600, whatever you consider the number that can be reasonably recorded at each polling station."

[Mr. A. Ranganatha Mudaliyar] [19th March 1926]

"The third point I wish to submit for the consideration of the hon. the Law Member is that no village of more than a particular distance from the polling station should be included within that area, say, no village beyond a radius of five miles. That, I think, should be the limit for the polling area.

"Then, fourthly, Sir, I found last time that there was a good deal of laxity in the matter of the registration of voters. The names of many people who had the right to exercise the franchise had been omitted, and I think it desirable that early instructions should issue to the Collectors concerned to see that the village officers do not shirk their work and restrict the number of people who are eligible to exercise their franchise. The fifth point relates to the matter of the selection of polling officers in which care and discretion should be used. It has often happened that officers of one or other of the candidates in their other capacities have at times been selected as polling officers. I need only mention that fact for the House to condemn that arrangement altogether.

"As regards the difficulty of illiterate voters, more than one Member has referred to it. It is a fact that these poor illiterate voters are subject to unnecessary troubles and inconveniences with the result that they are not able to exercise their franchise in the way they would desire to do. You have the Bombay system working there and elsewhere. If the Government have ascertained what the result of the working of the system in those provinces has been and if the system has been working satisfactorily there, and if the conditions here are not far dissimilar to those prevailing there, I think that system may be tried here. If you are not able to introduce the Bombay system here, then I would urge that the illiterate voters should not be asked to declare the names of the candidates they prefer publicly. They must be taken into the polling booths with the agents of the candidates, if they care to go in, and there the name of the candidates they prefer should be ascertained privately within the polling booth in the presence of the agents, and there, the polling officer should record it, and not as is done now in several parts publicly and before all people, voters and non-voters alike.

"I am not able to agree with my hon. Friend, the Member from Cuddapah, that candidates should be permitted to provide refreshments for the voters. (The hon. Deputy President: 'You cannot.') As you remind me, Mr. Deputy President, it is true that I am not in a position to provide refreshments even if I had the inclination to do so. In the interest of the voters themselves, I would deprecate that arrangement, because I am quite positive that in all these constituencies there will be a number of candidates, five, six or eight of them, and if each of them should try to be hospitable to these voters and compel them to partake of the refreshments, and if the voters feel that they must oblige them lest they should be misunderstood if they declined the offer, I rather pity the poor voter who is put in that predicament.

"He mentioned, Sir, that a particular taluk had only three polling stations. I am not quite sure if that taluk is not the smallest taluk of that district and consists perhaps of 60 villages (Rai Bahadur T. M. Narasimha-charlu: 'Yes, 60 villages') so that I deprecate allotment of polling stations by taluks without reference to the number of villages included in those taluks.

19th March 1926] [Mr. A. Ranganatha Mudaliyar]

"I do not want to refer to what my hon. Friend from Cuddapah has already dealt with which was deprecated by the hon. the Law Member. If I were free to speak on it, I should be able to say what I feel in the matter, and perhaps I . . ."

The hon. the DEPUTY PRESIDENT:—"The hon. Member had better not go into it."

* Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR:—"I am not going to do it, apart from saying that I do not agree with my hon. Friend from Chingleput."

* The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR:—"Mr. Deputy President, Sir, I shall deal with those matters in the order in which they have been dealt with. With regard to the polling stations and presiding and polling officers, what was done in 1923 was this; the Returning officer was consulted for each constituency, and as many polling stations as he thought necessary were fixed. That is the rule. We instructed the Returning Officers in the following manner:—

'in selecting polling stations due regard must be paid to the convenience of electors, the distance they have to travel and the facilities of communication. Ordinarily there should be one polling station for each polling area. But in the case of large polling areas it is permissible to have more than one centre so that electors may have reasonable facilities for voting. It is considered necessary to prescribe the maximum number of electors for whom a separate polling station should be provided, and Returning Officers shall decide with reference to circumstances of each locality how many electors can conveniently vote at a polling station always remembering that polling has to be completed on the date fixed.'

"Now, I realize that so stated the general proposition may have to be qualified according to the circumstances of particular places. Suppose, for instance, that in a particular area, the number of illiterate electors is very large, the process of going through the register of votes certainly takes more time than the mere writing down of the name by a literate voter, and these are matters as to which we have some record with reference to the last two elections. I may say here that the matter will be carefully examined with reference to the observations that have fallen from hon. Members. I take it that the idea animating hon. Members who have spoken on the subject is that first of all you must have these booths in places where there is a certain minimum of population so that there may be ample accommodation, and, secondly, that there must be sufficient number of booths to allow of practically all or indeed all the voters to come in and vote within the time fixed for the purpose, namely, one day. I shall also pay attention to the other question of grouping villages which are now far removed.

"As to the illiterate voters, the matter stands thus. In Bombay, the system is that each candidate is assigned a symbol, a horse, or a cow, or a castle, or whatever else is chosen. The voter is asked to choose either the horse or the cow as the case may be. Now, it has been pointed out that certain animals are handicapped as against certain other animals; for instance, it has, I think, been the experience in those elections that a cow has a certain unfair advantage over certain other animals in relation to a large number of Hindu electors. Unless persons are lovers of donkeys, they may not particularly care for the donkey or the member whose symbol it is. But, Sir, there is another difficulty. The difficulty that is pointed out also is this, that there are places where the men are so illiterate, or so ignorant that,

[Sir C. P. Ramaswami Ayyar] [19th March 1926]

for instance, they cannot easily distinguish between a horse or a donkey. (Laughter.) I would not mention it at all, but for the fact that prominent attention of this Government was drawn to it by responsible officers who have been in charge of the conduct of elections, viz., that there are certainly localities where the accurate differentiation of animals has not entered into the sum total of the knowledge of the particular voter. Indeed, Sir, these are undoubtedly some of the difficulties attached to the system of assigning symbols to the particular candidates. At the present moment the procedure that is adopted is that an illiterate man goes there, and a certain list of persons is read out to him, and he nods his head vigorously or faintly as against each man, and if he nods up to the number of three or four or whatever it be which is the number of candidates to be elected there it stops; thus there are more facilities for his conveying a wrong impression of what he really wishes to be done. Now, Sir, the question of illiterate voters is essentially a complicated question and can only be solved in the one manner in which most other problems in this country are to be solved, viz., by further extension of education. But I realize that there is much force in the remarks that fell from one hon. Member, namely, that the shouting out or naming the candidate's name in public may be avoided and that the two agents,—not necessarily two—the agents of the candidates along with the voter may go into a place somewhat removed and the opinion of the elector may be ascertained in that manner. I submit, Sir, that the suggestion has a great deal to commend it, and I do not see why attempts should not be made to put that suggestion into practice."

The hon. the DEPUTY PRESIDENT:—"Why not colours, if I may venture to suggest?"

* The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR:—"With regard to that

* Diwan Bahadur M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—"I suppose my hon. Friend will not give a final expression of his opinion with reference to those suggestions. I preferred, as my hon. Friend himself suggested, not to refer to it seeing that a committee is to meet this evening or some other evening. That is why I particularly refrained from making any observations on that subject. I hope my hon. Friend will not give expression to any final views of his."

* The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR:—"Let me at once say that Government have constituted a committee for discussing this matter, and that Government will to a certain extent be guided by the deliberations and the conclusions of that committee. I am only placing before the House certain difficulties which have been brought prominently to our attention by officers who have worked this system of symbols.

"Now, the hon. the Deputy President was good enough to suggest colours. But, Sir, he is too much of a travelled-man, too much of a student of affairs not to know that colour-blindness is not an uncommon phenomenon (laughter). Indeed it has been stated that there are some people who ought to know better but who do not always distinguish between green and blue. These things have been stated, but the matter has no doubt to be discussed more fully by the committee referred to just now.

3-50
P.M.

19th March 1926] [Sir C. P. Ramaswami Ayyar]

"I come to the very interesting suggestion made by the hon. Member from Cuddapah regarding the liberty to be allowed to 'treat'—I am using the word in its technical sense—to treat the voters, the candidates being at liberty to fill up his elector so that he may be made sufficiently complacent and sufficiently willing to undertake the arduous duties of voting for the best man. In addition to the embarrassments indicated in the somewhat humorous remarks of my Friend Mr. Ranganatha Mudaliyar, there is another aspect. It may be that one candidate may be foremost in the race and may fill up the elector, who may not be willing to be treated by the other man; may not have the complacence to say 'yes' to a second 'treater' or he may be filled up an inconvenient number of times. But I do not wish to pursue the matter. The only solution will be in some places, like certain parts of the Ceded districts where people have to walk a long distance and come in the heat for Government to make arrangements for quenching their thirst, but even that is open to certain difficulties. It is a matter which I think we may try. But so far as these elections are concerned, if there is a general sense of hunger and thirst among the electors which manifests itself, in real demands we may then see at the next elections what has to be done (Rai Bahadur T. M. Narasimhachari: Not the thirst of another kind). I think these are the main points that have been raised.

"I shall deal finally with the point—an undoubtedly important point—raised by the hon. Member from Chingleput and it was deliberately that I made an appeal with reference, to it. Certain hon. Members were requested not to deal with it because it is a matter concerning me and I thought it is most appropriate that I should deal with it. Sir, I may at once say that there seems to be a certain amount of misconception as to the functions of the Member in charge of the portfolio of elections. The Member in charge of the portfolio of elections has nothing to do with the elections properly so called. He only issues general circulars or orders which are printed in the newspaper and placed on the Editors' Table, these orders regulating what may be called the general conduct of the elections and laying down the law in certain matters, fortified as he undoubtedly will be by the advice of the constituted legal authorities of the Crown. He will also have to interpret election rules when asked to do so by the local authorities or he has to arrange for the conduct of elections. Let me therefore assure the hon. Member in the first place that the Member in charge of the elections does nothing more and does not pretend to do anything more except laying down the general lines on which elections should proceed, laying down rules and regulations such as those indicated just now. Sir, it is just possible that on account of the community to which I belong, that on account of the influence I wield, there may be misconceptions. All I can say is that I desire very firmly and very emphatically from my place in the House to say that I should consider myself unworthy of the position I hold, unworthy of the trust that has been reposed in me by calling me to high office were I consciously to succumb to any influence in the conduct of the business which is essentially judicial in nature and character. Sir, these aspersions, these suggestions may be made by prejudiced persons though I guard myself against suggesting the slightest possible bias or bitterness on the part of my hon. Friend who spoke with a certain amount of restraint and delicacy which I appreciate. But I say that it is quite natural that these ideas may be entertained

[Sir C. P. Ramaswami Ayyar] [19th March 1926]

in some quarters. All I can say is that I shall endeavour to see that in the conduct of these elections such ideas are not allowed room to develop. I may say further, before I sit down, that if I really thought that at any stage my opinions or my own ideas were such that my duty demanded a different course of action I shall be the first to follow the dictates of my conscience. I assert there is no room for suspicion notwithstanding that my position may be invidious, and I think it is the part of courage to stay where I am notwithstanding these remarks."

* Mr. A. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—"Mr. Deputy President, I have only one observation to make with reference to the illiterate voter. I am a member of the committee which has been appointed to go into this question and as I had suggestions that the question of colours and the question of animals could be taken up into consideration and as I have also had through the kindness of the department the rules from Bombay placed before me, I took some pains to write to my Bombay friends to find out how this system was working. I shall lay before the committee what they say. I may assure this House however that some of the most important members of the Bombay Council, persons occupying high posts stated—I shall not say further than that—I have the assurance from the Bombay members of the Legislative Council, that candidates and electors generally are not satisfied with that position. The hon. the Law Member has adverted to other considerations like colours. And I say that there is a great deal of force in what he says. One suggestion coming from the hon. Member from Bellary I readily agree to. I am not precluding opinions being formed by the committee, but as the subject has been raised for discussion I should like to say I feel that as far as possible the vote of the illiterate voters should be known only to the agents and the polling officer. In this connexion, may I, with your permission, supplement the remarks though I ought to have made them in the first instance, regarding the conduct of affairs at the polling booth, and especially place this consideration before the hon. the Law Member, both in his capacity as holding the portfolio of elections and in his capacity as holding the portfolio of police. I feel, Sir, that latterly there has been a tendency to too much of hooliganism at the polling booth and I think more than the illiterate voter, the respectable voter has been much frightened to enter the polling booth by the hooliganism that has been going on in several of the elections, which I have myself witnessed. It is safe therefore that some steps should be taken to have a proper police protection at places where the candidates may forewarn the officials concerned where they expect hooliganism. It is not in all places. There are several rural areas where it is not possible. But there are again urban parts and particular rural parts where the candidate will know beforehand that much crowd will gather; people who are not electors, people who are not voters, will carry on their work of hooliganism in such a way that the respectable men and women will not enter the polling booth. These are facts, I think, within the knowledge of most of the Members of this House. Therefore while I appreciate the suggestion of the hon. Member from Bellary that as far as possible the illiterate voter should be taken into the polling booth away from the set of people that are gathered round and made to mention the name of the candidates to the hearing only of the agents and of the polling officer, it has also to be generally recognised

19th March 1926] [Mr. A. Ramaswami Mudaliyar]

that as far as possible the common crowd ought to be kept away from the polling booth. That is my experience during the last two elections. When this is not done it is impossible to regulate the conduct of affairs there. Polling officers and assistant polling officers are perfectly helpless in this matter. Therefore, I would appeal for some general police precautions to be taken, so that the crowds of whichever party or whichever candidate, may be kept away, decently away from the polling booth, so that also the work of voting may be carried on smoothly.

"There is one other matter to which I must refer. As I began my remarks, it was with a feeling that I was undertaking an unpleasant task, that I was laying myself open to misconstruction when I made these remarks. I see that the remarks that I have made have already produced useful results, the fact that the hon. the Law Member has stated from his place in this House the extent and scope of his duties as a Member in charge of the election portfolio; that fact published broadcast by the newspapers all round will go a great deal towards settling public opinion in this matter. I feel that I have gained something, however invidious the task that I have undertaken may be, by publicly telling the people through a responsible Member of the Government the limitations of that work that he has undertaken being in charge of that portfolio. And I am also glad that the hon. the Law Member has assured us—indeed such assurance is not necessary so far as I am individually concerned,—from his place in the Legislative Council that he certainly has no bias in the matter and will not be influenced in the slightest degree one way or the other. I do not intend to convey, even if my words suggested otherwise, that I felt there was any bias in the matter or that I felt any justification for this suspicion. I do not say I guarded myself by language which was very clear or very cogent, but at least it was my idea that I should guard myself against raising the implication that I felt myself that he had given in to bias of this or that nature. If I have been bitter in my remarks or if there was any suggestion that there was bitterness in my remarks or personal acrimony, I can only say that my words have failed me and not my intentions. I feel, Sir, that whatever that be, I have done useful work in eliciting from the hon. the Law Member the reply he has given. I shall not press this motion."

The motion was by leave withdrawn.

* Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—"I move

that the allotment of Rs. 62,000 for elections be reduced by Rs. 100."

"Sir, I move this motion in order to urge expedition in revising lists of voters carefully and exhaustively. From my knowledge of South Kanara and Malabar in which there are peculiar land tenures, I find that there are hundreds or perhaps thousands of people who are entitled to vote but are not included in the list of voters. I am not in the committee, but I hope somebody or other will go into the question."

* The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—"Which committee?"

* Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—"Some committee."

* The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—"There is no committee for elections. What the hon. Member refers to apparently is the committee which has been appointed for the purpose of dealing with the question of

[Sir C. P. Ramaswami Ayyar] [19th March 1926]

illiterate voters, and as to whether signs and symbols or colours may be adopted. There is no other committee. My hon. Friend need not be under the apprehension that there is any other committee, of which he is not aware."

* Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—"I am not at all sorry for not being selected to the committee. I am not anxious to be in more committees than I am already in. But the point is very important. There is the Mulgavidar, the permanent tenant or holder of land. The cultivator is one, whereas the landlord is another. In the case of these permanent tenants, according to law of election they are entitled to be entered in the lists. I know there are several of these people who are not in the lists. In Malabar, we have the kanamdar, the verumpattam tenants, and I think they too must be on the lists, as well the janmis. From the representations made to me from Malabar I think many more people must be in the list than there are now."

3-45
p.m.

"It is high time that some assurance is given by the hon. the Law Member that orders will be issued for the preparation of the list at an early date. I do not think that orders have been issued. (A voice: 'They have already been issued.') If they have already been issued, that is all right. I submit that there should be more expedition in the preparation of this list, so that we may be in a position to know how many more have been added in the list. This is a matter which is important not merely from my own point of view but it is important from the point of view of voters because our aim is that as many people as possible should have the right of franchise. If special influence of officials . . ."

* The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—"I do not know whether expedition in the preparation of voters' lists would require the influence of officials."

The hon. the DEPUTY PRESIDENT :—"Let us hear what Mr. Saldanha has to say. I think the hon. the Law Member should be delighted to hear Mr. Saldanha."

* The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—"I am always delighted to hear my hon. Friend Mr. Saldanha but at the same time we have to observe certain rules in our debate."

* The hon. the DEPUTY PRESIDENT :—"I think the hon. Member Mr. Saldanha had better omit the word 'official'."

* Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—"I am referring to non-officials, I am referring to the Ministers."

* The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—"Now that we have got an indication of the ambit of discussion in regard to the revision of electoral lists, may I request you, Sir, to give a ruling."

The hon. the DEPUTY PRESIDENT :—"The hon. the Law Member has already stated that he has issued instructions. Why does Mr. Saldanha labour the point further?"

* Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—"As I have been interrupted in the middle, I do not want to say anything more upon this point."

"So far as the preparation of the electoral list is concerned, I hope that all Members of the Legislative Council will be consulted by the Collector or the Revenue Divisional Officer or the Tahsildar in what respects the lists are

[Mr. J. A. Saldanha] 19th March 1926]

wanting, so that we may give our help in drawing up complete lists. I do not mean to say that we should go into all the details in connexion with the preparation of the electoral lists, but I think it will help us if the Collector were to ask us in what respects the present list requires amendment."

* Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—"I would like to make a suggestion to the hon. the Law Member. I request the hon. the Law Member to issue instructions to the village officers that when they prepare the electoral lists and send them on to Tahsildars and through them to the various Collectors they must show the number of pattadars who pay Rs. 10 and above according to their registers and the number actually registered in the electoral list. If the disparity between the number of people who are actually registered, and the number prima facie eligible to vote according to the village accounts is considerable then it will give a clue to officers whether the village officers have satisfactorily discharged their duty. If this is done, the results would be far more satisfactory than they are at present."

* Diwan Bahadur M. KRISHNAN NAYAR :—"I wish to say one word with reference to the substance of what has been stated by my hon. Friend from South Kanara. So far as Malabar is concerned, the electoral list must be very large. At present the number of electors is only 35,000, or 40,000. I know personally that there are a large number of persons holding lands under registered documents and paying a kist of over Rs. 10. There are many such persons whose names ought to be found in the electoral list but whose names are not now found in the list. I quite understand that however careful may be the officers who are responsible for the preparation of these lists there will be some defects. But at the same time it is certainly possible to have these lists far more accurate than they are at present. I believe that so far as my district is concerned, there are a large number of persons whose names have been omitted and it is quite possible to have a more or less accurate register. I do not mean to say that such mistakes are intentionally committed but I desire to point out that the village officers upon whom the duty of preparing these lists rests do not bestow that amount of attention which their duty requires them to do. I hope my hon. Friend, the Law Member, will issue strict instructions to the Returning Officers and others who are responsible for this work to bestow particular attention upon the preparation of these lists, though no doubt as my hon. Friend from South Kanara has pointed out it will give far greater trouble to the candidates themselves, if the number of voters is greater, than it is at present."

* The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—"Circulars have been issued to Registration Officers impressing upon them the importance of preparing correct and accurate lists of voters. Provision is also made for the amendment or for correction of the voters in the electoral roll. The privilege is given to the electors of putting in claims and objections which will be considered by the revising authority. So far as the next elections are concerned, instructions have already been issued asking Registration Officers to take up the preparation of the lists. I desire to say a few words on the wider aspect of this question. I take it that we are approximating to the European system of election. As a student of electoral law and the law relating to registration, I may say that what is done in any parish in England is this: the parish

[Sir C. P. Ramaswami Ayyar] [19th March 1926]

authority is the authority responsible in law for the preparation of the electoral roll or registration roll, but as a matter of fact it is taken for granted—for centuries it has been taken for granted—that the work of bringing the electoral list up to date and revising it and also expediting the claims and objections of persons whose names are not found in such lists, rests on the various party organisations. What is done is that the various party organisations and others who take interest in the various candidates take up the list and find out who are entitled to vote and who not and then they prefer claims to the authorities concerned. I may say, Sir, that so far as departmental instructions are concerned, every endeavour will be made to impress upon the local bodies the necessity for a speedy preparation of the list with exhaustive information. I grant that the suggestions made by the hon. Member from Bellary are very useful. I may say speaking for myself that his suggestion is well worth being followed. Over and above all that I think it still depends upon the vigilance and efforts exercised by the candidates and their party organisations for bringing these lists up to date. In saying this I do not for a moment derogate from the ultimate responsibility and obligations of the officers to give a correct and accurate list. I am only asking that full co-operation may be given to these officers, that their errors may be corrected and that their efforts may be supplemented by the continuous efforts of those who are responsible for the work or the success of parties or candidates."

* Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—"I withdraw my motion."

The motion was by leave withdrawn.

* Diwan Bahadur M. KRISHNAN NAYAR :—"I beg to move

'that the allotment of Rs. 72,000 for elections for Indian and Provincial Legislatures be reduced by Rs. 100.'

"Sir, my object in moving this motion is to elicit information as to when the existing Council will be dissolved. I hope it will be possible for my Friend the hon. the Law Member to give us some indication, though not accurate information, as to the probable date on which this Council is likely to be dissolved. We hear all sorts of rumours. Some say that it is likely to be dissolved in September and others in October. Others say that it is possible that the Council will be prorogued together with the Assembly at Delhi in September or so. In any case what I want to know is the probable month, if not the probable date, in which this Council is likely to be dissolved, and also the probable date on which the election to the next Council is likely to take place."

* The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—"It is very difficult to give an answer for the following reasons. In the first place we do not yet know the course of business in the Legislative Assembly. It will be very expensive if we fix one date for the election to the Assembly and another date for the election to the Council. I may say that it is one of the subjects within the discretion of His Excellency to dissolve the House and he may choose to dissolve it at any time. But the holding of the election will largely depend upon considerations not unconnected with finances. For instance if the Legislative Assembly has got a September session I may say we may have to take account of that fact in coming to a conclusion. If it were found that irrespective of the fact that the Legislative Assembly is contemplating a

[Sir C. P. Ramaswami Ayyar] 19th March 1926]

September session we must hold the election at a particular time, we may have to take other steps. So until we know what the chances are as to the Assembly election, it is impossible to arrive at any conclusion. However I may say this: that the experience of the last two elections has impressed this fact on Government that it is necessary to avoid both the monsoons. Some elections have had to be set aside because of the difficulties in the way of the candidates and electors reaching the various polling booths. On that account as it is fairly clear that until the end of July one monsoon will be in full force in some part of the presidency or other, perhaps also in August as also is fairly clear that from the middle of October until December the other monsoon will be in full force. Therefore normally speaking the election will be held after the close of one monsoon namely 7th or 8th September and before the beginning of the other monsoon in the middle of October. This is the idea. Of course as to the actual date of the next Council very much will depend upon the Assembly's programme. It may be that the Assembly may choose to sit till October. Of course we may have to hold the election irrespective of the Assembly. At the present moment the intention of the Government is, subject to what public opinion may declare in favour of, to hold the election between the close of one monsoon and the beginning of the other monsoon, and we are awaiting the opinion of the people on this matter and also the opinion of the Government of India."

Rai Bahadur Sir K. VENKATAREDDI NAYUDU :—"Is there no possibility of the Council being held in September or October?"

* The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—"The Assembly."

Rai Bahadur Sir K. VENKATAREDDI NAYUDU :—"No, not this Council?"

The hon. the DEPUTY PRESIDENT :—"You are very near. (Laughter.)"

* The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—"All that I say is that if we have one set of election for this Council and another set of election for the Assembly it means more expenditure to the Government. We would like as in the past to combine the Assembly and the local elections together. If it is impossible we shall not do so."

Rai Bahadur Sir K. VENKATAREDDI NAYUDU :—"I only wished to be assured whether there will be no meeting of this Council either in September or October."

* The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—"I think I made it abundantly clear to the House on another occasion when the hon. Member from Malabar put some questions relating to the meeting to be held in connexion with the Irrigation and the Malabar Tenancy Bills that the June meeting would probably be the last meeting of this Council."

* Diwan Bahadur M. KRISHNAN NAYAR :—"I quite follow that the dissolution of this Council and the date of the next election must depend upon the date of the dissolution of the Assembly in Delhi and also the date of its next election. Of course it is true and it is desirable that from financial considerations the elections to the Legislative Assembly and to this Council should be held together."

[Mr. M. Krishnan Nayar] [19th March 1926]

4 p.m. "My hon. Friend stated that if the elections to the Assembly were likely to be held in the month of September or October, our elections also would be held at the same time. Naturally he did not commit himself to any definite statement. He also added that the chances were that the elections would be held after the close of the south-west monsoon and before the beginning of the north-east monsoon, somewhere in September. Here again, in different parts of the Presidency the conditions vary. As far as Malabar is concerned, practically one monsoon runs into the other. (A voice: 'No elections then in Malabar'.) I have no intention that the elections should not be held for that reason. The dates on which elections were held in 1920 and 1923 would suit Malabar quite well. In 1920 it was held on the 30th November and in 1923 it was held on the 31st October. These dates fall about the end of the north-east monsoon. The other date somewhere in September would not suit the West Coast. September is the time of monsoon and also it is the time when the agricultural population would be in the fields. Most of the voters who are agriculturists would not take the trouble of going to the polling booths."

The motion was by leave withdrawn.

The Demand that Government be granted a sum not exceeding Rs. 3.10 lakhs for General Administration—Legislative Bodies was put to the House and carried and the Grant was made.

DEMAND X—GENERAL ADMINISTRATION—SECRETARIAT.

* The hon. Mr. N. E. MARJORIBANKS:—"Sir, on the recommendation of His Excellency the Governor I move

'that Government be granted a sum not exceeding Rs. 7.35 lakhs for General Administration—Secretariat.'"

* Mr. P. K. S. A. ARUMUGA NADAR:—"Sir, I beg to move

'that the allotment of Rs. 79,200 for Executive Council be reduced by Rs. 100.'

"In moving the token motion I beg to make the following observations. It is a well-known fact that my community is not at all represented in superior grade or selection grade in Government services. It is very easy for the hon. Members to say sympathetically and to throw out their responsibility by saying that the Staff Selection Board does not select Nadar applicants; and so, they are not responsible. So far, the argument of the hon. Members in defending the Staff Selection Board, is that the Board considers efficiency only. I am not going to say anything in detail about the difficulties of our men; one time they were not able to get the application forms even in due time. Anyhow I shall state one instance here for the information of this hon. House. A student passed his B.A. examination in 1925; he stood first in rank in the Presidency in his subject, had training in the U.T.C., won medals and prizes in football teams and for good conduct, but was not able to get himself selected even by the Staff Selection Board. Sir, one who is qualified to such an extent is not selected by the Staff Board. I may be satisfied to some extent if the Staff Selection Board had summoned the applicant and tested his efficiency according to their principles and then come to the decision of rejecting the applicant with remarks some way or other. But it is not so. In this case, unless the

[19th March 1926] [Mr. P. K. S. A. Arumuga Nadar]

members of the Staff Selection Board are (if I may say so) prophets, I am afraid they cannot pass any remarks simply on seeing the application form itself. It is clear from this, that efficiency is not a qualification by itself. Unless the hon. Members make up their minds and sincerely consider the position of my community in Government services, I am afraid our attempts will never be fruitful. So, I appeal with all respect to them to consider favourably the Nadar applicants, when any direct recruitments are made to the superior services by them or through them."

* Mr. A. CHIDAMBARA NADAR:—"Sir, in seconding the motion of my hon. Friend Mr. Arumuga Nadar, I wish to say that we have been agitating over this question for the past many years. In spite of all that, sufficient attention has not been bestowed upon it by the Government. Whenever we approached the hon. the Revenue Member in connexion with appointments, he refused to comply with our request where the Staff Selection Board was concerned. Perhaps he did so on good grounds. We are handicapped a good deal by the existence of the Staff Selection Board. I do not say that we have not got sufficient number of intelligent and educated men in our community. But so far as I can see the principle of communal representation has not been taken into account by the Staff Selection Board. Under the circumstances I would appeal to the hon. the Revenue Member to remind the Staff Selection Board of the existence of the communal Government Order and see that as much representation as possible is given to such minority communities as the Nadar community. With these words I support the resolution."

* The hon. Mr. N. E. MARJORIBANKS:—"Mr. President, Sir, it is perfectly natural that hon. Members who have just spoken should wish to see the members of their own community in the superior posts in Government service. I think they are under a misconception as to the method by which people arrive there. It is not usual, in fact I do not know that there is any department in which direct recruitment is made to the superior grade, particularly to the selection grade. That would be a contradiction in terms. Direct recruitment is made to a comparatively subordinate grade and the people there have to work their way up to the higher grades. I do not think hon. Members are quite fair to the Staff Selection Board when they complain that it is because of the board that representatives of their community are not to be found in any considerable number in the superior grades of Government service. The Board selects a number of qualified candidates representing all the communities or as many communities as practicable from those who apply to them for appointments. The list is sent to the appointing authorities who are expected to consider the existing constitution of their departments and choose such men as will give a fair opportunity to all communities in that department. I am not quite sure what particular community it is that the hon. Members represent. I know it is the Nadar community and that there are a large number of Nadars in Government service. It has been suggested to me that there are Christian Nadars and . . ."

* Mr. P. K. S. A. ARUMUGA NADAR:—"I am not advocating the cause of Christian Nadars now."

* The hon. Mr. N. E. MARJORIBANKS:—"I am not quite sure that there are not a number of Hindu Nadars also in the Government service. I have no doubt that there might be more. After all, this system of selection has been

[Mr. N. E. Marjoribanks]

[19th March 1926]

working only for the past two or three years and we hope to replace it soon by a Public Services Commission. If any member of the community will succeed in getting himself selected he will soon raise himself to the higher posts. But having once decided on the principle of selection by a Public Services Commission, it is very difficult for Government to intervene at the same time and make direct appointments from particular communities. Even if we were to do so, we would immediately meet with very considerable difficulties. I do not quite know how many particular communities there are in this Presidency. I am told that there are two or three hundred. Where one or two appointments have to be made it is very difficult for Government to satisfy the claims of two or three hundred different communities, not to mention the various sub-communities and the various differentiations based on religious persuasions in the communities themselves. Hon. Members would realize that it is not at all easy to do so. The way that would lead sooner to the fulfillment of their desires would be to encourage members of their community to qualify themselves in educational and other ways for entering Government service. I may assure hon. Members that Government have no prejudice against any particular community. We shall only be too glad to find promising members of minority communities in the Government service. We do not see that by direct intervention of Government in the matter of appointments there will be any prospect of satisfying the aspirations of all the communities. The problem is so difficult of solution that we do not envy at all the task of the committee of this Council which is now engaged in considering the subject with the object of suggesting to the Government the means by which any existing inequalities between the different communities may be removed until time has had its effect.

4-15
p.m.

"But any suggestions that they feel themselves able to make will, I may assure hon. Members, receive most sympathetic consideration at the hands of the Government. I do not feel that I can give any definite pledge or promise in the matter. The hon. Members who have spoken can hardly expect such a pledge. But we shall be very pleased when members of their community do enter Government service in larger numbers and they will, I have no doubt, be in no way slower than other communities to make their way up to higher posts when once they get in. As I began by saying, we do not recruit directly to the higher posts."

* Mr. P. K. S. A. ARUMUGA NADAR :—"I withdraw the motion."

The motion was by leave withdrawn.

* Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—"I move

'that the allotment of Rs. 48,100 for pay of establishments be reduced by Rs. 100.'

"I move this token motion to urge the need for rearrangement of Secretariat Departments on a more natural and rational basis.

(At this stage Rai Bahadur T. M. Narasimhacharlu took the chair.)

"The public as well as hon. Members of this Council find it difficult to address Secretaries to Government. With a list in my hand of the various departments and with my intimate knowledge of the Secretariat Departments I am puzzled at the distribution. For instance, if one wants to

19th March 1926]

[Mr. J. A. Saldanha]

address Government in connexion with Labour matters, naturally one would suppose that Labour would come under the Development Department or some other department. But strangely enough, when I look at the list I find that Labour comes under Law Department. Suppose we have to address Government on the appointments of Judicial officers, one would naturally address the letter to the Secretary, Law Department. But it is strange to see that he has nothing to do with Judicial. We have to address the Chief Secretary. On the other hand, the Secretary, Law Department, has to deal with a large number of miscellaneous Judicial heads. He has to deal with treasure trove. (Laughter.) I wonder how the Law Secretary can deal with treasure trove. Life Assurance Companies—I wonder how they come under Law, Miscellaneous, Judicial. Carbide of Calcium comes under Miscellaneous, Judicial Head. Planters' Labour Act comes under Law. I had to address Government several times on this matter. I addressed the letters to the wrong persons. Education comes under Law. I thought at first that our Law Member was in charge of Education also. Hon. Members are puzzled very much at the division of subjects. Under Education come libraries, museums and so many other things. Civil Orphan Asylum comes under the Secretary, Law Department. The Law Secretary deals with Registration. A list of subjects in charge of the hon. Members of Government is published along with the proceedings of the Council at the instance of the hon. Member Mr. Marthandam Pillai. Before this list was published I was not aware whom I should address in regard to any subject. I have to refer to it constantly. Naturally one is apt to forget. The arrangement is not a rational or a natural one. There is the Secretary for Railways. He would naturally deal with Tramway. (Laughter). Tramways come under the Secretary, Local Self-Government Department. I have drawn the attention of the Government to the puzzles of the present arrangement. In any case, Judicial Department should be under the Secretary, Law Department. My suggestions are more or less tentative ones. I think a more natural and rational distribution of work will be devised. Judicial, Police and such other matters would naturally come under the Secretary, Law Department. Papers on these subjects will go from the Law Secretary to the Law Member. Tenancy should go naturally to the Secretary, Revenue Department. It is a question intimately connected with revenue matters. I had to write to Government for information as to the attempt made by them for the introduction of a system of permanency of tenure among the present temporary tenants, a point on which my hon. Friend Mr. Prabhakaran 'Iampun is very keen. I addressed letters to the Revenue Department because tenancy is connected with that department. There was lot of difficulty in finding out that letter. It ought to have gone to the Law Department. When I went to the Revenue Secretary my letter could not be traced at all. I do not know how the letter was found."

* The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—"It was found and I replied to it." (Laughter.)

* Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—"There must have been a lot of difficulty in finding it. I place these points before the Government to have a rational distribution of work so that the public will not be inconvenienced. We may also have Secretaries allotted so that the Reserved half will have one or two Secretaries exclusively to themselves to do work directly under them ;

[Mr. J. A. Saldanha]

[19th March 1926]

and the Ministers can have Secretaries directly working under them having nothing to do with the Reserved half. I would suggest that at least the Secretaries attached to the Transferred half should be all Indians recruited from the Provincial Service or directly in India."

Rai Bahadur T. M. NARASIMHACHARLU (from the Chair):—"How is that point relevant?"

* Mr. J. A. SALDANHA:—"That is only by the way. (Loud laughter.) Before the new Council meets it is necessary to have a more proper arrangement and distribution of work."

Rai Bahadur T. M. NARASIMHACHARLU (from the Chair):—"Does the hon. the Revenue Member propose to reply?" (Laughter.)

* The hon. Mr. N. E. MARJORIBANKS:—"I am not surprised at the Chairman's doubt. (Laughter.) I think it is my duty to reply to the more important remarks of the hon. Member. In the first place I do not for a moment pretend to defend the terminology of the different departments. The list was drawn up and the work was from time to time allotted to the different Secretaries as different subjects came into prominence. We have tried on several occasions to make a more logical distribution. The Secretaries to Government have themselves discussed this matter in committees more than once. It was found that it was very difficult to make any rearrangement on a more logical basis. That would result in making the work of some Secretaries too heavy and that of others too light. We cannot have the luxury of a Secretary for every separate department and we have to distribute the work so as to make as far as possible, the burden of each department equal. By practical experience we find that it is very difficult to make any radical change in the present distribution.

"As regards the practical inconvenience complained of, the matter is set out distinctly in the distribution list and it does not cause any great inconvenience to the working of the departments. As regards the other point, viz., addressing letters, it is open to hon. Members to write to any Secretary who may seem to them suitable and they may be sure that the letters would be transferred to the proper departments. I think the case has very rarely occurred of a paper being actually lost simply because it is addressed to the wrong Secretary. Even in the case of the hon. Member from South Kanara, the letter reached its proper destination and was answered. As regards the suggestion made by the way, I may also remark by the way (laughter) that no doubt, the time will come when most if not all the Secretaries will be Indians."

4-30
p.m.

Rai Bahadur Sir K. VENKATAREDDI NAYUDU:—"I will mention only one point, if the hon. the Revenue Member will permit me to say a word. So far as my hon. Friend Mr. Saldanha is concerned, the remarks that he made in the early portion of his address were certainly worth considering, i.e., that possibly it may not be difficult for the same number of Secretaries to rearrange the subjects so as to have some internal connexion between the subjects. As regards the by-the-way or out-of-the-way matter, it would be more convenient for every Indian Member to have a European Secretary with an Indian Under Secretary, and similarly in the case of every European Member to have an Indian Secretary with an European Under Secretary. The opinions both from the Indian point of view as well as the European point of view would be placed before the Member of Government.

19th March 1926] [Sir K. Venkatarreddi Nayudu]

As far as we know, there are only two Indian Secretaries and there are only two Indian Members. So, there need be no difficulty in their rearrangement. I want to impress upon the Members of Government the importance of their obtaining both Indian and European opinions, from officers serving directly under them. I may say that if European Members have Indians as Secretaries and Europeans as Under Secretaries, they will be able to get both the European and the Indian points of view. Similarly, if Indian Members will have European Secretaries and Indian Under Secretaries, they will have the advantage of knowing both the points of view; so that all the views may be placed before them. I cannot agree with my Friend, Mr. Saldanha, that all of them should be Indians, though I should like that all of them are Indians; but let us hope that the day will come when we shall have all of them Indians. As long as that cannot be had, an arrangement of the kind will, in my opinion, be more advantageous to us."

* Diwan Bahadur M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—"I wish to add this, Sir. It seems to me that though my Friend's remarks caused much merriment in this House, there was considerable substance in what he said. Of course the hon. the Revenue Member said that the difficulty was in equalising the work of the different Secretaries and Secretariats if a different arrangement from that which prevails now is made. His arguments for that difficulty I cannot understand. I think it must be possible to make a more logical arrangement than what obtains now, and I hope a fresh attempt will be made to make such an arrangement."

* The hon. Mr. N. E. MARJORIBANKS:—"Sir, as regards what has fallen from the hon. Member, I may say that we tried to rearrange the work of the Secretariats; but we found it impracticable without making unduly heavy some Secretariats and making others too light. As regards the remarks that fell from the hon. Member from East Godavari, I think there has been some little misapprehension. Although it is customary for people to refer to particular Members of Government as being in charge of particular departments, yet all the Members of the Executive Council are equally responsible in all subjects. I have often listened to remarks from Members of this House which attributed decisions and courses of action to a Member for which his colleagues were equally and perhaps more responsible. I do not know how this arrangement of Secretaries according to race would work unless responsibility is much more divided than it is. Apart from that, we want the Secretaries and Under Secretaries to deal with the merits of the question, and not from any racial standpoint. I am sure that I do not wish to know the merits of any question from any Secretary according to a racial standpoint—and I am sure hon. Colleagues do not want to do so either. The point of view of the public is expressed in this Council and in the public Press generally. I do not think it is desirable at the present stage of Government that a racial rule should be developed in the Secretariat. We would much sooner go according to the fitness of the particular officer to present the merits of the case in a particular department in a full and complete manner for the decision of the Members of Government. As regards the principle of Indianization, however, no doubt as time goes on, Mr. Saldanha's ideal will be more and more realised."

Rai Bahadur Sir K. VENKATAREDDI NAYUDU:—"Mr. President, on a matter of personal explanation I want to say this. I think I have been a little misunderstood by the hon. the Revenue Member, not intentionally

[Sir K. Venkatarreddi Nayudu] [19th March 1926]

I am sure, but because I have not made myself clear. I did not in the least intend that there should be any racial discrimination made in the appointments of the Secretaries. What I said was that questions might arise in which it is possible that there may be two different view points—the Indian view point and the European view-point. When such questions arise, I thought it might be for the benefit of the Members concerned if they know all the views. It is only that more information may be placed before the Members that I said that, not that I wanted that there should be in the least any racial question introduced. No doubt, Sir, the Secretaries place all the points of view before the Member and in fact from their experience they are expected to place a full discussion of all the views, apart from the previous history of each case. At times occasions do arise, problems do arise, for the solution of the Government. I take it, Sir, that all the Secretaries are very able officers; of course, they are picked men, men from the service who have served all their life and who are known to be very useful officers, and they fill up these places. I do not make the least distinction between the one or the other Secretary, at least any racial distinction. What I said was that certainly there would be cases or questions of policy which might have to be settled in any particular manner, either from an Indian or an European point of view and in such cases the view-points might be properly placed before the Members. That is all that I wanted, and I hope the hon. the Revenue Member will take it from me that any racial distinction was far from my mind."

* Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—" Sir, while I yield to none in my desire for the Indianization of the services, I must say, Sir, that I cannot agree with the arguments advanced by my hon. Friend Sir K. Venkatarreddi Nayudu. He said that wherever there is an European Secretary, he must have an Indian Under Secretary. If it is carried on to its logical conclusion, it might mean, Sir, that wherever there was an Indian head of the department, it does not matter if all the officers below—Deputy Secretaries, Under Secretaries and others—should be Europeans and *vice versa*."

Rai Bahadur Sir K. VENKATAREDDI NAYUDU :—" That is not at all what I said. I was saying that if the Member happens to be an Indian, his Secretary may be an European, so that he may have the benefit of the European point of view. In that case, the Under Secretary will be an Indian. That is what I said, and not that everybody else should be so."

Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—" Why, Sir, when the chief of the department is himself an Indian, according to Sir K. V. Reddi he may very well afford to have non-Indians for all the other posts under him. I do not think there is any force in the argument advanced by him. I think we are all for the Indianization of services. We want the Indian point of view and I do not see any special need for the European point of view in all matters. Certainly, in a Cabinet where the majority of Members are Indians, if you restrict them to an European personnel, it is a dangerous thing which cannot contemplate with equanimity."

The motion was, by leave of the House, withdrawn.

(At this stage the hon. the Deputy President took the chair.)

* Mr. R. VEERIAN :—" Sir, I wish to move

that the allotment of Rs. 5,800 for Staff Selection Board be reduced by Rs. 100.

19th March 1926]

[Mr. R. Veerian]

" I move this to raise the question of having examination for all classes of candidates making exemption in the case of depressed classes alone.

" Sir, I have said enough on this matter during the budget discussion, and I therefore have every reason to believe that the remarks I offered on that day will be quite fresh still in the minds of the hon. the Law Member. However, I want to say a few words."

* The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—" We are accustomed, Sir, to very articulate utterance on the part of the hon. Member and I am afraid he is now speaking in such a low voice that some of us cannot hear."

The hon. the DEPUTY PRESIDENT :—" You might ask him to speak loudly. You please go on, Mr. Veerian, in your usual style."

* Mr. R. VEERIAN :—" I am sorry I am unable to speak louder, because my throat is bad to-day (Laughter). Therefore, hon. Members cannot expect a louder voice, but I shall endeavour my best to raise my voice. Now, Sir, I don't want to make any lengthy speech on the matter, but I want to say that if the depressed classes are exempted from the operation of the Staff Selection Board, I am sanguine that the members of the said community will not only admire the hon. Member in charge of the portfolio for his benevolence and kindness, but also for his political sagacity. With these few words, I do not want to press my motion and withdraw it."

The motion was, by leave of the House, withdrawn.

* Mr. A. CHIDAMBARA NADAR :—" I move, Sir, *that the allotment of Rs. 73,000 for Chief Secretariat be reduced by Rs. 100.*

" I want to discuss the question why Provincial Service men are not entertained as Under Secretaries to Government.

" Sir, my hon. Friend Sir K. Venkatarreddi Nayudu in connection with a previous motion advised the mixture of Indian and European Secretaries (laughter) and suggested the necessity of having both European and Indian Secretaries."

The hon. the DEPUTY PRESIDENT :—" You should not yourself laugh. Others might laugh." (Laughter.)

* Mr. A. CHIDAMBARA NADAR :—" I am enjoying the laughter of other hon. Members. In that connection, Sir K. V. Reddi mentioned that there are two Indian Secretaries. I do not know, Sir, whether these Secretaries were not there before. With regard to the Under Secretaries Sir, I am told that of the several Under Secretaries' posts three of them were till very recently held by three Provincial Service men.

" Now, Sir, I understand there is not even a single Provincial Service official as under Secretary. All of them are at present Indian Civil Service officers. Moreover, all the Under Secretaries are Europeans except one solitary individual in the person of Mr. Ramuni Menon."

Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN :—" May I point out that he belongs to the Indian Civil Service?"

* Mr. A. CHIDAMBARA NADAR :—" What I meant to say was that all the Under Secretaries were Europeans and that Mr. Ramuni Menon was the only Indian among them. Sir, we have been agitating for Indianization of services and we have heard something about it just now. If this is the way in which the services are going to be Indianized, no one knows when our ultimate goal, namely, Swaraj, will be attained."

[15th March 1926]

*The hon. Mr. N. E. MARJORIBANKS :—" Mr. Deputy President, Sir, the question with which the hon. Member started was why members of the Provincial Service were not employed as Under Secretaries. The post of Under Secretary is not intended as a prize appointment for officers who have risen as nearly all officers of the Provincial Service have, from very subordinate posts and who if they should fill any such appointment at all, could fill it only towards the end of their career. It is meant rather as a post for the training of young men in Secretariat work. As a matter of fact, there is at present one of the Under Secretaries who belongs to the Provincial Service but that is an exception.

"The other point raised was that there should be Indians among the Under Secretaries, though they be members of the Indian Civil Service. That will naturally come about when the number of Indians in the Indian Civil Service increases. If the hon. Member would see the Indian Civil Service List he will find that the number of Indians in the Indian Civil Service has considerably increased in the last two or three years and I have no doubt that it will have its effect in a year or two in the Secretariat as in other appointments.

"These are two points which the hon. Member has touched in this question. To the first, I would say that the appointment is not one which can suitably be filled as a rule by members of the Provincial Service for the reason that when they come to the end of their service, they happen to be men of some seniority and advanced in age and considerable experience so that their prize appointments consist in the 'listed' posts. The other argument that they should be Indians is part of the general plea for Indianization of the services and is met by the fact that there is an increasing number of Indians who are being recruited to the Indian Civil Service every year which according to the recommendations of the Lee Commission will ultimately result in half the superior posts being filled by Indians."

Rai Bahadur Sir K. VENKATAREDDI NAYUDU :—" Mr. President, Sir, so far as the second point about Indianization is concerned, I think that has been sufficiently answered. But I think the real object of the mover of this motion is to know why Provincial Service men were not entertained as Under Secretaries. And the answer given, if I understood the hon. Member aright, was to the effect that most of the Provincial Service officers who are fit for the place were probably reaching the end of their service while the Government wanted young men as Under Secretaries. But I take it that the Government recognize the necessity of training Provincial Service men also and when it is found that direct recruitments for some of the higher appointments are going on for some time it ought not to be difficult for the Government to get young men and yet sufficiently high in the service who may be usefully trained in the Secretariat, so that when his turn comes, he may fill a Secretary's place. As we have got one now in the Secretariat originally from the Provincial Service who has risen to the Superior Service, it will be to the advantage both of the candidates as well as of the Government that some men—it need not necessarily be a large number, some one or two men—might well be tried. And I remember, Sir, when I was the Minister, my Under Secretary was a Provincial Service man. And I must admit that I did obtain very good help from him but in that case he happened to be a man of very long service. I think that it ought not to be difficult for the Government to obtain men from the Provincial Service not too old to occupy the place. Service in the Secretariat is considered to be very useful service and I am sure there are many young officers sufficiently

[19th March 1926] [Sir K. Venkatarreddi Nayudu]

high in the grades willing and quite ready to work there if not for the Government and the country, at least in their own interests. I think it is only fair that some opportunity should be afforded to them. I am not pleading on behalf of any one. But I think, Sir, more members than we have at present may well be tried so that they may have the necessary training for higher places from there."

* The hon. Mr. N. E. MARJORIBANKS :—" I did not mean to suggest that there was any bar to the appointment of Provincial Service officers to the post of Under Secretaries. What I wanted to bring out was there was not the same strength in the argument for appointing those men now as there was at a time when practically the only avenue by which Indians entered the services was through the Provincial Civil Service. Now when we have young Indian officers entering the Indian Civil Service in such large numbers it is to them Government look in filling these posts as a general rule rather than to the Provincial Civil Service men who are on the whole regarded more fit for executive work. However, this does not mean whenever we know of a young and capable officer who might with advantage be tried, that there is any bar to his being appointed or being tried : It is only that as young Indians are entering the Indian Civil Service in large numbers, it is quite natural that we look when vacancies occur to them rather than to men of the Provincial Service."

* Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—" Sir, I consider this question as of great importance which requires much more careful handling than is promised by the speeches that have been made. As it is already five minutes to five, I think we might as well adjourn the debate till to-morrow. Not that I want to speak to-morrow, for I will finish my speech now."

The hon. the DEPUTY PRESIDENT :—" The subject cannot be adjourned till to-morrow. The hon. Member may finish his speech."

* Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—" Very well, Sir. If we go at the rate proposed by the hon. the Revenue Member, I think we shall have to wait till the Greek Calends to get our services in the Secretariat among the Under Secretaries Indianized. I want to know what extraordinary magic there is in the Indian Civil Service. Surely, we ought not look for recruits among the Indian Civil Service to be administrative officers of the Secretariat, especially Under Secretaries. In the Secretariats in Bengal and I think in Bombay also, the recruitment for these places has gone on from two or three different fields. Firstly, so far as the Revenue Department and kindred departments are concerned, the recruitment is made from Revenue officers like Deputy Collectors and surely, among them even here, we will find young vigorous men able enough to discharge the duty of an Under Secretary. We had more than one Under Secretary in the Revenue Department recruited from Deputy Collectors who did very good work and such men were afterwards promoted to higher appointments as Assistant Collectors. The next field of recruitment, for the Judicial department, is the large body of Subordinate Judicial officers. Lastly, in the Secretariat there must be able men under our Government as under other Governments who are capable of taking up the post. I think that considering the amount of good work that is turned out by the clerks in the Secretariat, it should be found possible to select men from among them. I am sure even our Secretaries here derive as a rule much benefit from the services of these people and to a great extent

[Mr. J. A. Saldanha]

[19th March 1926]

the work of a Secretary is work done by the intelligent clerks under him. Considering the main object that we have in view, namely, Indianisation of service, the Government must make it a point to throw open at least one-third of the number of Secretaries to Indians, not of the Indian Civil Service, for I would exclude that service altogether from this category. I would confine the recruitment from capable men to be found among Deputy Collectors, District Munsifs and men in the Secretariat. Some of our Subordinate Judges may happen to be too old for the purpose. There is a suspicion now among the public that Deputy Collectors and officers of the Revenue Department are debarred from promotion to this place. I hope it is not true but still the suspicion exists that because a number of them gave evidence before the Commission that their abilities were not recognized, they were debarred permanently from being promoted to any place in the Secretariat. If there is any ground for that suspicion, I think the sooner it is removed by the Government, the better it will be. In any case, it must be earnestly hoped that—I shall not say as soon as possible but—immediately, within the shortest period, the posts of Under Secretaries and Secretaries at least to the extent of one-third should be held by Indians, not necessarily of the Indian Civil Service."

* Mr. A. CHIDAMBARA NADAR :—"One word, Sir, before I withdraw my motion. I am told, Sir, that it is a rule in the Secretariat that at least two Provincial Service men should be in the posts of Under Secretaries establishment."

* The hon. Mr. N. E. MARJORIBANKS :—"There is no such rule, Sir."

* Mr. A. CHIDAMBARA NADAR :—"In such a case, I should like to press my motion, Sir."

"But as the House is however in favour of the motion being withdrawn, I beg leave to withdraw it."

The motion was by leave withdrawn.

The House adjourned to meet again at 11 a.m. the next day.

R. V. KRISHNA AYYAR,
Secretary to the Legislative Council.

APPENDIX.

[Vide answer to question No. 1675 asked by Mr. A. Ranganatha Mudaliyar at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on the 19th March 1926, page 270 supra.]

Messrs. Manekjee & Sons, Commercial Street, Bangalore.

Messrs. F. N. Herjee & Co., Calicut.

Mr. S. Roder, Cochin.

Mr. H. E. Osborne, Yercaud.

The South Indian Railway Co-operative Stores, Trichinopoly.

Mr. Clarkson, Bombay.

Messrs. Billimore Bros., Kharagpur.

Messrs. Framjee & Co., Simla.

Mr. S. P. Durate & Sons, Dharwar.

The Bombay Trading Company, Bezwada.

Messrs. Ibrahim Sait & Co., Bellary.

THE MADRAS LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

Saturday, the 20th March 1926.

The House met at 11 o'clock, Mr. President (the hon. Mr. M. RUTHNASWAMY, M.A., Bar-at-Law) in the chair.

PRESENT:

Ramaswami Ayyar, M.C.I.E., The hon. Sir C.P. Marjoribanks, C.S.I., C.I.E., The hon. Mr. N. E. Usman Sahib Bahadur, The hon. Khan Bahadur Muhammad.

Moir, C.S.I., C.I.E., The hon. Mr. T. E.

Raja of Panagal, The hon. the.

Patro, Kt., The hon. Rao Bahadur Sir A. P.

Sivagnanam Pillai, Kt., The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir T. N.

Abbas Ali Khan, Mr.

Abdul Wahab Sahib, Mr. M.

Abdulla Ghatala Sahib, Mr.

Ari Gowder, Mr. H. B.

Arpudawami Udayar, Mr. S.

Arumuga Nadar, Mr. P. K. S. A.

Bhanoji Rao, Mr. A. V.

Boag, Mr. G. T.

Chidambaram Nadar, Mr. A.

Devendrudo, Mr. N.

Ellappa Chettiyar, Rao Sahib S.

Evans, C.S.I., I.C.S., Mr. F. B.

Ghouse Mian Sahib, Mr. Muhammad.

Gopalan, Rao Sahib P. V.

Guruswami, Mr. L. O.

Haji Qasim Sahib Bahadur, Khan Bahadur Haji Abd-ul-lah.

Heggade, Mr. D. Manjappa.

Kesava Pillai, C.I.E., Diwan Bahadur P.

Khadir Mohiddin Elyas Khan Sahib, Mr.

Khalif ul-lah Sahib Bahadur, Khan Bahadur P.

Krishnan Nayar, Diwan Bahadur M.

Krishnaswami Nayudu, Rao Bahadur K.

MaoDongall, Kt., Sir Alexander.

Madanagopal Nayudu, Mr. B.

Madurai, Hon. Lieut.

Mallesappa, Mr. T.

Marthandam Pillai, Mr. P. N.

Moidu Sahib, Mr. T. M.

Narasimhaachari, Rai Bahadur T. M.

Narayanan Nambudiripad, Rao Bahadur O.M.

Natesa Mudaliyar, Rao Bahadur O.

Noyce, C.S.I., C.B.E., I.C.S., Mr. F.

Obalesappa, Mr. B.

Pandrang Row, Mr. V.

Ponnuswami Pillai, Mr. K. S.

Prabhakaran Tampan, Mr. K.

Premayya, Mr. G.

Raghuchandra Ballal, Mr. K.

Raja, Rao Bahadur M. C.

Raja of Ramnad.

Rajappa, Mr. P. S.

Ramachandra Reddi, Mr. B.

Raman, Rao Bahadur P.

Ramaswami Mudaliyar, Mr. A.

Ranganatha Mudaliyar, Mr. A.

Sagaram, Mr. P.

Saldanha, Mr. J. A.

Sesha Reddi, Mr. B. P.

Sitarama Reddi, Mr. K.

Srinivasan, Rao Sahib B.

Subbarayan, Dr. P.

Subramani Pillai, Mr. K. Chavadi.

Sundaramurti, Rao Sahib P. V. S.

Suryanarayanamurti Nayudu, Diwan Bahadur K.

Tangavelu Pillai, Rao Sahib T. C.

Tanikachala Chettiyar, Rao Bahadur O.

Veerian, Mr. B.

Venkatachala Padayachi, Mr. K.

Venkatarama Sastri, Mr. T. B.

Venkatreddi Nayudu, Kt., Rai Bahadur Sir K.

Windle, Capt. E. G.

Wood, Mr. C. E.

[20th March 1926]

I

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

[Order made by the President of the Madras Legislative Council under Standing Order No. 15 on the 4th December 1924.]

1. Starred questions to be put at a meeting of the Council with their answers shall be printed and placed on the Council table an hour before the President takes his seat.

The Secretary shall call out the name of each interpellator in the order in which the names are printed, specify the serial number of his question and make a sufficient pause to give him or any other member a reasonable opportunity of rising in his place and putting a supplementary question. Supplementary questions must be put immediately after the principal questions to which they relate.

2. If a member responsible for a starred question happens to be absent when it is called, it will be open either to him or to any other member to put supplemental questions thereon after the other starred questions for the day have been answered, provided question-time is not thereby exceeded.

3. Questions, not starred, will not be called in Council, but they will be printed with their answers and placed on the table of the House along with the list of starred questions. Oral supplementary questions will not be allowed in regard to unstarred questions.]

STARRED QUESTIONS.

Co-operative Societies.

Extension for overdues to the rural primary societies.

* 1678 Q.—Mr. T. ADINARAYANA CHETTIYAR: Will the hon. the Minister for Development be pleased to state the amount under principal overdues and interest overdues for which extensions have been granted by the District Banks to the rural primary societies in each district during the years 1923-24 and 1924-25?

A.—The Government have no information.

Exemption of co-operative societies from company's tax.

* 1679 Q.—Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR: Will the hon. the Minister for Development be pleased to state if the Government have directed the exemption of co-operative societies from payment of the company's tax?

A.—The attention of the hon. Member is invited to the answer to clauses (a) and (c) of Mr. Adinarayana Chettiyar's question No. 721 answered in Council on the 30th October 1925.

Industries.

Production of areca-nuts in the Presidency.

* 1680 Q.—Mr. D. MANJAYYA HEGGADE: Will the hon. the Minister for Development be pleased to state—

- (a) all the areca-nut producing areas in this Presidency;
- (b) the total quantity of areca-nut exported per annum; and
- (c) consequent income to the Government, if any?

A.—(a) The chief districts are Malabar, South Kanara, Salem and Coimbatore.

(b) & (c) The Government have no information.

[20th March 1926]

Publication of the enterprises of the agricultural, etc., departments.

* 1681 Q.—Mr. J. A. SALDANHA: Will the hon. the Minister for Development be pleased to state what steps Government have taken or are going to take to give publicity to the enterprises and concerns of the agricultural, industrial and fisheries departments?

A.—The activities of these departments are reviewed in the annual administration reports which are placed on the Editors' Table. The Agricultural department is also giving publicity to its activities by means of leaflets, bulletins, villagers' calendars, cinema films at fairs and festivals, and the issue of monthly digests setting forth the operations of the department in the different parts of the presidency each month. Demonstrations are held on the ryots' lands and agricultural demonstrators take advantage of jamabandi camps to deliver lectures to the assembled ryots. The presence of boring parties of the department of Industries in any taluk is notified in the district gazettes concerned.

The products of these departments are brought to the notice of the public in one or more of the following methods:—

- (1) advertisement in newspapers,
- (2) exhibition at the various shows and exhibitions held from time to time,
- (3) fixing of placards in important places,
- (4) appointment of stockists in large towns and appointment of sales agents,
- (5) issue of letters and samples to principal consumers, and
- (6) maintenance of depots at important centres.

Advertisement of the products of institutions under the Director of Industries.

* 1682 Q.—Mr. J. A. SALDANHA: Will the hon. the Minister for Development be pleased to state how the products and manufactures of the institutions, workshops, industries, etc., under the management of the Director of Industries, Agriculture and Fisheries, are advertised?

A.—The hon. Member is referred to the answer to question No. 1681.

Education.

Nominations to the Tanjore District Educational Council.

* 1683 Q.—Mr. R. VEERIAN: Will the hon. the Minister for Education be pleased to state—

(a) whether there is any member of the depressed classes nominated to the Tanjore District Educational Council; if so, what is his name and when he was appointed; and

(b) if there is no depressed class member, the reason for not nominating one among the depressed class to this District Educational Council?

[20th March 1926]

A.—(a) M.R.Ry. K. Katheperumal Pandaram Kulandaivelu Nayanar of Mannargudi is the present representative of the depressed classes on the District Educational Council, Tanjore. His appointment was notified in the *Fort St. George Gazette*, dated 2nd February 1926.

(b) Does not arise.

Mr. R. VEERIAN :—“ With reference to clause (a), may I know the name of the gentleman appointed before the nomination of Mr. K. K. Kulandaivelu Nayanar on the District Educational Council ? ”

The hon. Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. PATRO :—“ I do not know the name of the predecessor of the present member, Sir.”

Mr. R. VEERIAN :—“ May I therefore take it that this gentleman was appointed only after the constitutional representation made by me ? ”

The hon. Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. PATRO :—“ It may be, Sir ; but I cannot say.”

Mr. R. VEERIAN :—“ May I know whether there is any provision in the Act to make it obligatory on the appointing authority to have members of the depressed classes nominated to all the district educational councils, as in the case of the local boards ? ”

The hon. Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. PATRO :—“ There is no such obligation, but it suggests that certain classes may be represented by nomination.”

Mr. R. VEERIAN :—“ May I therefore take it that the provision in the Act requires suitable amendment with a view to make it obligatory in the case of depressed classes to have such members nominated to all the district educational councils ? ”

Public Health.

Water-supply to the depressed classes in certain villages in the Nellore district.

* 1684 Q.—Mr. R. VEERIAN : Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether his attention has been drawn to the scarcity of water-supply to the depressed classes in nearly over nine villages in the Nellore district, such, for instance, as Tharunayi, Vavvuru, etc., and that the taluk boards concerned have not allotment of funds for the purpose ; and

(b) what steps the Government propose to take to relieve this hardship to the depressed classes in the said villages ?

A.—(a) The Government have no information.

(b) A grant of Rs. 29,000 has been made to the Nellore District Board to assist it in effecting improvements to the rural water-supply and it has been instructed to keep the needs of the depressed classes in view when utilizing this grant and to meet them as far as is practicable.

Mr. R. VEERIAN :—“ With reference to clause (b), I wish to know whether any condition or undertaking was taken when giving this grant of Rs. 29,000 to the Nellore District Board.”

[20th March 1926]

The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL :—“ Instructions were issued that the representation of the depressed classes should be considered.”

Mr. R. VEERIAN :—“ My point is this, Sir. I want to know whether, while giving this grant, they have taken any undertaking from the President of the District Board to the effect that he should contribute an equivalent amount, so that he may have more wells provided.”

The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL :—“ Yes.”

Rai Bahadur T. M. NARASIMHACHARLU :—“ I want to know whether the Government is aware that this grant for water-supply cannot be spent before the end of the current year, and if so, whether the Government will be pleased to continue the unspent grant for the next year also.”

The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL :—“ I have already stated, Sir, in this House that after the demands are voted, there will be further demands for the purpose of providing funds for the completion of unfinished works.”

The RAJA OF RAMNAD :—“ I want to ask this very question, Sir, though in a different form. I want to know whether the hon. the Minister will consider the applications of local bodies for extension of time favourably.”

The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL :—“ The concession that I am prepared to make, namely, providing funds in the budget for 1926-27, is much greater than what is asked for.”

Religious and Charitable Endowments.

Rules under the Madras Hindu Religious Endowments Act.

* 1685 Q.—Mr. K. RAGHUCHANDRA BALLAL : Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether the rules framed under the Madras Hindu Religious Endowments Act have been duly published ; if so, when and in what languages ;

(b) whether any objections or suggestions have been received in regard to those rules ; if so, how they have been dealt with ; and

(c) whether the rules have been finally approved and brought into force, and if so, whether a copy thereof may be placed on the table of the House ?

A.—(a) The draft rules were published in English in Part I-A of the *Fort St. George Gazette* dated 30th October 1925.

(b) Yes. They are under consideration.

(c) No. The Government do not propose to place a copy of the rules as finally approved on the table of the House. They will be published in the *Fort St. George Gazette*.

Mr. D. MANJAYYA HEGGADE :—“ With reference to clause (a), may I know, Sir, why these rules were not published in other languages ? ”

The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL :—“ The rules have been published in English, but as it would be very difficult to translate these rules into the various vernaculars, it was not considered necessary to publish them in other languages.”

[20th March 1926]

Mr. D. MANJAYYA HEGGADE:—"Then how can the people who do not know English understand these rules, Sir?"

The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL:—"I see the hon. Member's difficulty. It will be borne in mind."

Land Revenue.

Auction sale of forest lands in Narasinganur village.

* 1686 Q.—Mr. R. VEERIAN: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that about 100 acres of forest land in Narasinganur village, Villupuram taluk, South Arcot district, were sold in auction some years back for Rs. 1,500 to two rich Reddis, one of whom is the village munsif of the place;

(b) whether it is a fact that a major portion of the land is still remaining uncultivated without any use;

(c) why the 100 acres were sold at such a low rate in auction;

(d) in whose presence the auction took place;

(e) how many Adi-Dravidas and how many caste people were present;

(f) why no announcement was made in the Adi-Dravida quarters before the auction took place;

(g) if they had made proper announcement, whether the signatures of all the Adi-Dravidas or the signatures of the prominent members among them were taken at the time;

(h) why the proceedings of the Board of Revenue, Routine No. 1187, Press, dated 5th March 1925, regarding lists of lands available for assignment to depressed classes was not announced in the Adi-Dravida village; and

(i) why no copy of such a list was put up in the communal meeting place of the depressed classes, or in cheri temple or in any place where they meet together?

A.—(a) The Narasinganur reserve measuring 428 acres was sold in auction in blocks of about 50 to 100 acres about 1918 by the Forest department. The names of the successful bidders and the price realized are not in the records with Government.

(b) The Government do not know what area of this land has been brought under cultivation.

(c) to (g) The sale took place eight years ago and Government regret that they have not information on the points mentioned.

(h) & (i) Orders to this effect were not in force in 1918.

Mr. R. VEERIAN:—"With reference to clause (g), may I know whether they got signatures from almost all members who attended the auction, after the auction was over?"

The hon. Mr. N. E. MARJORIBANKS:—"I do not know if the hon. Member refers to this particular auction. If so, we cannot say what was done. It was eight years ago, and even if the signatures were taken, the records would have been destroyed by this time."

[20th March 1926]

Mr. R. VEERIAN:—"I only want to know what they do in the present cases, whenever any auction takes place, whether they take signatures from all those that attend the auctions."

The hon. Mr. N. E. MARJORIBANKS:—"I must ask for notice, Sir. I do not know."

Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR:—"Has not the plan of the Forest department, namely, selling land in big blocks of 50 and 100 acres, had the effect of preventing poor people from competing for lands?"

The hon. Mr. N. E. MARJORIBANKS:—"I do not know, Sir, whether it has had that effect, but we may presume that it is calculated to have that effect and it is for that reason, so far as I know, that the practice was put a stop to."

Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR:—"What is the period prescribed for the destruction of these records, Sir? Is it not ten years?"

The hon. Mr. N. E. MARJORIBANKS:—"I expect the hon. Member knows better than I do, Sir."

Assignment of darkhast lands to caste ryots.

* 1687 Q.—Mr. R. VEERIAN: With reference to question No. 1107 answered at the meeting dated 16th December 1925, will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government have received the representation made by me dated 26th January and 30th January 1926 regarding assignments of darkhast lands to caste ryots or ex-service men of lands already broken and brought under cultivation by the depressed classes in various districts;

(b) if so what steps they have taken in the matter and with what results; and

(c) what definite orders they have issued in the matter?

A.—(a) Yes. The hon. Member was informed on January 29th and February 3rd that these representations had been received.

(b) & (c) Extracts of the representation dated January 26th were sent to the Collectors of the districts concerned for inquiry and disposal. That dated January 30th was sent to the Board of Revenue for disposal after inquiry.

Civil Justice.

Action taken on the Civil Justice Committee's recommendations.

* 1688 Q.—Mr. J. A. SALDANHA: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(a) what action has been taken or is being taken by the Local Government and the Madras High Court on the recommendations contained in the Civil Justice Committee's report so far as each is concerned; and

(b) why there has been so much delay in their taking the required action?

[20th March 1926]

A.—(a) & (b) The attention of the hon. Member is invited to the answer to question No 165. Most of the recommendations have been examined, and necessary action has either been taken or is being taken to give effect to the several recommendations. The recommendations cover a very wide field. If the hon. Member will single out any specific subject or group of subjects, he will be furnished with information as to the action taken.

The RAJA OF RAMNAD:—"May I ask the hon. the Law Member whether he has taken any steps to empower sub-judges to hear rent appeals, which work is now being done exclusively by the District Judges? To do this may require some statutory alterations."

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR:—"The matter is under consideration."

The RAJA OF RAMNAD:—"May I ask the hon. the Law Member whether he is taking steps to post senior judicial officers to over-worked courts, I mean courts where the pendency of cases is somewhat heavy? That does not require any statutory alteration."

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR:—"No. Senior officers are not necessarily the most competent."

The RAJA OF RAMNAD:—"What is the test then? Is there any principle in posting these officers?"

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR:—"Men who have displayed special aptitude for civil work, for instance, are posted to heavy courts. Sometimes the High Court is not always able to arrange this, but as far as possible the most congested courts get the most competent officers."

Pay of Civil Court Copyists.

* 1689 Q.—Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government have received a copy of the memorial presented to His Excellency the Governor by a copyist of the Kulittalai District Munsif's Court for increase of pay and other reliefs to Civil Court copyists;

(b) whether it is a fact that the work of Civil Court copyists is practically the same as that of the copying clerks in Registration offices; and

(c) whether the Government have in contemplation any schemes to afford some reliefs to the Civil Court copyists and, if so, when and in what manner the reliefs will be granted?

A.—(a) Memorials addressed to His Excellency have been received from certain copyists in the Trichinopoly district.

(b) The answer is in the negative.

(c) The attention of the hon. Member is invited to the answer given to question No. 1447.

[20th March 1926]

Irrigation.

Improvements to the Romperu drain.

* 1690 Q.—Mr. P. ANJANEYULU: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether any memorial has been submitted by the ryots of Bapatla regarding the improvements to be made to the Romperu drain in the Bapatla taluk in the Guntur district; and

(b) if so, whether the Government have taken or propose to take any action in the matter?

A.—A memorial was received and referred to the Chief Engineer in December. The Chief Engineer's report is awaited.

Upper Bhavani and Lower Bhavani projects.

* 1691 Q.—Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR: Will the hon. the Law Member and the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government have received any reply from the Board of Revenue regarding the Upper Bhavani and Lower Bhavani projects and, if so, to what effect; and

(b) whether the Government have any intention of beginning soon one or both the works referred to above and, if so, when?

A.—(a) & (b) The Board of Revenue have sent an interim report recommending the deputation of a special officer to examine the prospects of the upper scheme afresh in view of the great changes that have taken place since Mr. Innes wrote his report in 1906. The Government are considering this recommendation, and hope to pass orders when Mr. Macmichael returns from the Punjab, where he has gone to study methods of 'dry' irrigation. It is not possible to say now when either of the schemes is likely to be sanctioned for execution.

Proposed channel at Chettipatti.

* 1692 Q.—Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state whether any investigation has been carried on since July 1925—

(a) as to the feasibility of irrigation with Cauvery water by taking a channel at Chettipatti or any other place near Kaveripuram and, if so, with what result; and

(b) as to the total area that can be irrigated with water from the dam up to the Bhavani river and below that point and, if so, with what result?

A.—(a) No further investigation has been made into the proposal to take a channel off at Chettipatti or near Kaveripuram. The country there is above the proposed full reservoir level and is hilly, and the proposal is therefore impracticable.

(b) Investigation is being made and the Chief Engineer hopes to report the result in May.

[20th March 1926]

Lands irrigated from Kalingarayan channel.

* 1693 Q.—Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(a) the extent of lands irrigated by baling water from Kalingarayan channel in the Erode taluk of the Coimbatore district;

(b) whether the practice has been till now to irrigate lands with the baled out water without any restriction; and

(c) whether any restriction has been imposed recently or is there any intention of doing so and, if so, why?

A.—(a) The figures for 1924 were—

First crop, 2,228 acres.

Second crop, 1,618 acres.

(b) & (c) The Government have no information.

Progress of the Hebbala project.

* 1694 Q.—Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state in what stage the Hebbala project in Kollegal taluk, Coimbatore district, is at present?

A.—The Chief Engineer hopes to submit estimates next month.

Irrigation projects in Kollegal taluk.

* 1695 Q.—Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether there are two irrigation projects in Kollegal taluk besides the Hebbala and Gundal river schemes and if so what they are; and

(b) whether the Collector and the assistant engineer recently visited the localities, whether they have made any report and if so to what effect?

A.—(a) Yes: a scheme for utilizing the Uduthorahalla and improvements to the Doddaranganatham supply channel.

(b) The Government have not received any report.

Repair of breaches in channels from Amaravathi river.

* 1696 Q.—Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether there were serious breaches in all the channels from the Amaravathi river in Udampet taluk of Coimbatore district owing to heavy rainfall in December last;

(b) whether there has been damage to crops owing to the breaches and, if so, what is the value of the losses;

(c) how much money has been spent by Government in temporary repairs and how much is to be spent in permanent repairs; and

(d) whether it is a fact that most of the channels and especially the Komaralingam channel run very close to the river for some furlongs from the anicuts and whether it is a fact that much of the damage is due to this and, if so, whether estimates are being prepared or whether they will be prepared to divert the courses of the channels for some distance?

[20th March 1926]

A.—(a) Yes.

(b) There was some damage, but the value has not been reported.

(c) Immediate steps were taken to carry out urgent repairs. The cost was estimated in December at about Rs. 3,500. The Government cannot say how much has been spent up to date. The Chief Engineer applied for Rs. 36,000 for work to be done in 1926-27.

(d) It is proposed to divert the Kumaralingam channel—the reports received do not show whether any other permanent diversion will be necessary—but the Executive Engineer and the Superintending Engineer have the question in hand.

Marine.*Organization of the Cochin Port Trust.*

* 1697 Q.—Mr. J. A. SALDANHA: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Cochin Port Trust has been organized, and what the personnel of the Trust is; and

(b) if not, when it will be organized and what the cause for the delay is?

A.—The Cochin Port Trust Act, 1925 (VIII of 1925), has not yet been brought into force pending its acceptance by the Travancore and Cochin Darbars and the promulgation by the latter of a corresponding Ordinance. The Trust can be constituted only after the Act is brought into force.

Panchayat Courts.*Constitution of Village Panchayat Courts in the Presidency.*

* 1698 Q.—Mr. R. VEERIAN: With reference to question No. 1063 answered at the meeting of the Council on the 15th December 1925 regarding panchayat courts, will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state how many village panchayat courts have been constituted up to this in the Presidency and how many members belonging to the depressed classes were able to get through the elections?

A.—Information has been called for.

Panchayat courts in the district of South Kanara.

* 1699 Q.—Mr. D. MANJAYYA HEGGADE: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(a) the number of panchayat courts in the district of South Kanara;

(b) the number of villages without panchayat courts; and

(c) what steps the Government take to introduce and popularise panchayat courts in villages where there are no such institutions at present?

[20th March 1926]

- A.—(a) Seventy-eight.
 (b) About 405.
 (c) Collectors are alive to the importance of constituting such courts wherever possible. They have been instructed to submit proposals for the establishment of courts wherever local conditions permit. As a result of the efforts of Collectors, the number of these courts in the Presidency has increased from 1,700 in 1921 to 3,196 in 1924 and the number of suits disposed of from 28,005 to 140,007 during this period.

Mr. D. MANJAYYA HEGGADE :—“ With reference to clause (c), it is stated in the answer that Collectors have been instructed to submit proposals for the establishment of courts wherever local conditions permit. I want to know what are those local conditions, about which Collectors are asked to submit proposals.”

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—“ There is a general feeling that resort to panchayat courts should be had in petty litigation. Sometimes in spite of the establishment of panchayat courts, people are not willing to take advantage of them.”

Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—“ Is it a fact that the panchayat court system is not so popular as it ought to be on account of the fact that no facilities are offered or provision made for the courts' establishment charges, for furniture and for so many other things that are required for their efficient working ? ”

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—“ Is that with reference to South Kanara ? ”

Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—“ Yes.”

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—“ My hon. Friend has been stressing that quite often and the Government is going into those matters. But then, the figures do not quite bear out the unpopularity of the system, because the number of these courts has risen from 1,700 in 1921 to 3,196 in 1924.”

Membership of Village Panchayat Courts.

* 1700 Q.—Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR : Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state the orders passed by the Government on the proposal of the Collector of Trichinopoly that (i) literacy must be made a condition of election as a member of the Village Panchayat Courts and (ii) that pleaders, their clerks, petition-writers and all others who make a living by the law should be debarred from membership ?

A.—As regards (i), the attention of the Collector having been drawn to rule 4 (iv) of the rules framed under the Village Courts Act, 1888, which makes literacy a necessary qualification for panchayatdars, he reported that no modification of the rules was necessary.

As regards (ii), it was decided by Government that such persons need not be precluded from becoming members of panchayat courts for the present.

Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—“ May I know the reasons which influenced the Government in coming to the conclusion that pleaders and petition writers need not be debarred from membership of the panchayat courts, seeing that some of them may have to appear before the courts ? ”

[20th March 1926]

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—“ In certain places it has been reported to us that the range will be very much limited if we adopt a rigid rule of exclusion. As far as possible steps will be taken to see that they are not chosen, but sometimes in localities where the range is limited, if there is a rigid rule of exclusion, suitable men may not be obtained.”

Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—“ Is it the policy of the Government that they must have some panchayat court or other whatever be the composition of the court ? ”

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—“ It is felt that if a pleader is put on a panchayat court, during the time he is in the panchayat court, he will at all events display that sense of impartiality which we expect from him.”

Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—“ The mere fact that there are pleaders in a place is an indication that there are many others qualified to sit in the courts. Otherwise there will be no pleaders there.”

Police.

Constables stationed for bandobust during Kalpathi car-festival.

* 1701 Q.—Mr. R. VEERIAN : Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(a) how many constables and head constables were stationed or brought to Kalpathi for bandobust during the recent Kalpathi car-festival ;

(b) how many of them belonged to the depressed and untouchable community ; and

(c) how many constables and head constables were brought for bandobust during the car-festival which took place during the year 1924 ; and how many of them belonged to the depressed classes ?

A.—(a) Ten head constables and sixty-three constables and a reserve party of three head constables and thirty constables were on duty.

(b) None.

(c) Ten head constables and sixty-seven constables and a reserve party of three non-Commissioned officers and thirty men of the Malabar Special Police were brought. The reserve party was not actually employed. None of the party on duty belonged to the depressed or untouchable classes.

Railways.

Train accident near Pattukkottai.

* 1702 Q.—Sriman SASIBHUSHAN RATH Mahasayo : Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(a) when the accident to the train on the District Board Railway near Pattukkottai took place ;

(b) when the Collector and District Magistrate of Tanjore was asked to hold a public inquiry into the circumstances connected with the accident ;

[20th March 1926]

- (c) when the Collector and District Magistrate held the inquiry; and
 (d) whether he submitted any report and whether Government would be pleased to place that report on the table of the House?

A.—(a) 11th December 1925.

(b) The Collector and District Magistrate was not asked by Government to hold an inquiry. The inquiry was held under the rules issued by the Railway Board under the Indian Railways Act, 1890, and the District Magistrate informed the Government at once that he intended to hold an inquiry.

(c) 22nd December 1925.

(d) Yes; the report is laid on the table.

II

COMMUNICATION TO THE COUNCIL.

The Secretary laid on the table a copy of G.O. No. 194, Development, dated 8th February 1926, recording the audit report for 1924-25 on Cinchona.

[Note.—An asterisk (*) at the commencement of a speech indicates revision by the Member.]

III

MOTIONS ON THE BUDGET FOR 1926-27.

DEMAND X—GENERAL ADMINISTRATION—SECRETARIAT—cont.

* Mr. A. CHIDAMBARA NADAR :—" I beg to move

that the allotment of Rs. 58,700 for Public Works Department be reduced by Rs. 1,000.

11-15
a.m.

" Sir, a new Secretariat has been created with a Secretary, Assistant Secretary and so on and the cost comes to Rs 98,700 of which the votable item comes to Rs. 58,700. I do not know how the necessity for a new Secretariat has arisen. It seems to me that this work has hitherto been done by the Public Works Department itself. Now, I do not know whether any curtailment of expenditure has been made in that department because of the transfer of its work to the Secretariat that has been newly created. Again, Sir, there is one other thing which is very puzzling to me. There is a provision for the creation of an expert adviser to the Local Government on Railway matters. Whenever a question is put on Railway matters we are told that Railway is a central subject and we have nothing to do with it. When such is the case why is an expert adviser sought to be provided now? Sir, I do not know how the necessity for them has arisen. Under these circumstances I move my motion, Sir."

* The hon. Mr. T. E. MOIR :—" Mr. President, Sir, hon. Members will remember that this question of the creation of a new Public Works Department Secretariat was very exhaustively discussed at a meeting on the 6th of November last. I notice from the list of division on that occasion that the demand was carried by 44 against 13. In this list the name of the hon. Member who just now moved the resolution does not appear. I suppose, Sir, that possibly the fact that it was discussed only a few months ago and that very fully in this House has escaped his notice."

* Printed as a Appendix on pages 404-406 infra.

b Placed on the Editors' Table.

20th March 1926]

* Mr. A. CHIDAMBARA NADAR :—" Is it by a motion in the Council?"

* The hon. Mr. T. E. MOIR :—" Yes. I feel sure that the hon. Member will not wish me to weary the House by the repetition of the statement of the reasons which we had in view and which was made on that occasion as full particulars are available in the copy of the Council Proceedings for that date. But I may say very briefly that there were two main considerations. One was that the amount of Secretariat work which the Chief Engineers had to attend to had grown to such an extent that it was very seriously interfering with the discharge of their duties as Chief Engineers—a matter of very serious importance in these days when there is great necessity for careful supervision and inspection by these executive officers in respect of important problems and works which are being carried on. These works made the necessity for such supervision more important than ever. Another consideration was that we felt it most desirable that in dealing with many important questions which arise the Government Member or the Minister responsible should not have at his disposal the opinion of the experts alone and that as is the case with the other departments at the head of which there is an expert belonging to that department the Government should have at its disposal in dealing with these questions an independent examination of all important problems by a Secretariat officer who is entirely free from departmental predilections or enthusiasms. As regards the question of Railways that is a point which I think my hon. Colleague, the Leader of the House, is in a better position to deal with than I am."

* The RAJA OF RAMNAD :—" May I ask the hon. the Finance Member why if a separate Secretary is considered necessary—I think there ought to be a separate Secretary—the old practice of asking the Chief Engineers to do the same part of the Secretariat work still continues and why two or three Chief Engineers continue without being reduced to one? I find 3 or 4 or 5 Engineers are there. There is one for hydro-electric scheme, a new Chief Chief Engineer for Mettur and there is the Department Secretary. Surely it does not seem to be a measure in the direction of economy. Though I personally feel that a Secretary is necessary, I ask for this information."

* The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—" There is no Chief Engineer for Mettur. There is no Chief Engineer for Hydro-Electric works. Mr. Hawkins, who was doing the work of investigation and who has conducted the investigations up to a certain point, has been kept up because the Government of India have sent one of their Consulting Engineers, a member of the firm of Messrs. Merz and Mac Lennan to advise us as to the technical, financial and other possibilities in regard to the hydro-electric enterprise. Mr. Hawkins is only kept on for consultation and helping the investigations."

* The RAJA OF RAMNAD :—" With what designation?"

* The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—" I do not think there is any special designation. He advises us on hydro-electric matters and I do not know if there is any special designation. So far as I can see there is no Secretariat work done by the Chief Engineers. They only do the expert work. With reference to the question emanating from Mr. Chidambara Nadar, there was the Senior Inspector of Railways. Under the recent orders of the Government of India his name has been changed into Expert Adviser. That is all."

[20th March 1926]

* Diwan Bahadur M. KRISHNAN NAYAR :—" With reference to what fell from my hon Friend, the Finance Member, viz, that it is desirable to have one in the Secretariat independent of the profession itself to examine the estimates and other recommendations that come up from the Chief Engineers, no doubt, I admit that there is considerable force in what he says. But there is also another aspect of this question, viz., that by the examination of the recommendations and the plans and estimates that are sent up by the professional heads of departments by laymen in the Secretariat it is likely to lead to conflict between the Secretariat and the professional heads of the departments "

Mr. F. B. Evans rose in his place.

* Diwan Bahadur M. KRISHNAN NAYAR :—" Is it on a matter of personal explanation ? "

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" Perhaps he wants to give information that would obviate the discussion. "

* Diwan Bahadur M. KRISHNAN NAYAR :—" I do not want to be interrupted. What I wanted to say was that in spite of the advantage, necessarily a very good advantage referred to by the hon. Mr. Moir, there is this disadvantage also, viz., the chance of friction arising. When a friction arises between the Secretary and the professional Head of the Department, work is likely to be impeded and that will not be beneficial either to the department or to anybody. I do not want to support or oppose this particular motion. But I only want to point out this danger which has been experienced in other places. "

* The hon. Sir O. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—" I think Mr. Evans who may or may not speak after me will bear me out when I say that the Public Works Department Secretary does not deal with the technical aspects of the matter. These are solely dealt with by the Chief Engineer and that is a point which has been absolutely emphasised by the Right Hon. the Secretary of State that the Public Works Department Secretary is appointed only for Secretariat work. "

* Diwan Bahadur M. KRISHNAN NAYAR :—" Don't they do non-technical work ? "

Mr. F. B. EVANS :—" All the Secretariat work is done by me. Under the orders of the Secretary of State, I am specially prohibited from criticising the professional and engineering aspects of the proposals sent up. "

Mr. A. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—" I must confess I am puzzled by the different explanations that have been given with reference to the Public Works Department Secretary and his work. I am one of those who has voted for the Secretary and I consider that it is a very desirable innovation. You will remember that the Public Works Department Reorganization Committee suggested that course. I am not at present on the question of the reorganization of the Public Works Department Secretariat, and I do not want to go into that question. I am, as I said, puzzled as to what the work of the Public Works Department Secretary is. I can say that the work in all the different departments of the Secretariat proper is as far as possible to criticise the schemes that are sent up by the departments. For instance let us take the Local Self-Government Department which deals with the Medical administration. The Surgeon-General sends up schemes for a number of

[20th March 1926] [Mr. A. Ramaswami Mudaliyar]

officers to be appointed for a particular purpose. In the olden days it was for cholera parties to be started. At present it is a question of Health administration. It is a professional subject and a technical subject too. I am sure the Secretary of the Local Self-Government Department discusses it most thoroughly and criticises it without any restriction. The Secretariat may say that the recommendations may be extravagant and that the administrative idea may not be quite compatible with the idea of the ordinary public man. I am perfectly certain that the Local Self-Government Department is doing that work and I think the Secretary will bear me out in that. With reference to the other departments also, it is exactly the same thing. I am told to-day that the Secretary of State has put a special embargo that the Public Works Department Secretary cannot criticise the estimates of the Public Works Department Chief Engineers. I quite realize that as a non-technical and as a non-professional man the Public Works Department Secretary cannot criticise the drawings or even the estimates that may be prepared by the Public Works Department. But I thought that one of the essential reasons why the Public Works Department Secretary was appointed was this, and at any rate, Sir, that is the reason that weighed with me when I gave my vote for the grant for the Public Works Department Secretariat. Till now, what happened is this: The Chief Engineer sends up an estimate to the Government, and before the Government approve of the estimate a sort of scrutiny takes place in the Chief Engineer's office itself, as the Chief Engineer was constituted Secretary for the purpose of correspondence with the Government; and this led to the Chief Engineer criticising his own estimates in his capacity as Secretary who sent them to Government. The Minister in charge of the Irrigation Member went through the estimates under the special diarchic system we are having in the Public Works Department, and sanctioned the estimates. Six months later, a revised estimate is sent and the Superintending Engineer says that the estimate has been exceeded and that a revised estimate is necessary. The Chief Engineer in his capacity as Secretary sends for the revised estimate and says that he approved of the revised estimate, and sends it to the Minister or Member in charge. The Member or Minister in charge is helpless to deal with the question as how the revised estimate was necessitated, how the revised estimate was made possible, how expenditure now put on record was not foreseen in earlier days, and so on and so forth. I am in a position to speak with some amount of detailed knowledge because I had something to do with these questions for a little time. I know on numerous occasions strong protests were made from above as to the necessity for revised estimates, as to the circumstances of not properly foreseeing things before sending up estimates, as to the difficulties which the Member or Minister felt in either acceding to those revised estimates or in refusing to sanction those revised estimates, and I know that orders have been issued placing a strict embargo on that system of revised estimates being sent up and making it obligatory on the Superintending Engineers to give detailed reasons for any departure from the estimates originally made. I thought that one task of the Public Works Department Secretary was the task of seeing that this vicious system of revised estimates was minimised as much as possible. I speak strongly on the subject because I am sure the hon. the Finance Member, at least as a Finance Member interested in the finances of the province, will realise what havoc the system of revised estimates is doing on the finances of the country and on the prognostications

[Mr. A. Ramaswami Mudaliyar] [20th March 1926]

as to whether we will end with a deficit balance or a surplus balance. Only too often we have been surprised by revised estimates which sometimes amounted to double the original estimates. Now, is the Public Works Department Secretary in a position to check these revised estimates, to give an opinion on the necessity for the revised estimates, to point out the inconvenience of having to deal with revised estimates, or does it all come under professional, technical work? Where does the Secretary of State's embargo begin, and where does the restriction end? If the Public Works Department Secretary is not going to have that amount of latitude, I think the idea with which we have started the Secretariat will be a failure. I see signs of approval from the face of the hon. the Finance Member. I hope that the position is as I have stated, that the revised estimates in these matters will be carefully scrutinized by the Public Works Department Secretary, and time after time the Public Works Department, the Chief Engineer or the Engineer-in-chief, whatever the designation, will be hauled up if they unnecessarily send up revised estimates. The system is continuing in spite of all that has been done by the department. Every Member on the Treasury Bench will, I hope, realize the difficulty of dealing with revised estimates. They come to the Council, put forward a grant and get the sanction of the Council. Three months later, a revised estimate is sent up, and they are shocked at the amount that is now required by the revised estimates, and when they come before the Legislative Council, the Council is in a worse position either to sanction or refuse it. We sanction a particular project thinking that it would cost only say one lakh. If we knew beforehand that it would cost two lakhs we would never have sanctioned it. After the work has gone through to a certain extent, they come to us and ask our sanction for the revised estimates. Is it fair to do so? I do not know the technical difficulties that are involved in these estimates. I cannot myself appreciate it because I do not know much of engineering work. Why should revised estimates be so constant, and why is so much latitude given to the Public Works Department? Is it heard in any other department? I think from the observations made by the hon. the Secretary that the Secretary of State's rule has given some lurking fear that the Public Works Department Secretary has not got that wide latitude, and I should like to assure the hon. Member in charge that he has got that latitude, and I should like also to be assured how this system of revised estimates is being met and treated by the Public Works Department Secretary."

* The hon. Mr. N. E. MARJORIBANKS :—"As this is a matter coming within my grant, I think I may add a few remarks to what has been said. There is no restriction on the Secretariat examining Public Works schemes, except on points such as technical design, or quantities, or qualities of materials and technical matters of that sort. Revised estimates must be explained and the reasons for the revision carefully scrutinized and explanations obtained for any failure to frame the original estimates properly. I do not think hon. Members need have any fear on that score. As far as I know, one of the main reasons for appointing a non-professional Secretary was to enable this sort of scrutiny to be more efficiently and thoroughly made in the Secretariat."

* Mr. A. CHIDAMBARA NADAR :—"I should like to say a few words before I withdraw this motion."

20th March 1926]

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—"Mr. T. M. Narasimhacharlu may now speak if he wanted to abolish either the Public Works Department Secretariat or the Public Works Department."

Rai Bahadur T. M. NARASIMHACHARLU :—"I want neither, Sir."

* Mr. A. CHIDAMBARA NADAR :—"With reference to the remarks of Mr. Ramaswami Mudaliyar, I may say that I was a member of the Public Accounts Committee. Many instances of waste of public money by the Public Works Department were brought to the notice of the Committee, and I even thought that the Public Works Department were even going out of the way and taking matters too much into their own hands. I think, Sir, under the circumstances, the Public Works Department Secretariat will exercise a healthy influence over this department. But what I should like to know is whether there is any retrenchment in the office of the Chief Engineer since this department has been newly created."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—"Is the hon. Member withdrawing the motion?"

* Mr. A. CHIDAMBARA NADAR :—"I should like to have that information as to retrenchment."

Mr. F. B. EVANS :—"I may say that there has been retrenchment. The matter was fully put forward before the Finance Committee when the proposals were made. I cannot give the figures now, because it was not anticipated that the question was going to arise. There was considerable retrenchment in both the offices of the Chief Engineer for Buildings and Roads and of the Chief Engineer for Irrigation."

* The hon. Mr. T. E. MOIR :—"Sir, I hope the hon. Member will look up the papers placed before the Finance Committee and the proceedings of the Finance Committee placed before this House. If the hon. Member has got a copy, he will find the information. It is rather difficult to anticipate questions that may be put and still more difficult to have detailed statements of that kind at one's fingers' ends. I think I may merely add that the other point which the hon. Member drew attention to was really due to this; that is to say, cases such as those which were brought to the notice of the Public Accounts Committee were mostly due to the same reason, which led up to suppose that the executive control of the Chief Engineer has been insufficient owing to his stay in headquarters instead of in inspection of matters on which he might well be expected to bestow greater attention. It is hoped that by this proposal cases of that kind involving misuse of public funds will become less numerous than they have been in the past."

The motion was by leave withdrawn.

Mr. K. SITARAMA REDDI :—"Sir, I beg to move

that the allotment of Rs. 10,500 for discretionary grants by Collectors be reduced by Re. 1.

"I have tabled this motion simply to elicit information regarding the principles governing the distribution of this amount among the various Collectors, and also regarding the manner in which these grants were spent during the last two years."

* The hon. Mr. N. E. MARJORIBANKS :—"Mr. President, Sir, this is an allotment for discretionary grants by Collectors. This was first made some

[Mr. N. E. Marjoribanks]

[20th March 1926]

years ago with reference to the recommendation of a Public Service Commission—I am not quite sure which one it was. The idea in making this allotment was that Collectors should have at their disposal a small sum out of which they could meet certain expenditure without going through the formalities of reporting and getting sanction. They could meet expenditure of a public nature involving small sums on their personal responsibility. The sum so allotted to each Collector for several years was Rs. 1,000. Then in 1922-23, the Retrenchment Committee recommended that this was not an absolutely essential item of expenditure and that it might be curtailed. Since then, the allotment was reduced to about Rs. 2,500 or Rs. 3,000 for the whole Presidency.

11-45
a.m.

"The objects on which they were authorized to spend this money at their discretion were set forth in an order published long ago. The amount that may be spent in one case was limited to Rs. 250. Now that the allotment is small, the Board of Revenue retain the sum in their own hands till a Collector reports and applies for any sum to be granted for a particular purpose, for example, on such items as affording relief to people who get their houses burnt down, or where poor people have lost their property by floods or cyclones. As a matter of fact, this grant has in recent years not fulfilled the original purpose. If the hon. Member who moved wants a statement showing the exact objects on which the money has actually been spent, I am sorry we have not got those details for the reason that in the very nature of the case it is left to the Collector's discretion to devote the money to such objects as he considers fit. We do not get any reports from them, the only check on the expenditure being exercised by the audit officer, who sees that purpose is a public purpose. If you want full details of the actual objects on which this money has been spent, this can be done by getting detailed reports from all over the Presidency, and a statement can be prepared. I am sorry I have not got those details now."

* Diwan Babadur M. KRISHNAN NAYAR :—"Sir, I should like to know from the hon. the Revenue Member why this amount has been increased in the coming year 1926-27 to Rs. 10,500. We find that the budget amount in the current year 1925-26 was Rs. 2,500 and that was increased in the revised estimate for the current year by Rs. 3,500. The actual expenditure in 1924-25 was only Rs. 4,000 and odd, whereas in the coming year 1926-27 it has been raised about three times as much as the revised amount for the current year. If I remember correctly, before 1924-25, in the last Council, the discretionary grant to Collectors was Rs. 25,000. There was considerable discussion on more than one occasion with reference to that amount, and, if my memory does not fail me, it was as a result of these discussions that the amount was reduced in subsequent years, say, in 1924-25 to Rs. 4,000 and odd and next year to Rs. 2,000 and odd. I should like to know, if possible, from my hon. Friend why all on a sudden this amount has been increased so much. I do not mean that the amount Rs. 10,500 by itself is a very large amount. I should like to know why this large increase, an increase of four times, is necessary. If possible, I should like to get that information from the hon. the Revenue Member."

The hon. Mr. N. E. MARJORIBANKS :—"I was addressing myself to a different question. I thought what the hon. Member wanted was details of the money actually spent, not information as to the total sum. As for the history of the varying size of the grant, a sum of Rs. 27,600 was provided in

20th March 1926]

[Mr. N. E. Marjoribanks]

the budget estimate of 1923-24. The Government resumed Rs. 22,400 of the allotment as a result of the recommendations of the Retrenchment Committee—I daresay the Retrenchment Committee reflected the general ideas of the House at the time—leaving a net amount of Rs. 5,000. This was subsequently increased by Rs. 10,000 for the relief of distress caused by the floods in South Kanara in 1923. The total amount in 1923-24 was therefore Rs. 15,000 and the actual expenditure Rs. 13,000. This Rs. 13,000 was spent partly in South Kanara for supplying bamboos and materials to destitute persons affected by the cyclone who were not relieved by the money raised by public subscription. Lesser sums were spent in Malabar and some other districts. In the budget estimate for 1924-25, Rs. 2,500 was provided, of which a sum of Rs. 2,000 was allotted to the relief of distress caused by the cyclone in the Ganjam district. The Legislative Council sanctioned an additional sum of Rs. 5,500 for the village of Vallampetta in Vizagapatam district. And of this allotment, a sum of Rs. 1,900 was subsequently surrendered. Thus, the total allotment in 1924-25 was Rs. 8,000 and the amount spent Rs. 4,370, of which Rs. 3,500 went to the Vizagapatam district. In the budget for 1925-26, Rs. 2,500 was provided and no additional allotment has so far been asked for, nor has any resumption been made. But if the amount of the Budget grant is exceeded, the Council will be approached for a supplementary grant if no reappropriation can be made. As a matter of fact, I do not think the grant will be exceeded. In the budget estimate for next year we have provided a sum of Rs. 10,500 to save applications for additional allotments, so that there may be some money in the hands of Collectors at once to be spent with reference to any floods or cyclone. If such disasters do not arise, so much will probably not be spent."

The motion was by leave withdrawn.

Rai Bahadur T. M. NARASIMHACHARLU :—"I beg to move

that the total allotment of Rs. 7 35 lakhs for General Administration—Secretariat be reduced by Rs. 1,000.

"I wanted to urge on the following points :—

- (1) Sufficient attention is not paid to the condition of the Ceded districts
- (2) Revenue officers are not sympathetic to the people.
- (3) Sufficient irrigation facilities are not given to the people. Though there are many rivers and streams in Cuddapah, sufficient use is not made of them.
- (4) Proper steps are not taken to improve the generally backward condition of the people.
- (5) The incremental system in pay be stopped and graded pay be restored.

"The first four points noted by me have already been dealt with in this session in the previous sittings. I only wish to draw attention with reference to the fifth point, that the incremental system in pay be stopped and graded pay be restored. I have noticed in the budget speech of the hon. the Finance Member that it is the incremental system that is very largely due to the increased expenditure every year on this Government. When this system was introduced, I pointed out that it will prove a very disastrous thing.

[Mr. T. M. Narasimhaachari] [20th March 1926]

But the then Finance Member, Sir Charles Todhunter, said that as people were retiring from the service the new people will be introduced in the lowest pay so that on the average it will be all right. It just reminded me of the story of a man who did not know how to swim and wanted to cross a river full of flood. A mathematician just crossed the river and came to the opposite bank, and this gentleman without the knowledge of swimming asked him what the depth of the water was. The mathematician said on an average it is four feet. The man who did not know how to swim was six feet high like myself. So he thought he could safely cross the river. So he went into it and gradually went down and down. At one place it was nine feet and so he was drowned. Fortunately, there was a fisherman who just caught hold of him and saved him. Then he accosted the mathematician, 'What, you told me the average is four feet, now it has cost my life'. He said, 'Well, it is only the average; in one place it is two feet, in another place four feet and so on, but the average is four feet. So what I said was correct.' In the same way, he said that if you take the average of those who retire and the average of those newly introduced everything will be all right. Now, Sir, what happened to the man who relied on the average happens also to the Government. I ask, Sir, especially when the Finance Member is satisfied that this incremental system is disastrous, can we not revert to the old graded system? This has got its own advantages, because it will keep every subordinate and every officer on the alert. He would be doing his duty properly with a view to earn the grade; now automatically as it were the increments are coming and therefore there is no incentive to people to do good work. Is it not possible to revert to the old system now? That is a question that I wish to press on the attention of the hon. the Finance Member."

* The hon. Mr. N. E. MARJORIBANKS :—"I have no doubt the hon. the Finance Member will respond to the invitation if he is so disposed. At present it is my duty to answer. I may at once say that personally I find myself in very considerable agreement with what the hon. Member from Cuddapah has said. But we are faced with the fact that the Government has introduced a system of incremental scales in all the services and that under the Fundamental Rules the present incumbents are entitled to that scale of pay, unless if of their own choice they agree to accept any new scale that may be substituted. I am afraid the graded scale of pay would not be generally accepted. Thus practically we can only apply it to new entrants, and it would be perhaps a matter of considerable difficulty to work a system by which certain people would draw one scale of pay and certain others doing the same work would draw a different scale of pay. We have tried it in some departments where we realized the need for this change, especially in executive grades. We have tried to introduce the change, but we find as a matter of fact there is considerable practical difficulty. However, I think I may go so far as to say that the Government are considering this matter and they are glad to find that at any rate some Members of this House would support such a change."

12 noon Mr. A. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—"The House will be exceedingly thankful to the hon. Member from Cuddapah for raising before this House a very important issue in this prominent manner. The hon. the Revenue Member expressed his pleasure of the fact that there are some Members who are considering this fact and have brought this to his notice. I can assure

[20th March 1926] [Mr. A. Ramaswami Mudaliyar]

him that this is not the first occasion that some hon. Members have spoken against the existence of incremental scale. In the very first year when this system was introduced I remember a good deal of discussion took place because some special concession was shown to the members of the public services by giving them increments from an anterior date to that on which this incremental scale was begun. It seems to me that this incremental scale of salaries led the Government to depths from which they cannot at all recover. I remember very well the mathematical calculations which the hon. Sir Charles Todhunter gave us and the eloquence with which he tried to convince us that the incremental scale was not only advantageous but that within the next two or three years the maximum would be reached, and that the Council need not fear this incremental system. I am glad to see that the present Finance Member at any rate realizes the responsibilities that are devolving upon the Government. I cannot do better than reading a portion of his speech in which he refers to this incremental system. This is what he says:

"In the first place, with few exceptions our officers and establishments are on the incremental scales which were introduced with the revision of salaries in 1921. These incremental scales which, save in cases of gross misconduct, are practically automatic in their operation, superseded graded cadres in which promotion was less regular in its operation and, as a rule, determined rather by the criterion whether promotion was justified than by the criterion whether there was sufficient cause to refuse it. In many cases, too, incremental scales were substituted for fixed pay. Provision was also made for their application to various establishments which though classified as temporary were semi-permanent in character. The minimum pay of new recruits was replaced by the new minima fixed, but in the case of existing establishments positions in the incremental scales were determined with reference to the nearest points in the new scales. As a result the full effect of the incremental system was not at once felt and year by year our charges, even with reference to the same number of Government servants, have been steadily increasing. The process is not yet at an end. For example, in the current year the additional charge on this account is estimated at 13½ lakhs and for next year a further charge of 9½ lakhs has to be provided for and so on."

"What we wish to know is when we shall reach the summit on this incremental scale. Are we ever to reach it at all? What is the process by which they have calculated the average on this incremental scale and when they expect the highest increment in the scale would be reached? With reference to the annual increase on our budget owing to this incremental scale I may say it is a very serious matter and we have entangled ourselves in a system the full consequences of which we do not know."

"Sir, the full effect of this incremental scale has not yet been realized. Where are we to stop? In what way would you work out the average increment? I quite realize that the constant increase to the staff is another aberration in the Finance Member's calculation of the average. We are aware that, so far as the number of public servants in this Presidency is concerned, there is a constant increase in it every year. But we wish to know how many years it will take before the full maximum of increment would be reached. The hon. the Finance Member suggested that for the budget year 9½ lakhs would be required for this incremental scale. For the next budget year, namely, 1927-28 have any calculations been made and what additional fund would be required merely to keep the existing services going—we do not know? If we realize the full results of this incremental scale and to what extent we have to commit ourselves on this account, I think we may quietly retrace our steps. I know perfectly well that those who are already in service cannot and ought not to be affected. They cannot be made to affect in our varying financial modes. It seems to me that in the best

[Mr. A. Ramaswami Mudaliyar] [20th March 1926]

interests of the people of this Presidency and also in the interests of the finances of this Province this incremental system of salaries should be done away with. It leads us to unknown commitments. I think we can revise the system at least with reference to new entrants and put them on the graded scale and then we shall know where we are. Any man with an elementary knowledge of arithmetic can calculate if the graded system of pay were to be in existence, what the average cost would be per year. I only wish to know—I quite distinctly remember the statement of the hon. Sir Charles Todhunter who said that the full effect of this incremental scale would be a cost of 6 crores to the State; I think it is just the other way—whether the idea of changing this system is passing through the minds of Government as vigorously as I am led to hope by the remarks of the hon. the Revenue Member."

* The hon. Mr. T. E. Moir :—"I think, Sir, that the story which the hon. Member from Cuddapah told us is very apposite and exactly explains my position excepting that I do not see the friendly fisherman holding out his hand. I have no material at my disposal to examine the remarks made by my predecessor on the subject of incremental scale, and I am glad to find from the speech of the hon. Member from Chingleput that I have apparently refrained from in any way rashly committing myself to any estimate regarding the unknown. Of course, so far as mere calculation is concerned, it is possible to calculate what the average cost of a particular cadre containing so many officers on a particular incremental scale will be, and if at any point in the history of a service you could begin with so many officers, say so many hundreds of officers on a particular incremental scale, you could work out what, after a sufficient number of years had elapsed, would be the average cost of that service. As a matter of fact, owing to exigencies of services, no Government can exercise complete control over the average cost because it would never actually be attained. One year the cost would be something more than the average and another year it would be a little less. The same thing is manifested in the insurance world also. There the death-rate in a certain year is heavier and the next year it is lighter, and in calculating the average mortality they take into account all these factors. But I may say we never had a clear start when we changed from one system to another. We introduced the incremental scale in the existing services with reference to the state of things and the number of men who were employed at that time. One reason why—I think I am right in saying so—why it is taking a longer time to arrive at what may be called the average cost of a particular number of men is this: our new scale of increments is not only quite different from the corresponding graded scales which prevailed in previous years, but was also accompanied by a revision of salaries. That is to say, assuming that the average increase of maximum salary in a particular department for a particular cadre was 50 per cent, the vast majority of those serving in that cadre came in at a point much below the maximum ultimate pay they could expect to get. It seems to me that opinion, both in the departments and the House, has somewhat veered of late with regard to the manner in which we should regulate the salaries of our establishments; it was formerly urged—if I retain a correct impression of the discussions at the time and of the notes which were prepared by the Salaries Committee—that an incremental system would be the most suitable. I think that opinion has rather changed now. The hon. Member from Chingleput asked me whether I could

20th March 1926]

[Mr. T. E. Moir]

come to any definite conclusion as to how long it would take before we arrived at what might be termed our normal expenditure in respect of these incremental scales, that is to say, eliminating as far as possible those disturbing elements to which he referred; namely, the abolition of appointments of one kind or the introduction of new appointments of another kind. I can only say this: I have not attempted to place before the Finance Committee any details with regard to the working out of this average cost because it would involve a very big calculation in which we might have to introduce new factors in order to arrive at the average cost. But from a certain study which I myself made of the figures, the impression that I have got is that our larger departments, i.e., those which employ a very large staff are approaching stabilization more rapidly than at one time I anticipated and there possibly the cumulative effect of the incremental scales will only manifest itself for a few more years. The younger the department however, the more difficult it is to arrive at a calculation. The larger the proportion of men lately entertained, the longer is the period before we arrive at any median line.

"I do recognize that it is a somewhat serious matter. In that respect it is no less embarrassing to me than it has been to my predecessors to come before the House year after year and to put forward demands for additional expenditure of so many lakhs of rupees simply arising out of the incremental scales, which as far as the development of the administration is concerned, do not seem to result in any benefit. I do propose to have that matter much more fully examined than it has been hitherto possible to do. In one or two cases we have changed back to the old graded system. I think I am right in saying that the Sub-Inspectors of Police are now in the graded system. (The hon. Sir C. P. Ramaswami Ayyar nodded assent.) I was rather under the impression that there were one or two other similar cases. When the examination of the question is complete, if I consider that any financial benefit is likely to be attained by reverting to the old graded system in the case of the new entrants into the service, I shall place the results of the examination before the House for its consideration. Of course, there will be considerable administrative difficulties in dealing with officers in the same cadre but in two different scales. But if the financial advantage that is to be derived will justify the step being taken, I shall give an opportunity to the House to consider whether they are prepared to take that line."

The motion was by leave withdrawn.

Demand X was then put and carried and the Grant was made.

DEMAND XI—GENERAL ADMINISTRATION—MISCELLANEOUS.

* The hon. Mr. T. E. Moir :—"Sir, on the recommendation of His Excellency the Governor, I move

that Government be granted a sum not exceeding Rs. 6.59 lakhs under General Administration—Miscellaneous."

* Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—"Sir, I move

that the allotment of Rs. 2,96,900 for Deputy and Assistant Examiners and District Staff be reduced by Rs. 100."

"I want to urge that there should be more careful supervision over municipalities and local boards. The audit reports should be placed without

[Mr. J. A. Saldanha]

[20th March 1926]

delay before a supervising committee independent of the municipal chairman and the officers. Government audit should be made in addition to the audit by the auditors appointed by municipal councils.

"The financial condition and management of the municipalities have been a subject of much discussion recently in more than one municipality. Government also, in order to place the system of collection and expenditure on a more correct basis, have recently brought in an amending Bill containing a provision for the appointment of a revenue officer independent of the municipality. These measures have aroused a storm of opposition, and I do not know if the Government are going to push the legislation through. The audit report comes before the Council after a very long time. I believe it is not published in the District Government Gazette. It takes a very long time for the discussion of the report. It is discussed at a time when the year had long past and the financial matters of the body are entirely forgotten by the Councillors. Just like the co-operative societies it is highly necessary that municipalities should have their own auditors besides the Government auditors. I do not want to go into the other details of the municipal administration; of course, the hon. Minister is bringing a Bill regarding them. I only want to draw the attention of the hon. Minister to the state of affairs prevailing in the Mangalore municipality, for example, and to urge that suitable steps may be taken to carefully investigate the financial condition of the local bodies."

* The hon. Mr. T. E. Moir :—"Sir, in dealing with this resolution I do not propose to trespass on the sphere which properly belongs to my hon. Colleague the First Minister, though I think both he and I are in entire agreement as to the desirability of the accounts and the audit of the local bodies being kept in an efficient condition. Of course the extent to which Government can intervene to supervise and control the local bodies is laid down in the Acts governing their constitution and powers. I feel sure that my hon. Colleague would be quite prepared to propose legislation to this House if in any matter he thinks that further supervision and control are necessary. The hon. Member from South Kanara urged that the audit reports should be placed before a supervising committee without delay. Well, Sir, under the Acts to which I have referred detailed instructions are given as to the appointment of such committees and the matters with which they might concern themselves. It seems to me that in regard to the audit of the accounts and the consideration of the audit reports, the appointment of a special committee would serve a useful purpose. The local bodies have already the power to do so in their own hands."

* Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—"Sir, on a point of personal explanation. My idea is that the supervising committee is to be appointed independently of the council. The co-operative societies which spend several lakhs of rupees have their own auditors appointed by the shareholders in order to check the work of the society. It has got a very salutary effect. My idea is the same. I shall propose that in connexion with the Bill that is going to be brought forward by the hon. the Chief Minister there must be some attempts to check the vagaries of the municipal councils, any actions done *ultra vires* or any fraudulent tendency. I know the state of affairs in Mangalore. There was an open air meeting and it was proposed to have what is called a managing committee or a standing committee."

20th March 1926]

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—"Order, order. Where is the personal explanation of the hon. Member?" (Laughter.)

* Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—"That is all what I have to say, Sir." (Laughter.)

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—"The hon. Member has said what he should not have said." (Laughter.)

* The hon. Mr. T. E. Moir :—"Sir, the hon. Member has strayed beyond the point and perhaps I may leave the remarks to which the hon. the President has taken objection unanswered."

"So far as his suggestion is concerned, it seems to me that it would rather be curtailing the development of local self-government in this country. If any control is to be exercised over the council or the executive it should be by the rate-payers themselves; for they are the sufferers if the executive or the council fail in their duty. My hon. Friend said that there ought to be an audit by an auditor appointed by the municipal council itself in addition to the Government audit. I think the hon. Member is thinking on wrong lines, because no mere duplication or reduplication of audit is going to be the remedy of the abuse with reference to which he makes the suggestions. If the accounts are so bad that there is any justification for the suggestion for double audit, then surely the proper remedy is not to multiply the audit but to improve the system of accounts and see that a proper staff is maintained to keep accounts by each local body. In any case, even if the suggestion of the hon. Member to have an audit by the auditor appointed by the local body itself is accepted, it would in nowise get rid of, or be a substitute for, Government audit. Because that is one of the functions imposed upon the Government by the present constitution under the Devolution Rules."

* Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—"I will not take much of the time of the House. I will only say that the system of appointing auditors by the council or the rate-payers is in vogue in Bombay and Karachi. I do not want to go into any detail." 12-3 p.m.

* The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL :—"I endorse what the hon. the Finance Member in charge of the subject said in opposing the motion. I really wonder why the hon. Member from South Kanara should consider it necessary to have a committee appointed when there is regular audit every year. He resented the proposal of appointing executive officers to local bodies on the ground that the independence of those bodies would be curtailed if such officers were appointed."

* Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—"On a matter of personal explanation, Sir. I did not express that opinion. I only said that it raised a storm of indignation."

* The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL :—"I am glad to hear it. He referred to the storm of indignation that is in store in connexion with the proposal. I think he is himself in favour of the proposal."

* Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—"I do not say anything myself."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—"The hon. Member did not endorse the storm of indignation."

[20th March 1926]

* The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL:—"I do not think that the appointment of such a committee is necessary at all. The necessary control is being exercised by the Audit department and the way in which that control should be exercised is laid down in the Act of 1920. I do not understand why a separate committee should be appointed to go through the accounts. It appears to me that it is uncalled for."

The motion was by leave withdrawn.

* Mr. MUHAMMAD GHOUSE MIAN SAHIB:—"I beg to move

'that the allotment of Rs. 3,44,500 for Local Fund Audit Establishments be reduced by Rs. 1,000.'

"This is to discuss the policy why the reorganization scheme was not given full effect to and to promote the interests of Muslims in the department.

"No doubt the subject is a sectarian one. I wish to say that I justify my position only by the sectarian vote of my community and I must take this opportunity of ventilating the grievances which the Muslims feel in the department. The object is two fold. Firstly, that the reorganization scheme was not given full effect to and that the scheme has worked some disadvantages to the staff in the department and secondly that the Government should bestow its attention and consider the claims of Muhammadans in the department. I shall say a few words about the reorganization scheme.

"This scheme was introduced in the year 1922 by G.O. No. 110. Before that, the Audit department was being controlled by the Treasury Deputy Collectors and the Accountant-General. There was bifurcation by which one section got under the control of the Treasury Deputy Collector and the Accountant-General and another section under the control of the Local Fund Audit department, under the Examiner of Local Fund Accounts. The latter is called the District Central Audit Department. It had control over the accounts of the municipalities and local bodies. The reorganization scheme gave effect to the appointment of three Assistant Examiners, the central Examiner being called Deputy Examiner. They have appointed an Assistant Examiner of Local Fund Accounts for the southern circle and another for the northern districts whose headquarter is Guntur. The District Central Audit Department is working under three Assistant Examiners, the central officer being called the Deputy Examiner and two Assistant Examiners for the northern and southern circles, all of them being under the control of the Examiner.

"That scheme, as it was introduced, took the entire staff which was under the District Collector and amalgamated it with the Audit department. By a G.O. of 1923 they have reduced the establishment to be amalgamated. At first it was stated that the entire clerical staff would be amalgamated. Some time later it was stated that they could take only two-thirds of the staff under their control. The result is this. If the clerks were in the District Audit establishment they would get higher pay. According to the second G.O. (of 1923) they have reduced the number to two-thirds, so that the remaining one-third of the staff who had a chance of getting higher pay are not now able to get that pay. For, no fault of theirs they are made to work on less pay. As soon as the establishment had been amalgamated with the Central Audit Department, various difficulties have arisen. One is, they

[20th March 1926] [Mr. Muhammad Ghouse Mian Sahib]

have stated in a circular, that the clerks should undergo special tests examinations. Very hard rules have been introduced, namely, that while the clerks of other departments have to undergo examinations with the aid of books, those in the District Central Audit Department are examined without the aid of books. There are also various minor difficulties in the matter of travelling allowances and halting allowances which they are entitled to get. I understand that a memorial on behalf of the staff has been sent by the District Examiner of Salem stating that the grievances of the clerks are real. The Government has not shown any consideration to the grievances of the staff of the southern range. This is so far as the first point is concerned.

"As regards the second point that the Government has not considered the claims of Muhammadans, I wish to say this: one man who has already put in a service of more than 30 years at the time of the reorganization is still retained by the Government although there are departmental rules compelling people who have served more than 25 years to retire. The Deputy Examiner of Local Fund Accounts has put in a service of 30 years. He has not yet been asked to retire. For that vacancy, the Government should consider the claims of any Muhammadan in the department who is fit to occupy that post."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT:—"The hon. Member may move the next motion also standing in his name."

* Mr. MUHAMMAD GHOUSE MIAN SAHIB:—"I move

'that the allotment of Rs. 6 59 lakhs for General Administration—Miscellaneous be reduced by Rs. 100.'

"This is to discuss that avoidable expenditure should hereafter be curtailed and to suggest that this Government should protest against the encroachment made on its revenues by the Central Government.

"This motion also consists of two parts. The first part is about the encroachment made by the Central Government on the revenues of this province and the second part is about the way in which this Government indulge in experiments and waste a lot of money which could otherwise be avoided. As regards the first point I must confine my attention to three matters. The Central Government has appropriated all the elastic revenues to itself and has thrown all inelastic revenues on the shoulders of the Provincial Government. In addition to that, since the year 1922 the Central Government is making encroachment upon encroachment upon even the legitimate income of this province. At the time when the contribution to be made to the Central Government was fixed the matter was not within the ken of this Government. In addition to taking contribution from us they are making encroachments. I will illustrate it."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT:—"I am afraid that the question of encroachments made by the Central Government does not come under this particular item. Whether it comes under any other item will have to be decided later on."

* Mr. MUHAMMAD GHOUSE MIAN SAHIB:—"It does not come under any other item. As this demand is to be moved by the hon. the Finance Member I thought I could move my motion under this demand. Moreover I have given notice of a motion to reduce the total grant for Local Fund Administration."

[20th March 1926]

* The hon. Mr. T. E. MOIR :—"As the grant we are now dealing with is General Administration of the Provincial Government, as the hon. Member has shown, I think this is the appropriate place to discuss this motion."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—"I am thankful to the hon. Member."

* Mr. MUHAMMAD GHOUSE MIAN SAHIB :—"The first instance is with regard to a part of the sum to be paid by this Government to the subvention scheme. This Government was asked to pay contribution towards the expense of the Indian Forest Service and Indian Civil Service people learning vernaculars in some of the universities of the United Kingdom before they came and took charge of work in Ind'a. This is a new item of expenditure which was not incurred up to this time and the first grant for this purpose was made during the February session; and we have granted a large amount. That expenditure ought not to be legitimately borne by the Provincial Government. It ought to be borne by the Central Government."

12-45
p.m.

The second instance is about awarding of scholarships. No doubt, expenditure under this head will be only small. All the same, it involves a principle. Therefore I want to discuss the matter. In the year 1922 the Secretary of State gave permission for people to learn the educational system of the United Kingdom and America. He has also given permission to the Government to award scholarships to persons who go and study the system in foreign countries. Till the year 1922 the entire expenditure for this purpose was borne by the Central Government. For want of funds, that scheme has been given the go-by and now only two or three scholarships are awarded. Now I understand that the Central Government have asked this Government to provide some amounts for the purpose of contributing towards scholarships for the purpose of studying the educational system obtaining in other provinces. As originally proposed, Sir, this item has also to be borne by the Central Government. On the other hand we have provided, as one of the Part II schemes, a list of which is attached to the budget memorandum, a sum of about Rs. 50,000 for this purpose.

"Another point, Sir, is in regard to the matter of deputations to study the conditions of timber in foreign countries and also for the purpose of advertising the Indian timber. This is also more or less a Central subject, and the expenditure ought to be borne by the Central Government. What we see is that this Provincial Government has been made to bear a part of the expenditure. These are some of the illustrations only on the basis of which, I wish to suggest to the hon. the Finance Member, such encroachments made on our revenues ought to be protested against, and the Provincial Government ought not to pay for those expenses."

"As regards the second point, Sir, namely, that in this Government avoidable expenditure is being wasted, I will illustrate it only with one example, namely, that some time back the Public Works Department wanted to construct a Victory Hall in the Marina. For the purpose of giving effect to that idea, they have spent about a lakh of rupees for acquiring lands near the Marina. Subsequently it has turned out that owing to the existence of some drain inside that place, the idea of erecting the Victory Hall has altogether been abandoned and the money, nearly a lakh of rupees that has been spent for the purpose of acquiring lands, is a sheer waste. This is only one example. If anybody takes care to peruse the Accountant-General's criticism on the accounts of the Provincial Government for the years 1923-24 and 1924-25, he will find that those two books

[20th March 1926] [Mr. Muhammad Ghouse Mian Sahib]

contain many such instances where on the plea of starting new experiments, the Public Works Department have wasted a lot of amount and afterwards on some ground or other have suggested that the plot was not sufficiently useful or that they had changed the experiment, etc. On that basis a lot of amount has been spent"

* The hon. Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. PATRO :—"The Public Works Department is the agent for the execution of the work which the administrative departments advise them to do."

* Mr. MUHAMMAD GHOUSE MIAN SAHIB :—"Anyhow, Sir, that is an expenditure which could be avoided, and I urge upon the Government and especially upon the hon. the Finance Member who has stated in his budget speech that one of the main sources of income is economy, to observe that economy and object to all such kind of rash and avoidable expenditure being incurred hereafter. (Hear, hear.)"

* The hon. Mr. T. E. MOIR :—"Sir, I shall first deal with the expenditure on the Local Fund Audit establishments and the reorganization which has taken place in the last two years. It is perhaps unfortunate that the answer to a question which has been put, I think on identically the same points which have been raised by the hon. Member, has not yet reached the agenda paper. Otherwise, I think it is possible that he would have found them the information which he seeks. I do not wish to weary the House by a long analysis of the history of this reorganization scheme and all its details; and I propose to confine myself to a brief summary of what actually has taken place. It was in December 1923 that the Local Fund Audit staff which was working under the Collectors was transferred to the control of the Local Fund Accounts department. With effect from the 1st April 1924, the posts of accountants of the district and local boards came under the control of the Examiner and in order to provide for these requirements, a number of men were temporarily recruited. These temporary hands were either employed as district accountants or were posted as audit clerks in the place of clerks who were transferred as accountants. At that time of course the scheme was a tentative one and actual requirements were not fully known until further experience has been gained of the reorganization. The next step was that it was found that the practice of providing each district board and taluk board with separate accountants was unnecessarily expensive and a scheme was introduced by which the compilation of both the taluk and district board accounts was centralized in the district board offices. This enabled a considerable reduction of the establishment to be effected and a considerable number of the clerks who had been temporarily recruited were disbanded. Meanwhile, scales of pay had been determined under which the new clerks of the audit establishment were to be brought. These scales were :

Second grade : Rs. 35, with certain increments up to Rs. 80.

First grade : Rs. 35 with certain increments up to Rs. 150.

"It was not possible to deal under this scale with the case of the temporary hands who had been entertained until the position in the new grade of the permanent clerks who had been taken over from the Collectors' establishments had been fixed. All these of course were permanent men and had a preferential claim over temporary hands. In the meantime, clerks who were transferred from the Collectors' establishments were allowed to draw pay in

[Mr. T. E. Moir]

[20th March 1926]

the scales on which they were in the Revenue department, pending a settlement of the question as to how many should be permanently retained in the audit staff. I may say that these questions have now been settled and that the new temporary clerks who were retained since 1st May 1925 as well as the clerks transferred from the Collectors' establishments have now been brought on one or the other of the two grades, details of which I have given. This change has been given effect to from the 1st May 1925. Any disabilities or difficulties under which these establishments may have suffered are but a common occurrence as when an establishment is in a state of transition or reorganization there is always a certain amount of inconvenience and possibly cases of hardship. I trust that as a result of this reorganization having been brought to a final shape we shall find that, whether they were newly recruited or whether they were transferred from the Collectors' offices, reasonable justice has been done to the hands which are employed in the Local Fund Audit department.

"As regards the point to which the hon. Member referred, namely, that his community was inadequately represented in the Local Fund Audit department, I may assure him that I personally regard the number of Muhammadans in that department as much below what I should like to regard as a reasonable average; but I may say that the fault does not altogether rest with the department. The fact is that Muhammadans with the necessary qualifications do not seem to apply for posts in that department. Possibly it is because the hon. Member's community is less attracted by the sedentary and routine life that the establishments of the Local Fund Audit department enjoy. However that may be, the fact is that there has been an almost entire absence of applications from this community. If he can inspire a little more interest about the department in the members of his community, I can assure him that we would welcome an addition of his community to its staff. We have received, I think, only two applications. One was offered a clerkship's place but did not reply. Another was a secondary school leaving certificate holder; but I think his aspirations were pitched somewhat high because the only position that could satisfy him was that of a District Inspector. We could hardly extend a preferential treatment to that degree. But, as I said, if the hon. Member can induce the members of his community to regard the Local Fund Audit department as an avenue for employment, I would personally welcome that.

"Now, Sir, I may perhaps turn to the second resolution with which the hon. Member's speech dealt. If I may take the two points in the order in which they are given in the resolution, the first relates to the question of curtailing avoidable expenditure. Now, Sir, there I entirely agree with him and I myself spent many hours engaged upon that task. But I must admit that in spite of all our efforts and of the assistance that my hon. Colleagues give me in the matter, cases do occur now and again in which, it is perfectly true, with perhaps a little more knowledge or a little more experience or a little more care, we might have saved something, sometimes possibly a considerable sum, for the public purse. But I would not like the House to assume that these cases are quite so numerous as might be judged from the remarks of the hon. Member. All cases which are of any importance are reviewed in the report of the Public Accounts Committee. All serious cases are dealt with there and though there are some which we have reason to regret, I am not prepared to say that the number or their nature

[20th March 1926]

[Mr. T. E. Moir]

indicate any very serious evil existing in the matter in our administrative departments.

"There is one point perhaps I may mention to the House specifically referred to in the report of the Public Accounts Committee which will be placed before this House. And that is that in some of our younger departments the tradition of carefulness in accounts and of the necessity of mastery of the accounts of the department in which an officer is engaged has not quite established itself to the extent which was, and I think still is, the position in the older departments. That, I think, is why in departments in which officers are perhaps more interested in their departmental activities than in the rather tedious side-line of accounts and procedure we find an undue proportion of cases of this kind. I may instance perhaps the department of Agriculture and, if I may give another example, the Jails department where, as the House is aware, there is now very considerable expenditure on the manufacturing activities of a department which has hitherto had restricted experience of either manufacture or business activities. That is a matter which had been drawn attention to and I hope these departments will realize the importance of a thorough knowledge of procedure and of accounts on the part of the officers.

"Reference was then made to the Marina scheme. Personally I deeply regret what has happened in connexion with that scheme because for a long period we had been anticipating a scheme which to my mind was going to be of the greatest benefit to the city. I think I am right in saying that the causes which led to the abandonment of that particular scheme were not altogether such as could have been foreseen. And although we have been told that the site which was originally selected on the Marina was not altogether suitable for the requirements of the scheme which was associated with it, I may say that we are still in possession of the land which was acquired and is a very valuable asset to the Government. I am perfectly certain that our departments will not take long to find some useful purpose for it to serve.

"Then the hon. Member drew attention to what he termed as encroachments on our revenues by the Central Government. Perhaps, hon. Members will be ready to allow the Central Government that freedom which we desire to claim for ourselves, that is to say, that we should have the largest possible measure of control over revenues or objects of expenditure which are legitimately our own, and I think that we must concede a similar freedom to the Central Government. As regards probationers, which I think was the first point the hon. Member raised, I am afraid I am unable to agree with his view because it would mean that the Provincial Governments need not meet expenditure incidental to the training of the establishment which are to serve under them. That is, however, one of the fundamental principles of the financial settlement and I do not think that we could possibly claim that the Central Government, which in this case means all the other Provinces of India, should contribute to the expenditure connected with our Province. Bombay pays for its probationers; we pay for ours and Bengal does the same. And I do not think that there is anything inequitable in that rule.

"As regards scholarships, I am unable to recollect on the spur of the moment the exact case to which the hon. Member refers, but, so far as I am aware, I do not think that there has been any case of the Government of India

[Mr. T. E. Moir]

[20th March 1926]

forcing upon us or compelling us to pay for certain scholarships. There may have been one or two cases of the kind where we have been asked in connexion with certain educational or other activities whether we were prepared to meet our share of expenditure undertaken by the Central Government which would directly or indirectly benefit this Province. I do not think any case of our relations with the Central Government in the matter of education has gone beyond that. But if the hon. Member will give me a specific instance of what he refers to, I shall be very glad to have the matter examined and see whether we have been called upon to pay where we ought not to pay.

"I am not quite sure whether the hon. Member was referring to any specific item on our budget."

* Mr. MUHAMMAD GHOUSE MIAN SAHIB :—"No, Sir. I am referring to item 69 at page 90 of the Budget Memorandum."

* The hon. Mr. T. E. MOIR :—"The hon. Member, I may then say, has probably got in mind the fact that the Government of India at one time gave scholarships of this kind which were allotted to the provinces by rotation. But the Government of India are under no obligation of any kind now to give scholarships to the provinces and they have given up that system. We cannot ask them to resume it. It is a matter entirely within their discretion, but, as they have taken that course, we have been obliged to make certain provision for scholarships in the place of those which the Government of India have withdrawn."

"I wonder if the hon. Member would again give me reference to the item as regards timber which I have not been able to trace."

* Mr. MUHAMMAD GHOUSE MIAN SAHIB :—"Page 84, item 13, Sir."

* The hon. Mr. T. E. MOIR :—"I do not know if it is the suggestion of the hon. Member that this matter is an item of expenditure which the Central Government ought to bear. I am afraid it is not so; because the question of advertising our timbers in the foreign market is within the sphere of our duties. I can assure the hon. Member that, as far as the development or exploitation of our forests is concerned, the burden of responsibility rests entirely with us, and I do not know of any rule or principle under which we could call upon the Central Government to bear expenditure which is intended solely to bring grist into our mill. There are of course items for which the Government of India, so far as they are concerned, make provision, but those are matters of general interest to the whole of India and not an item over expenditure on which we intend, I may say, to keep entirely and work entirely for our own benefit and not for the benefit of other provinces."

Mr. A. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—"Mr. President, I feel sure that there is a great deal of point in the hon. Member Mr. Ghouse Mian's remark regarding the encroachment of Provincial revenues by the Central Government. No doubt the examples that he has specifically given are not happy examples. But I think even with reference to this item, namely, the scholarships by the Government of India, the hon. the Finance Member will recollect cases which occurred during his regime as Financial Secretary and will realize that there has been some room for complaint. Scholarships were allowed by the Government of India in 1920-21 before the reforms came into operation and the students sent out under that scholarship for a period of say three years had to be paid by this Government as the burden of

[20th March 1926]

[Mr. A. Ramaswami Mudaliyar]

continuing these scholarships was suddenly thrown upon the Provincial Government. At any rate that is my recollection. I may perhaps explain the case still further, Sir. A student goes on Government of India scholarship for a certain number of years. In the first year of his course, he is paid by the Government of India as in the pre-reform days; but for the next two years, as a result of the reforms perhaps the Government of India says 'It is your burden and you are to shoulder the responsibility'. It is a little unfair, especially as in an arrangement of that kind we had really no voice in sending the student and probably if we had, taking into consideration our resources, we would not have sent the student at all. But the Government of India sent the student but threw the burden back on us. That is one instance that I remember at present."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—"Is it not because the Department of Education became a transferred subject?"

Mr. A. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—"Yes, Sir; but my point is that the undertaking was given before Education became a transferred subject by the Government of India and it was a recurring liability which the Government of India took upon themselves. And now, is it fair, I ask, to shove the responsibility all on a sudden to this Government which had no voice at all in the matter. I can understand that in the cases of scholarships granted in future for sending students to England and other places, the liability should be legitimately on the Government but for an undertaking which was given by the Government of India without consulting us, I do not see how we should be held in any way responsible. Then again, Sir, I remember very vividly during the time of Sir Charles Todhunter, the extreme annoyance which the then Finance Member felt at the sudden bills that were presented during the last days of the current financial year by the Central Government, without warning, without any notice, just when we thought that we were facing a line-clear budget, to use the ex-Finance Member's phrase. I remember how bills after bills were suddenly shoved on the Provincial Government and my hon. Friend Dr. Subbarayan who was then on the Finance Committee will now bear me out as to the difficulties that we in the Finance Committee felt then by these bills being presented without absolutely any notice. In many cases, Sir, these bills were presented long after they became due, and old accounts were probably raked up by the Central Government. In 1923-24 for instance a bill for an item of expenditure which was paid by the Central Government in 1921-22 and which ought properly to have been met by the Provincial Government was suddenly placed before us. I know there is no question of limitation between the Central and Provincial Governments; but equity demands that there must be a finality in these matters; and I am sure the hon. the Finance Member himself would desire to know where we stand and that we ought not to be suddenly presented with bills which are of very anterior date and of which we had not the ghost of any idea at all. In the present budget itself I see the hon. the Finance Member himself has referred to it in his speech that the Finance Member of the Government of India suddenly announced from his place in the Legislative Assembly that the refund of the customs duty would in future be withdrawn from those provinces to which part of remission of their contribution to the Government of India under Devolution Rule 18 has been allowed. That results in a loss of Rs. 194 lakhs to us. I cannot understand the connection between a remission of the contribution and the refund of customs

[Mr. A. Ramaswami Mudaliyar] [20th March 1926]

duties that was withdrawn. Was it as a mere charity that the refund of customs duty was given to us? Have we no right to it at all, legal or otherwise? Were the Government of India hoping all these years that in getting this refund of customs duty, we were not entitled to any remission? What has in fact contributed to do with the refund of customs?

1-15
P.M.

"And if our provincial contribution reduction is gradually to be neutralised by this sort of miscellaneous adjustments—I do admit these are of a very miscellaneous nature,—I think the evil is far greater than the hon. the Finance Member thinks it is. Take again another case. Why should we be made to pay for election courts for settling disputes regarding the Assembly and the Council of State elections? We have nothing to do with it; in our province we do not want these elections. We are satisfied with the Provincial Councils. It is for the Government of India's purposes that the Legislative Assembly and the Council of State are constituted, and why should we pay for an election court to settle disputes as regards the Council of State and the Legislative Assembly elections? How is it a provincial job? The Government of India is so meticulous in these matters that it sends bills half a dozen years after they fall due and says that the expenditure is to be borne by the Provincial Government. Now, our Finance Department ought to be equally meticulous whatever the embarrassments of the Government of India may be and ought to see that these incursions on our provincial revenues are not tolerated and are protested against. I think, Sir, that the hon. Member from Trichinopoly has done very useful service in drawing the attention of the hon. the Finance Member to this aspect, and if it is said that the Government of India stand upon their rights, I think it is time that we too should stand up for our equally valid rights."

* Mr. K. PRABHAKARAN TAMPAN :—" Sir, before the hon. the Finance Member rises to speak, I want to ask whether the Government of India on their own initiative have not given us monies to our credit, for instance, our share of the unified stamp and the income-tax?"

* Diwan Bahadur M. KRISHNAN NAYAR :—" With reference to this avoidable expenditure, Sir, my hon. Friend the Finance Member stated and stated quite naturally that he is himself against incurring avoidable expenditure and he is bringing pressure to bear on the several departments and heads of offices to avoid incurring such expenditure to which reference was made both by me and the hon. the Mover of this motion. In this connection I should like to know, if my hon. Friend Mr. Moir is in a position to give this information, viz., what has become of one scheme on which so much money was spent. I refer to the Victory Memorial Hall or some building which was proposed to be erected and the foundation stone of which was laid I believe in 1919 by Lord Chelmsford. I was myself present in the Government House compound. In fact all persons in the city who counted were there, and the whole of Madras was there and the Viceroy laid the foundation stone, and considerable expenditure, I think, was incurred on that. I do not remember to have heard anything about the subject during the past seven or eight years. I should like very much to have information as to what became of it if my hon. Friend is in a position to give information now in the matter, though I dare say he could not have come prepared as it was not specifically referred to in the motion as an item of avoidable expenditure."

20th March 1926]

* Khan Bahadur P. KHALIF-UL-LAH SAHIB Bahadur :—" Mr. President, Sir, I did not propose to take any part in the discussion of this motion but I am impelled to do so by reason of certain explanations given by the hon. the Finance Member. With reference to scholarships, the hon. the Finance Member told us that this Government could not force the Government of India to continue to bear the cost towards the scholarships of our students sent up from this Presidency. But was it not possible for us to protest against the withdrawal of certain scholarships when it affects students that were sent up from this province by the Central Government? One of the previous speakers, my hon. Friend from Chingleput referred to certain students who were sent up from this Presidency by the Government of India on the guarantee that their expenses would be met by the Government of India for the full course of their education. But then, suddenly after the advent of the reforms, the Government of India said that they would not bear those expenses and ordered that the Madras Government should bear the same. I ask the hon. the Finance Member whether it was not possible for us to protest against such a procedure which I consider to be very unjust and against the terms on which those students were sent up, saying that the finances of this province should not at all, for any reason, be saddled with such expenditure."

* The hon. Mr. T. E. MOIR :—" Sir, if I might first deal with the question of scholarships, perhaps I may say that it is entirely a matter of the past. There is no question of some expenditure being thrown on the budget of the present year or of the coming year, against which we might protest. It is merely a question as to whether at the time when the new financial system came in, we could have protested. Well, on the ground that the selection for these scholarships had really been the result of an act of the Government of India, it has been urged that they should bear the cost. On the general aspect of the question, I am afraid that if we adopted that attitude towards the reforms and repudiated any suggestion of responsibility or further concern with expenditure which has been incurred either under the direction of or as a result of action taken by the Central Government, we could never have got away, in any way, or in any department, from the all-pervading control of the Central Government which it was the object of the reforms to remove. It is perfectly true that with regard to many comparatively small items in our budget, we might have said to the Government of India that we considered that that Government should continue to be responsible for the whole expenditure under such items—scholarships in this instance—as it was in consequence of a policy laid down by the Central Government that the students were sent to Europe. The answer would have been 'Very well, it is a small matter, and provided you pay us the sum which the continuance of these scholarships for the period guaranteed by us would cost to the Central revenue, we should have no objection to do so'. The result would have been as far as our revenues are concerned, which is the principal point in issue, practically the same. We should have given a contribution to the Government of India for the period of the existing scholarships, and the contribution would have ceased when these particular scholarships expired. But as regards any further scholarships which might be awarded hereafter, they would appear in our budget and their cost be debited against our revenues as now."

"Then, the hon. Member for Chingleput suggested that we were continually having claims thrust upon us by the Government of India. While it is

[Mr. T. E. Moir]

[20th March 1926]

perfectly true that, as the financial working of the reforms proceeded, various items came to light over which there have been claims and counter-claims; I think I would be correct in saying that our counter-claims have considerably exceeded the claims of the Government of India. I will merely give two examples which appear in the current year's budget. We are getting a very large increase—I think it is something like 4 or 5 lakhs—under the head of unified stamps, a matter which we have fought out with the Government of India. We are also, as I stated in dealing with the budget, receiving a very large—to us at any rate very large—sum of about 17 lakhs for pension charges which were wrongly debited against us. There are many other matters which are from time to time raised and settled with the Government of India. Perhaps I may be allowed to say here, Sir, that it is not merely in the matter of the reduction of the provincial contributions that I have found the attitude of the hon. the Finance Member of the Government of India most sympathetic towards this province, but that in regard to all cases of our claims against the Government of India, this province has got no reason of any kind to complain of the manner in which he dealt with them. He has dealt with them throughout on generous and broad lines. (Hear, hear.)

"The hon. Member also referred to the question of the imposition of customs duty on the provinces. It was of course a matter we regarded as open to question whether it was within the rights of the Government of India to do so in pursuance of their policy of protection or giving encouragement to goods produced in India or imported by private agency into India as against goods produced elsewhere or imported direct by Government. But the Secretary of State has decided that it was within their province, and they have thought it necessary in furtherance of this policy to declare that from a certain date they would no longer give this sub-vention out of their revenues to the Local Governments. I am not able at present to say anything more than that on this subject. The question whether they should further undertake to give preferential treatment to one province in the matter as against another is still under consideration, and there I think it is possible that the hon. Member's argument as to principle might apply more effectively.

"There are two more matters, I think, with which I have to deal. The first is about the elections. One hon. Member asked why we should pay for the cost of elections to the Central Legislature. I can merely say that this is one of those items which under the Devolution Rules schedule is a provincial item of expenditure. There may be very good reasons which could be urged why it should not be, but the fact remains that under the existing financial settlement that is the case.

"Then, as regards the Marina scheme which is, I think, the last point I have to deal with, I was referring to what, so far as I am concerned, is the most important financial issue that is to say to what extent the expenditure incurred has really been wasted, and therefore I pointed out to the House that the land remains in our possession, and I hope it is worth the sum we paid for it. But as regards details of the scheme with which, I must confess, I am not personally very conversant, I have no doubt that my hon. Colleague will give the information which the hon. Member desired."

* The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL :—"Mr. President, Sir, the scheme known as the Marina scheme was dropped because it was found that the soil

1-30
p.m.

20th March 1926]

[The Raja of Panagal]

of the site was altogether unsuited for the construction of a hospital. The idea was that the two funds, the Victory Memorial fund and the Prince of Wales Children's Hospital fund should be pooled together. With the funds at the disposal of the Dufferin Memorial Fund Committee and the Government should make the best use of the funds by utilizing for the Marina scheme of the Women's Hospital and Medical School. As the scheme was given up the Government thought it better to have these memorials raised in the shape of a tuberculosis hospital with three wards, one for the children, the Prince of Wales Children's hospital, another the women's ward to perpetuate the memory of the victory of the Great War and the third male ward will be built at the Government cost supplemented by Sir Muttayya Chetti's donation. The cost of the Marina scheme was estimated at nearly 24 lakhs whereas the cost of the other scheme of extension of Victoria Hospital and Women's Medical School will be 7½ lakhs. So by dropping the Marina scheme Government have gained by several lakhs of rupees. And besides, a tuberculosis hospital in the Presidency town was urgently needed and that was the reason why the original scheme was dropped and a new scheme was taken up."

Mr. A. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—"What about the money already voted for some institution?"

* The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL :—"That is spent on the construction of the King Edward's Tubercular Institute."

The motions were by leave withdrawn.

Demand XI was then put and carried and the Grant was made.

The Council then adjourned for lunch.

After Lunch (2-30 p.m.).

The hon. the Deputy President took the chair.

DEMAND XII—GENERAL ADMINISTRATION—MINISTERS AND CIVIL
SECRETARIATS—TRANSFERRED.

* The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL :—"On the recommendation of His Excellency the Governor I move

*that a sum of Rs. 3.54 lakhs be granted for General Administration—
Ministers and Civil Secretariats—Transferred."*

Mr. K. SITARAMA REDDI :—"I beg to move

*that the allotment of Rs. 29,300 for Registrar-General of Panchayats
and Inspector of Municipalities be reduced by Re. 1."*

"By tabling this motion it is not my idea to cast any reflection on the present officer holding this appointment. I know him personally and I have got the greatest respect for him. My object in moving this resolution is to know from the hon. Member whoever it is why this post has been changed from one of 'voted' to 'non-voted'. I find by a reference to the Civil Budget Estimate that for the next year the expenditure under this head is proposed to be increased by about Rs. 2,400 for his pay and instead of two officers dealing with this branch one is made Registrar-General of Panchayats and the Inspector of Local Bodies and the other is made his personal assistant. As Registrar-General of Panchayats and as Inspector of Local Bodies he is in charge of the

[Mr. K. Sitarama Reddi] [20th March 1926]

local bodies in this Presidency and has control over the formation of the panchayats. I take it these are transferred subjects and are under the control of the Minister. When the pay of the Minister himself is not proposed to be non-voted, I do not see why any officer under him is made non-voted. I know the Secretaries dealing with certain subjects in the Transferred departments are non-voted. But I cannot see why an officer who is till now treated as voted should now be proposed to be treated as non-voted."

* Diwan Bahadur M. KRISHNAN NAYAR :—"I also wish to associate myself with all that my friend has just said. As my friend has rightly put it, there is no question of any reflection on the present officer. All of us know him as a capable man, a man of integrity, a man of character and a man of capacity. So far as the principle of taking away the pay of officers whose pay should be voted by this Council to the class 'non-voted' is concerned, it is one to which I should think strong exception should be taken. We know that it is stated in the Government of India Act that the pay of the officers whose appointments are made by His Majesty the King or the Secretary of State should be non-voted. Instead of restricting it, the attempt now made is to expand it. I submit this is a policy which will receive the strongest condemnation at the hands of this Council. As a matter of fact we all know that the powers possessed by this Council are very very attenuated and they should not be made more attenuated than they really are. It should be the other way. I wish to associate myself with all that has been said by the hon. Mover on this matter."

The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL :—"Mr. Deputy President, Sir, I am sorry that this is brought under non-voted by a clerical mistake." (Laughter.)

The motion was by leave withdrawn.

Demand XII was then put and carried and the Grant was made.

DEMAND XIII—ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE.

* The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—"On the recommendation of His Excellency the Governor I move

'that the Government be granted a sum not exceeding Rs. 5,184 lakhs for Administration of Justice.'"

* Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—"Sir, I beg to move

'that the allotment of Rs. 5,84,300 for Judges and Registrar be reduced by Rs. 101.'

"Sir, it is said off and on that the work in the High Court is getting congested and that the number of judges in the High Court are not able to cope with the work and that perhaps temporary or permanent additions may have to be made to the number. Sir, I think a remedy for this can be found if the High Court Judges are required to work on Saturdays as their colleagues elsewhere do. For example in the Calcutta High Court the Judges are working on Saturdays, and I do not see why Judges here should not follow their example. It cannot be said that, all the five days in the week, they are doing such arduous work that they cannot do any work on Saturdays. High Court work is of varied sorts and kinds, some of an exacting nature,

20th March 1926] [Mr. A. Ranganatha Mudaliyar]

some of a trivial character: and so on. Surely if the Judges are inclined, they can so arrange their work that the work on Saturday will not tax them unduly."

* The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—"Sir, I am glad the question has been raised because I think I can throw some light on the whole matter. The suggestion made by the hon. Member for Bellary that the Judges should sit on Saturdays is not a new one. The question that half at least of that day may be utilized was also examined. After full consideration in 1919 the Secretary of State and the Government of India came to the conclusion that the existing practice should not be interfered with. The question was again examined by the Judicial Retrenchment Committee of 1924. Among the recommendations of the Committee there was one, viz., that curtailment of holidays in the civil courts was desirable. As to the High Court Judges working on Saturdays, the opinion of the High Court was as follows. They said that in many cases the judgments were held over to be written on Saturdays and Sundays and practically all the Saturdays are required for writing judgments. Then what is also very important is looking to the administrative work of the High Court. Hon. Members will remember that calendar work and scrutinizing the records and diaries from the mufassal is a matter which is within the jurisdiction of the High Court, and though it does not come within the public cognizance it is an important part of their duties. Replying to references to Government is another matter. Probably hon. Members are not aware that their opinion on many important legislative and administrative matters is asked for. They have also to exercise the High Court's statutory powers of control and supervision of subordinate courts by perusal of judgments of sessions judges, and by perusal of second appeals prior to orders under Order 41, Rule 11 of the Civil Procedure Code. A new rule has been passed by which the second appeals are first posted before a single Judge to find out whether there is a case for being posted before a Bench. They have to be fairly familiar with the facts of the case before coming to court. Therefore they came to the conclusion that they could not sit on Saturdays. I may also say and I venture to put strongly this argument before the House that, strictly speaking, under the Letters Patent which is kept alive by the Despatch of 1865 the High Court has statutory power to determine the period of vacation and the number of holidays. It is because that it would not be fair to the High Court not to make this observation that I say this on the floor of the House."

* Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—"The hon. Member has not told us about the practice in other provinces."

* The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—"In Bombay excepting on the Original Side there is no work on Saturdays. On the other hand, on one afternoon the High Court Judges do not sit. In Calcutta, I believe, the Original Side sits on Saturday."

* Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—"Why not an innovation be made on the lines of Calcutta and Bombay?"

* The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—"I shall carry the desire of the House to the hon. Judges of the High Court."

* Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—"Meanwhile we can convey the opinion of this House by the vote of this House."

[20th March 1926]

* The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—" I would strongly urge upon the House against any such thing. Strictly speaking, we have no right to dictate. I have given the undertaking to communicate to them that there is an opinion in this House that an attempt should be made in this direction."

* Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—" I hesitated because once before when the suggestion was made that Registrars ought to be appointed from the Bar or the Provincial Services, the hon. the Law Member almost made a promise that the High Court was agreeable to the proposal, but it was not carried out at all. I thought I might strengthen the position of the hon. the Law Member by a vote of this House. But in view of what he has said, I do not propose to press my motion."

The motion was by leave withdrawn.

2-45
p.m.

* Khan Bahadur P. KHALIF-UL-LAH SAHIB Bahadur :—" Mr. Deputy President, if I rise to move the motion which stands against my name, viz.,

'that the allotment of Rs. 5,84,300 for Judges and Registrar be reduced by Rs. 100',

I do so with a high sense of responsibility that I feel towards the community which I have the honour to represent in this House. So far as the High Court is concerned, it was after a great deal of public agitation in this province that one belonging to my community was raised to the High Court Bench about fifteen years ago, and after all that trouble we got only one representative in the wide field of appointment to the High Court Bench, and we thought we had established a precedent so well and so strongly that the Government felt itself bound, even during the short vacancy which occurred when Sir Abdur Rahim had to go on special duty elsewhere, to appoint to that temporary vacancy a Muslim and none else. But what is it that we see to-day? On his appointment as Executive Council Member of Bengal, when he left the High Court Bench of this province, when a vacancy was created permanently in that seat, there was absolutely no attempt made to give due consideration to the claims of my community. Not only at that time but even later several other vacancies have occurred in the High Court, and still absolutely no thought seems to have been bestowed upon the legitimate claims of our community. Some two years ago, the hon. the Law Member was kind enough to ask me to consult my hon. Muslim Colleagues in this House and let him know what the real feeling was in the matter of appointment of High Court Judges. I thought that was a real attempt made in the direction of trying to meet the demands of my community, and forthwith I consulted them."

* The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—" Sir, I have no objection to my hon. Friend referring to a conversation which took place between me and certain members of the Muhammadan community. But what I then, at the instance of His Excellency the Governor who presided over the destinies of this province at that time, did was to endeavour to find out the feelings of the Muhammadan community with reference to the appointment of Muhammadans from outside this Presidency."

* Khan Bahadur P. KHALIF-UL-LAH SAHIB Bahadur :—" Quite so. I am not saying anything different. I had not yet finished my say on that matter when the hon. Member interrupted. I consulted the other Muslim Members

[20th March 1926] [Mr. P. Khalif-ul-lah Sahib]

of this House, and they gave it as their opinion and I can say with the approval of the hon. the Law Member, that the demand of my community is very strong that some proper Muslim should be appointed to the High Court. So far as the person is concerned, they preferred to have one from the province itself. But if the Government was of opinion that they could not find a proper person to fill the place, they suggested they had absolutely no objection to a stranger to this province being appointed provided he was a Muslim. We thought then, Sir, as I said, that it was some serious attempt made to satisfy the public demand. But still we have waited and waited long too without realizing anything out of that. Of course, we have often been told that there is no proper person available. I think many of my hon. Friends here are aware of what was told us at the time when Sir Abdur Rahim was appointed to the High Court Bench. We are told that some bearded man was appointed simply because he happened to wear a beard."

* The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—" It was not at that time. I do not think he wore a beard at that time."

Mr. ABBAS ALI KHAN :—" I saw him the other day at Calcutta. He is quite young."

* Khan Bahadur P. KHALIF-UL-LAH SAHIB Bahadur :—" Anyhow, I am not referring to his personal appearance. At any rate, people who were making that remark and others too expected that a Muslim should wear a beard, and only in that sense, and in no other sense, I referred to it. My hon. Friends have known and seen Sir Abdur Rahim, and we are all aware that he never wore a beard. That is by the way. Now, Sir, a Muhammadan was elevated to the High Court Bench, and Sir Abdur Rahim was appointed because he happened to be Muhammadan. He has acquitted himself in this office so creditably that I feel proud to say,—there will be no dissentient voice if I say so—that he added lustre to the illustrious list of High Court Judges that have honoured this province. So far as my community is concerned, I can say with equal pride that my community can boast of many illustrious lawyers and jurists. Coming to the present times, I need only mention the names of Justices Mahmood, Tyabji and Ameer Ali, to show that my community is certainly not lacking in the quality of men for such high places as that of the High Court Judge. All that I mean to say is that if only a real and earnest attempt is made to see that the Muslim claim is met, there would be absolutely no difficulty in finding one for the place. Of course, we cannot expect one to announce himself to be the most fitted. But throughout the length and breadth of this big continent, I am sure we must be able to find out one to fill up the post, however high it may be, with credit and with success. This being so, my community feels it as a great disappointment that the Government have not even made a move in that direction, though it is already more than five years since the vacancy has happened. As I have already said, during the general discussion on the budget, the hon. the Law Member is a great lawyer, and therefore he would have much respect to the precedent which took a long time for my community to establish, some precedent certainly, when Sir Abdur Rahim was appointed. I call it a precedent because it was so strongly felt also by this Government at that time that the temporary vacancy was filled up by a Muslim. So, what we see now when a permanent vacancy had actually happened is that not even an attempt is made to appoint a Muslim. Hence, it is that I make this motion

[Mr. P. Kbalif-ul-lah Sahib] [20th March 1926]

before this House, and I hope that all sections of this House will feel with me and show that unity and brotherhood by unanimously joining me in supporting this motion."

* The hon. Sir O. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—" Mr. President, Sir, let me in the first place say this: that as a lawyer of some standing it is impossible for any one who has practised the law to forget the contribution made by the Mussalman community to jurisprudence in general, at the inception of jurisprudence itself as a science in the western world and to Indian jurisprudence in particular. Sir, I make bold to say that no student of law can fail to remember with gratitude, with respect and with admiration the names of men like Justice Mahmood, probably the subtlest lawyer and the most cultured writer of chaste and expressive English that we have had. It is not therefore out of any feeling that Mussalmans have not amongst them competent men worthy to occupy and occupy with glory to themselves and to their country the highest place in the judiciary of the land, that there has been any want of action on the part of the Government. Let me say that Justice Abdur Rahim was never regarded as any the less a scholar than a lawyer, by those who have studied his Tagore Law lectures. Any one who has gone through that volume on the Outlines of Islamic Jurisprudence would have known that he was most scholarly in outlook and thoroughly cultured not only in the jurisprudence of his own country but generally in the jurisprudence of the world. Now, therefore, it is not because that there is any the slightest idea or suggestion that among the Muslim communities of India there is not anybody who is wanting in any respect, that the appointment has not been made. I am glad that my hon. Friend has referred to the conversation that took place between me and certain members of the Muhammadan community some years ago. His Excellency Lord Willingdon, I may be permitted to say, was extremely anxious to have a Muhammadan appointed to the Madras High Court, and therefore he asked me to find from the Muhammadans here in Madras whether generally they would welcome the appointment of a Muhammadan Judge if the Government had to import a Muhammadan from outside the Presidency. All I can say is—I cannot say more as to what happened—that it was as a result of that enquiry that the action that the Government took was taken, as we found there was a cleavage of opinion on this point.

3 p.m. "Whatever the past may be, in the years 1927 and 1928, two permanent vacancies will arise in the High Court, and I may say that every attempt will be made by the Government to bear in mind the very strongly expressed views of the Muhammadan community in this particular, and an attempt will be made for the purpose of recruiting a suitable Muhammadan, if possible, to the judiciary of the highest Court in the land."

Mr. T. M. MOIDU SAHIB :—" Mr. Deputy President, I tabled a similar motion, not because I know that a resolution of this nature will have some effect in the appointment of a Muhammadan High Court Judge, but because I know the feeling of the Muhammadans all over the Presidency is that the Government should have long before appointed a Muhammadan Judge. I think I was one of those who was a signatory to a meeting held in the Lawley Hall at Madras for the purpose of urging on the Government the necessity of appointing a Muhammadan as High Court Judge and later on, as the hon. the Law Member has just explained, I was one of those who

[20th March 1926] [Mr. T. M. Moidu Sahib]

waited in deputation on the hon. the Law Member for this purpose. But as he has explained the majority of the Muhammadans who were in the legal profession did not want an outsider to be appointed on the High Court Bench and finding that the importation of a Muhammadan from outside was not very tasteful to them, they did not make the appointment. But at the same time, public opinion among Muhammadans is that the absence of a Muhammadan Judge on the High Court has led them to think that the administration of justice relating to Muhammadan jurisprudence and Muhammadan usage and customs has had some bad effect. But I am not of those who say that the absence of a Muhammadan Judge on the bench will have anything to do with matters of that kind. Anyhow I think it is highly essential that out of fourteen judges, there must be at least one Muhammadan. Recently we heard that two temporary judges have been appointed. I think it was the proper occasion for the Government to have selected a Muhammadan and appointed him to the High Court.

"Recently we were told there was a chance of a Muhammadan being appointed to the Bench very soon, as some of the temporary judges are going to vacate their seats. If I remember right, I even mentioned this matter to His Excellency Lord Goschen when I had the honour of an interview with him in connexion with a deputation to urge some matters on his attention. In these circumstances, I think it a matter of such importance that the Government will see its way to find a remedy."

Mr. A. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—" Mr. Deputy President, my hon. Friend from Trichinopoly has called on the different sections of the House to associate themselves with the desire he has so eloquently expressed for the installation of a Muhammadan Judge on the High Court Bench. I cordially agree with him in all that he has said on the desirability of appointing a Muhammadan to the highest judiciary of the land. I am not one of those who believe in the much-trotted-out theory of efficiency. It plays its own purpose; it is used for its own purpose. I do not therefore think that the oft-repeated argument of efficiency can really stand in the way of getting a proper Muhammadan gentleman to preside over the High Court Bench.

"My hon. Friend referred to the appointment of Sir Abdur Rahim to the High Court. I was just then beginning my career at the bar and I distinctly remember—and I can affirm the idea that has been given expression to by my hon. Friend—the idea that it was not a proper selection. Men at the bar, leaders of the bar, eminent gentlemen with extensive practice who had never known Sir Abdur Rahim and probably had only attended or read his Tagore Law lectures which we in those days at college used to read—gentlemen like that went about saying that this was a sort of communal appointment made without regard to efficiency. Justice Abdur Rahim came, saw and conquered. Those who went to scoff remained to pray, and they are yet to see on the High Court Bench more gentlemen of his standard, of the calibre, the integrity and independence of view of Sir Abdur Rahim. Mr. Deputy President, in these matters relating to the highest appointments in the land, as I have often expressed in this House, I hold very strong views on the desirability of associating members of various communities. There is one aspect which will be readily accepted by all sections of the House. We often speak of Indianisation of the services; we speak of the necessity of placing the Indians in high administrative posts. We do not then trot out the theory of efficiency. We do not say that a capable man is not found.

[Mr. A. Ramaswami Mudaliyar] [20th March 1926]

Under the statute now we must have two Indians on the Executive Council; under the statute, we must have so many men as Collectors, Indians promoted from the Provincial Civil Service; under the statute, we must have a certain number of gentlemen appointed as High Court Judges. Now, in all these circumstances, the theory of efficiency is not very much to the front. Of course we say that all these appointments are made only after proper selection. But what I want to impress on the House, the distinction that I want to point out is this, that you must get that number of men somehow or other. Of course, you are able to get efficient men. In the same way, if you earmark one appointment in the High Court for a Muhammadan gentleman, I am fairly certain that you could get an efficient gentleman who will do credit to himself, to the community to which he belongs and to the position that he occupies. I know, Sir, there has been a cleavage of opinion among Muhammadan gentlemen in this province regarding the desirability of importing a Muhammadan outsider. But there has been not unnaturally, as my hon. Friend the Law Member will see how it is natural, there has been a feeling not unnatural among the legal section of the Muhammadan community, that as far as possible, an outsider ought not to be appointed. But I do not recollect so far as I came into touch with that opinion that it ever went to the extent of saying that in no circumstance could an outsider be brought. It was with very great difficulty, as my hon. Friend has well pointed out, that the innovation, the precedent was set up of having a Muhammadan gentleman on the High Court Bench, when Sir Abdur Rahim was appointed.

"I may draw the attention of the hon. the Law Member to the circumstances under which that appointment was made. He as a politician of the olden days may remember quite well the agitation for the Muslim community getting appointments being in the forefront, when Mr. (latterly Lord) Morley became the Secretary of State. He may remember the Aligarh controversies, the Muslim League resolutions, the difference between the Congress and the Muslim League in those days and the necessity for the Government of India and the Right Hon. the Secretary of State for trying to strengthen the Muslim element in the high offices of the State. I think it is not good from the point of view of the Government or fair to the Muhammadan community to ignore these considerations which were so oppressive on the Government in the troublous days of 1907-1908-09. Now to say whenever possible at the earliest moment if we can find a Muhammadan of efficiency we shall appoint him on the High Court Bench, surely the Muhammadan community must have a grievance in the matter. When at a time of stress, at a time when it was politic or supposed to be politic to appoint a Muhammadan the Government were quite willing to appoint one, but at a later time when that stress has lost some of its importance, when that pressure was relieved a little, when the relations between the two communities were not so uncordial as they were in the days of 1907, 1908, boycott days, partition of Bengal days, when political significance attaching itself to the appointment of a Muhammadan was lost, it was not made. I do not suggest that it was the sole ground, I do not suggest that it was the only ground, but I do say that the Government is doing injustice to itself by lending itself to the impression that once the pressure of the Muslim opinion and of the Muslim community was removed from the Government, once the idea of trying to help the Muhammadan in

[20th March 1926] [Mr. A. Ramaswami Mudaliyar]

these matters was over, the Government need not move in the matter. My hon. Friend knows well that those were the days when Viceroys and Governors referred to the two wives they had, the Hindu wife and Muhammadan wife, and when we were told that they referred to the two eyes, the Hindu eye and the Muhammadan eye, it seems to me that from a stage of bigamy they have come to a stage of widowhood. I do venture to think that the impression is very strong, the thing is very keenly felt by Muhammadan members; I have come across several sections of the public, that there must be a representative of their class on the High Court Bench. I see nothing unjustifiable, nothing unfair, nothing against the theory of efficiency in that demand which the Muslim community is so strongly and so insistently and to-day so eloquently from the mouth of my hon. Friend here, put forth for the appointment of a Muhammadan gentleman as High Court Judge. I feel there are persons in the Presidency who can well be selected, members of the Provincial Service, who would do honour to the Government, who would grace the Bench if they were to be appointed, members in the independent profession of law who would by their culture, by their education, by their erudition, by their legal knowledge would be ornaments to the High Court Bench. But if, for any reason, the hon. the Law Member or those who advise the Government or His Excellency the Governor considers that in this matter their field of choice must be wider, then I think the Muhammadan community, well, will rather than have no loaf at all have half a loaf, rather than go without any Muslim representation on the High Court would rather have an outsider imported. I think that is the general fundamental agreement that a large majority of Mussalmen in this province will come to. I am aware there may be exceptions, I am aware there may be strong minorities protesting against the idea of having any outsider at all, and rather preferring to wait for some years before they could find one of their own provincial men fit to occupy the place. My hon. Friend the Law Member held out that in the next permanent vacancy there would be a Muhammadan gentleman appointed to the bench. That is only a hope. Let me hope that it is more than a pious hope, but in the interval if there should be any chance of a vacancy arising either in the matter of temporary judges or in the matter of permanent judges, I am sure I am echoing the voice of the Muhammadan community when I say that they would like to have their claims considered, and not merely considered but recognized on such an occasion. I strongly associate myself with the demand that has been made by the hon. Member Mr. Khalif-ul-lah for the appointment of one of their community as a High Court Judge, and I feel that the decision of the House on this matter will strengthen the hands of the hon. the Law Member in any endeavour he may have to make to give effect to it."

Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN :—"It is a well-known fact that I am not a believer in communal representation of any kind. In this instance I do feel as much as a Muhammadan—and we all want to live in peace with them—that this demand made by my hon. Friend Mr. Khalif-ul-lah is a just one. It is not because there is such a thing as Muhammadan jurisprudence—I will not go to such a length that if there was no Muslim Judge there will not be a correct interpretation of the Muslim law—because in spite of not having a Muhammadan on the bench we have still learned decisions which any Muslim lawyer will admit as just and wise. Still there have been some decisions on Muslim Law which any learned Muslim lawyer will not be ashamed to

[Dr. P. Subbarayan]

[20th March 1926]

admit as laying down great principles of Muhammadan Law. But I will say this much: this House as a whole ought to support my hon. Friend, Mr. Khalif-ul-lah, because I do feel that in the interests of communal unity such a demand as coming from Mr. Khalif-ul-lah Sahib ought to be supported by the House."

Mr. ABBAS ALI KHAN:—"I never wanted to intervene in this debate but for the fact that I wanted to sound the feelings of the Muhammadan community in this matter. A meeting was convened in the Lawley Hall and quite a number of young Muslim lawyers, not aged lawyers, hailed from the mufassal and also from towns. Representing the younger generation of lawyers, I may say on the floor of this House that the opinion amongst them is this: if there is a Muhammadan lawyer competent and able enough in this province to fill up the place by all means appoint him, rather than importing people from other provinces. It was also suggested that instead of importing men from other provinces live pleaders who are qualified to occupy these posts might be trained as district munsifs, as subordinate judges, and as small cause court judges, so that when the vacancy arises in the High Court one of these people might be translated to the High Court. I may say that the feeling of Muhammadans was very strong—I say this without casting any aspersion on the hon. the Home Member—when there was a vacancy in the Executive Council and when it was thought that a Muhammadan should be brought from outside and that none was available in this province. If His Excellency Lord Goschen had heeded to this, we would never have the brilliant ornament who is adorning the benches on the other side. It behoves the hon. the Law Member to support and encourage the indigenous talent rather than extraneous talent. Further, one or two people say that people from northern India look down upon Muhammadans of this province as converts from Hindus. (Voices: 'No, no'.) They do say, Sir, I stick to my guns. People coming from northern India besides drawing fat salaries have no touch with local Muhammadans. They do nothing to improve the morale of the Muhammadans of this province. For a Collector's post we can appoint a man with mediocre ability, for a District Judge's post we can appoint a man with mediocre ability—he is a blinking judge and when complicated cases of law arise he blinks—but to appoint to the highest judiciary in the land a man with mediocre ability is not a sound proposition. High Court Judgeship is the highest judicial appointment in the land and as such efficiency must be maintained. I therefore submit that there is a large section of the Muslim population which intimately feels more than the dumb public that it would be better to train a number of people in small appointments in the first instance and ultimately make them reach the goal rather than getting a man from outside. As regards the charge levelled by Mr. Moidu Sahib that the High Court is not at all an institution unrivalled in the matter of Muhammadan Law."

Mr. T. M. MOIDU SAHIB:—"I never said that."

Mr. ABBAS ALI KHAN:—"You were smacking at it or hinting at it."

*The hon. the DEPUTY PRESIDENT:—"When he says that he never said it, why should the hon. Member say that he hinted at it?"

[20th March 1926]

Mr. ABBAS ALI KHAN:—"Very well, Sir, I beg to submit that the decision laid down by the Madras High Court is entitled to the greatest respect. I may say I am a practising lawyer and have got a considerable practice in my own district (laughter) and I have quoted these decisions with respect and admiration. Both European and Indian Judges have mastered the principles of Muhammadan law very quickly and very soon, and it is not a fact that they find it difficult to understand the Muhammadan law. I hope the hon. the Law Member will take more interest towards some of the live Muhammadan lawyers of this Province and see that the place is left vacant, so that any one of the Muhammadan lawyers of this Presidency may get it."

Rai Bahadur T. M. NARASIMHACHARLU:—"I very heartily associate myself with the remarks made by my hon. Friend Mr. Khalifullah Sahib. I am generally opposed to communalism. Unhappily for this Province this communal question has been often and often raising its head to the disadvantage of nationalism."

Mr. A. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—"Question."

Rai Bahadur T. M. NARASIMHACHARLU:—"Yes, my hon. Friend from Chingleput always questions and very rarely he expects to get a right answer. My point is that as long as this communal question is directed against public interests, so long there will be demoralization in this Province. That is my considered opinion upon that question but in the matter of Hindu *versus* Mussalmans it is quite a different matter. The Mussalmans have come and stayed in India as separate religionists and as a separate social organization."

* Mr. J. A. SALDANHA:—"The Christians?"

Rai Bahadur T. M. NARASIMHACHARLU:—"Yes, when Mr. Saldanha raises the question of High Court Judgeship, I shall gladly support him. My point is that so long as the two communities, the Hindus and the Muhammadans, are to live side by side, we have to adjust ourselves and we have to see that like the Hindus they are provided also with highest appointment available in the Province."

"Now as regards the question of efficiency, I do not think it is a very difficult job at all to be a High Court Judge."

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR:—"Question."

Rai Bahadur T. M. NARASIMHACHARLU:—"By a High Court Judge you have always got another Judge and the best legal talents are available in the bar. They go through from the plaint upwards to the highest case law on the subject. Any lawyer will be able to understand these things if he devotes a little attention to them. You may take up the question of efficiency in the case of Hindus but in the case of Muhammadans you cannot expect that high standard of efficiency. You must make some allowance for them."

Mr. ABBAS ALI KHAN:—"I strongly question that point."

Rai Bahadur T. M. NARASIMHACHARLU:—"I am going to answer the third point, which my hon. Friend from Madura has raised. He says: there may not be efficient gentlemen who can fill up the post of High Court Judge but let a beginning be made by appointing gentlemen like the hon. Mr. Abbas Ali Khan Sahib. (Laughter.) He said that live pleader."

[Mr. T. M. Narasimhacharlu] [20th March 1926]

laughter) may be appointed to posts of munsifs, district judgeships and small Cause Court Judgeships, so that they may be able to fill up the appointment of High Court Judgeships when a vacancy arises. The hon. the Law Member must appoint some of them to the posts mentioned above, so that when a vacancy arises in the High Court any one of them may be translated to that post.

"Sir, the whole question of efficiency is not a ground which Government can urge with any force. They must make some allowance. With these few words, I heartily associate myself with the remarks of my hon. Friend Mr. Khalif-ul-lah Sahib."

Rao Bahadur C. NATESA MUDALIYAR :—"I am very glad to associate myself with the remarks of the hon. Mover of this motion. I also thank my hon. Friend, Mr. Narasimhacharlu, for having supported this motion. I never expected that from a gentleman belonging to that profession and to that community . . ."

Rai Bahadur T. M. NARASIMHACHARLU :—"I suppose he is disillusioned now."

Rao Bahadur C. NATESA MUDALIYAR :—"Yes, I thank him very much, or whenever I was fighting for communal claims he was fighting for the cause of particular communities of Hindus. What is good for Hindus must also be good for Muhammadans. It was I that fought for a long time for the claims of Muhammadans. I think that 15 per cent of the higher appointments should be reserved for Muhammadans. I am very glad that this rule was observed in the case of Executive Councillorship and we are proud to have our Friend Mr. Usman Sahib Bahadur on the Treasury Bench. The hon. the Law Member said that there were not efficient men available in Madras. I want to know whether that is a fact. If nobody is available, Muhammadans of this province are ready to take anybody from outside. There was Sir Abdur Rahim and the hon. Mr. Justice Tyabjee who were brought from other provinces and therefore let the Government not bring the excuse that efficient men are not available here. So far as his Presidency is concerned, there ought to be at least one Muhammadan Judge on the High Court Bench. On the basis of 15 per cent calculation there ought to be more than one Muhammadan Judge in the High Court. In this connexion I may mention that the hon. the Law Member began his career as a very successful lawyer and I have congratulated him on more than one occasion for having done splendid services in connexion with the filling up of certain appointments. My fear is that there has been a falling off on his part in this direction and I only ask him whether he cannot continue to do so. I hope he will rectify the mistake and will do everything that he can to satisfy the claims of all men in all castes and communities. He was a politician first and then only he has become the hon. the Law Member. He knows the difficulties and grievances of the people and if he cannot do anything to redress their grievances, I do not think any Minister can do it."

* Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—"Sir, I am at a loss to understand the trend of the arguments here. (Laughter.) Some of my hon. Friends want that the Government should treat the Muhammadan community or any other community for the matter of that, say the Christian community, as a privileged community or a backward community or some other kind of

[20th March 1926] [Mr. J. A. Saldanha]

community which should be petted, brought up and trained for the High Court Judgeships. This suggestion has been made by more than one of my hon. Friends. It has been suggested that if they are unfit and unqualified they should be trained first as a district munsif and so on. I for one stand for justice to all the communities. I do not want at all that a particular community should be petted and trained like birds. (Laughter.) If there are among the Muhammadan community or the Christian community or for the matter of that any community men of talents and ability eminently fitted to hold the posts of High Court Judges, let not one but two or three or as many as you please be appointed as such. As a matter of justice, surely we cannot have on the bench one competent judge and another incompetent judge working together. I am quite surprised at the suggestion of my hon. Friend from Cuddapah that on the bench there might be one judge who is competent and another not so very competent, each sharing the competency or the incompetency of the other. (Laughter.) This suggestion would be an indignity to the members of my community. We want the judges on our bench to be men of wide learning, great common-sense and ability. I do not want any incompetent judge to share his incompetency with another competent judge. I do not grudge any community the highest place in the High Court whether he is a Brahman or not. If there be a Christian appointed a Judge, though he is incompetent, I would consider it an insult to our community." (Hear, hear.)

* Mr. MUHAMMAD GHOUSE MIAN SAHIB :—"Sir, this is purely a communal question and we would be failing in our duty to the electorate which sent us here if we do not stress the claims of the community whenever an opportunity occurs."

(At this stage the hon. the President took the chair.)

"In this matter the Government has completely omitted to placate the Muhammadans. This question has been hanging fire for the past half a dozen years. Promises had been made by the Government to find out a capable Muhammadan to be the Judge. But fine words do not butter parsnips. There must be a change of mentality. Some attempt must be made to find out a suitable Muhammadan and see whether he is fitted to occupy the position. The question is whether a suitable Muhammadan is available in this Presidency. My humble opinion is that if the Government really intend to give the appointment to a Muhammadan even without infringing the rule of efficiency one is easily available. To quote an instance, Sir, the hon. Mr. Venkatasubba Rao has been elevated to the bench after a practice of about 15 to 17 years. Are there not among the Muhammadan community vakils who have practised for more than 17 years? Are they not capable also? If the Government want really to satisfy the feelings of the Muhammadan community by making such appointments, they can easily find out a person. If there is any difficulty in the way of getting a Muhammadan gentleman in this Presidency, they may as well get one from outside. An experiment has been tried with two such cases and those two people who have been imported into this Presidency have really rendered meritorious service. At the same time, I want to thank the hon. Law Member for speaking in appreciative terms about the Muhammadan Judges of old. Recently also, Sir Amir Ali has been elevated to the bench of the Privy Council. Without quoting more instances I appeal to the Government to enter heart

[Mr. Muhammad Ghouse Mian Sahib] [20th March 1926]

and soul into the matter and do something to satisfy the feeling of this community. I may also mention that in all the other High Courts there are to be found one or two Muhammadan Judges and such a practice is to be followed here also. I wish to repudiate the suggestion of my hon. Friend from Madura that in the selection of Judges for the High Court efficiency must be considered as one of the important tests. No doubt it must be considered. But due allowance must be made to the rarity of men among the community to occupy that post and there might be a sacrifice of efficiency to some extent. Of course if the occupant of the post is found to be utterly incapable then the Government might say that no efficient man can be found in the community to occupy the post. This thing cannot be said by the Government at present considering that efficient candidates are available. More than all these it is very necessary that in the highest tribunal of the land there must be a Muhammadan judge who will alone be able to feel and judge in all matters purely Muhammadan. I might say this without any disparagement to the hon. Judges who are now occupying the bench. In a matter of purely Hindu Law a Hindu Judge will be in a better position to appreciate the sentiment, and the motive power that has driven the parties to the Court. In legal matters which are highly complicated in regard to Muhammadan law a Muhammadan Judge would be better able to appreciate and understand the feelings and the motives of the parties than anyone else. On the principle of communal representation also, it is necessary that not only High Court Judges but District Judges, District Munsifs and Sub-Judges should be appointed from the Muhammadan community in proportion to their population. In course of time they would be in a position to represent the community even in the highest posts."

* Diwan Bahadur M. KRISHNAN NAYAR :—" Sir, I wish to support the motion moved by my hon. Friend. There is considerable force in many of the arguments advanced by my hon. Friend Mr. Saldanha. The hon. Member Mr. Narasimhacharlu said that it did not require much learning or capacity or wisdom to be a High Court Judge. According to him a person possessing some knowledge of the law will do quite well as a High Court Judge."

Rai Bahadur T. M. NARASIMHACHARLU :—" Sir, what I said was that you cannot expect the same amount of efficiency in a Muhammadan gentleman as you expect in the case of a Hindu gentleman. You must make some allowance in the matter of appointment. Not that I said that any man can be a High Court Judge."

* Diwan Bahadur M. KRISHNAN NAYAR :—" If what my hon. Friend states now was the statement he actually made before, I differ from him more emphatically than before. (Hear, hear.) It is an insult to the community to say that among them there cannot be lawyers as competent as Hindus to be High Court Judges. According to the doctrine laid down by my hon. Friend even in the amended form, even persons not up to the mark may be appointed as High Court Judges for the simple reason that they belong to a particular community. My hon. Friend went on explaining his point by saying that such a judge's incapacity would be made up by the capacity or the ability of his colleague. The remarks of my hon. Friend from South Kanara with reference to this doctrine are quite apposite. I believe, Sir, that if an incompetent man is appointed as a High Court Judge for the mere fact of his belonging to a particular community, the administration of justice would be brought into

20th March 1926] [Mr. M. Krishnan Nayar]

contempt and would suffer thereby. (Hear, hear.) That is a matter of everyday experience. If the learned practitioners of the Court learn that the judge sitting on the bench is not up to the mark they will have no respect for him. In that way the administration of justice would suffer. Confidence in the capacity of the judge who is to lay down the ultimate law of the land is a prime necessity for sound administration of justice. Therefore, the first essential thing, if a Muhammadan is to be appointed as a High Court Judge, is that he should be as capable as members of the other communities. Of course, I agree with some of my predecessors who stated that the administration of Muhammadan law has not suffered, because there has not been for the past few years a Muhammadan Judge on the High Court. In a general way I agree with that. But in this connexion, may I be permitted to say that for the sound understanding and administration of the jurisprudence of the different communities, the Hindus and the Muhammadans, it is necessary that a person born and bred in the community to which the jurisprudence applies should be in the High Court Bench.

"As a matter of fact, without any disparagement to any of the eminent Judges who have adorned the High Court Bench from time to time, I venture to submit—I speak as a Malayali—that Malabar Law has suffered in their hands. I do not blame them. Naturally, a Malayalee is the proper person to understand the various springs of Malayalee action and language and intricacies of Malabar. It is no wonder that strangers—eminent Hindu Judges, Muhammadan Judges, and English Judges—have made mistakes in the administration of justice to Malabar; and we Malayalees and others are always desirous, if possible, to have at least one Malayalee Judge when questions of Malabar come up for decision. So also with reference to the Muhammadan Law. It is a very intricate law; for instance, the right of inheritance. I come from a district where there are a large number of Muhammadans—there are 10 lakhs of Muhammadans—and where the questions of partition often arise. Suit for partition is the ordinary form of suit amongst Malabar Muhammadans. As a matter of fact, the Muhammadan clients and Muhammadan lawyers have sometimes to go to Muhammadan Moulvis for determining the shares. It is a very complicated law. With reference to the shares that fall to the different persons of the kith and kin, I think that the Muhammadan law is the soundest system of jurisprudence and gives shares to persons who are in any way entitled to it. Sometimes the share may be one out of five thousand. It is a very difficult law, so that it is quite essential that for the sound administration of the Muhammadan Law, a Muhammadan should be appointed. It is altogether not correct to say—none of us is wanting in our respect to the High Court—that Muhammadan Law has not suffered, because there has not been a Muhammadan Judge. With reference to the question of competency, to which I have already referred, if a competent Muhammadan lawyer—competent in every way from experience, from learning, from wisdom, from position and from possession of commonsense—can be found in this Province, by all means let the Government appoint him; if the Government think that no such person is at present available here, let them appoint a Muhammadan from an other province. I understood the hon. the Law Member to say that because there was difference of opinion on the desirability of importing a competent Muhammadan from outside the province, a Muhammadan was not appointed. If that be the case, may I, in all

3-45
p.m.

[Mr. M. Krishnan Nayar]

[20th March 1926]

humility, give my advice to the Government that it is better to have a Muhammadan Judge from outside the province than to have no Muhammadan Judge at all?"

* The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—" Mr. President, Sir, many points have been dealt with by the various hon. Members who have spoken on this topic. With your permission, Sir, I shall first deal with the points on which I have the misfortune to differ from some of those hon. Members who have spoken on this subject. It is suggested that, in the opinion of some of the hon. Members at least, the administration of Muhammadan Law has suffered and the elucidation of Muslim jurisprudence has been affected prejudicially on account of the absence of a Muhammadan on the High Court Bench. Sir, in my opening remarks on this debate I made it abundantly clear that in my opinion the Mussalman population in India has given birth to Mussalman jurists who can stand the strictest comparison with anybody else. But Sir, I must join issue with that statement. Those who know anything of the doctrine of Mushaa in the Muslim jurisprudence and the difficulty of that doctrine will also realise that the very best and the most erudite exposition of this most intricate doctrine was by Hindu Judges.

"The theory will not easily be admitted that a Muhammadan alone is necessary for the elucidation of the Muhammadan Law and, Sir, may I say, a thing which is perhaps known to most people that my friend Sir Tej Bahadur who has adorned the Viceroy's Executive Council is probably a finer Persian and Arabic scholar than many Moulvis who exist in India to-day. Again, there are Hindus who are adepts not only in the system of Muhammadan jurisprudence but in Persian and Arabic literature. Now, Sir, that is by the way.

"I grant the cogency and the weight of the demand, although it does not follow that a Muhammadan Judge is needed or ought to be used for deciding points of Muhammadan Law alone. But there is one matter to be borne in mind and it is from that point of view that I shall invite the attention of the hon. House to the exact wording of the motion which, I trust, will be changed. The appointment of a High Court Judge is made by His Majesty under Royal Warrant and it is made by His Majesty on the advice of the Secretary of State; and the authorities in India act merely and solely in an advisory capacity and therefore, Sir, before this motion is proceeded with, I trust it will be so altered as to make it plain that all that the House desires by this motion is to give expression to the feeling that the Mussalmans are very anxious to have proper representation of Muslims on the Bench of the High Court. That is a suggestion I throw out either to be taken or not, as the hon. Members of this House decide.

"Then, Sir, I turn to the very few remarks made by my hon. Friend from Madras. After making certain remarks which were perhaps undeservedly kind, he referred to certain appointments which His Excellency the Governor made on my recommendation and expressed the fear that there has been a falling off in our standards. Sir, His Excellency the Governor, having reference to the claims of the community, confirmed one Muhammadan gentleman as a District Judge. It is not unlikely that another Muhammadan gentleman will be confirmed as a District Judge at an early date; and in the other ranks—the lower ranks—it is perfectly clear that,

[20th March 1926]

[Sir C. P. Ramaswami Ayyar]

whenever it is expedient and whenever possible, His Excellency the Governor has given scrupulous attention to the claims of the Muhammadan community and that is a point which I desire to make before passing away from that subject.

"Sir, I desire to say this by way of recapitulation: in the first place, this appointment is made by His Majesty. In the second place, I agree with those who demand and insist on the highest possible talent in the holders of the highest judicial office under the Crown. In many ways, the office of a High Court Judge is superior to any other office under the Crown and indeed, as will be seen, the Chief Justice ranks in precedence next only to His Excellency the Governor. The High Court is the foundation of our rights and the palladium of justice and the Judges of the High Court ought to be exemplars of character and talent and from that point of view I wish to join issue with those who demand different standards of equipment from different members of the judiciary. The highest possible talent and equipment are required for that exalted position. In saying that, I do not for a moment say that there are not, amongst the Muhammadans of India, those who are fitted by character, by training and by erudition to fill that place. There may be temporary difficulties in one province. I take it that the feeling of a large number of persons in this House is that rather than have this important community unrepresented in the highest court of the realm, they would get a man from outside. Sir, if that be so, the feeling will be noted; and those responsible for advising His Majesty in this matter and His Excellency the Governor will take note of the feeling and sentiment of this House. Beyond that I cannot say because the appointment itself is in the gift of the Crown."

* Diwan Bahadur M. KRISHNAN NAYAR :—" With your permission, Sir, may I just say one word? My hon. Friend stated that the appointment is really in the hands of His Majesty and made some suggestions for changing the form of his motion. It seems to me that the motion as it stands is quite right. It is only by way of the reduction of the allotment by Rupee 1 or Rs. 100, that we can give notice of such motions. What is given in the bracket is the object of the motion: 'With a view to give expression . . .'"

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" The words in the brackets are not part of the motion itself."

* Diwan Bahadur M. KRISHNAN NAYAR :—" What I say is that the object of the motion is indicated by the words in the brackets and the motion can only be made for the reduction of the allotment so that it seems to me that nothing is necessary by way of change."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" The hon. the Law Member thinks that it is a token motion."

* Khan Bahadur P. KHALIF-UL-LAH SAHIB Bahadur :—" I wish to say a few words. I must certainly thank the hon. the Law Member for saying that he does not for a moment think that there are not men among my community who can fill that place with distinction and credit. At the same time what appears strange to me is, when he admits the existence of such men, why no attempt has been made so far to give that place to a Muhammadan gentleman. We have not been told that attempts were made but without success. The only natural conclusion that any one can draw from the statements made in this House so far by the hon. the Law Member is that no attempt has

[Mr. P. Khalif-ul-lah Sahib] [20th March 1926]

been made to fill that place by a properly qualified Muslim. This being so, Sir, shelter cannot be taken under the plea that there has been a difference of opinion in my community. I have already referred"

* The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—"I thought I made it sufficiently plain that a couple of years ago an attempt was made; and for obvious reasons I cannot go into more details."

* Khan Bahadur P. KHALIF-UL-LAH SAHIB Bahadur :—"I said, Sir, that a difference of opinion was referred to exist in my community. I am aware of the public meeting that was held and that some live objections were taken. But I may at once point out that it was the feeling then—and I have sounded the feeling ever since—and that the live objections came certainly from individuals and not from the community as a whole. Ever since that day I have made it a point to consult all the leading Muslims, whomsoever I met and whenever I met them, what their opinion was in this matter. Every one of them gave me to understand that they would certainly prefer a provincial man if the Government think that there is a fit and properly qualified person in the province. If the Government should come to the conclusion after due consideration that there is no person who is properly qualified to fill the place in this province with credit there is absolutely no objection from my community to import a Muslim from outside. This was done once and found satisfactory; and no objection was taken then to the invidious distinction that was made in that matter."

"Sir, it is very regrettable indeed that an hon. Member has referred to a certain feeling among the Muslims of the north. The allegation is that they look down upon the Muslims from the south as raw converts. Sir, this is the first time I have heard of such enmity on the part of my Muslim brethren from the north. If there is any community it is the Muslim community that can claim universal brotherhood and if this credit is not given to my community by an hon. Member who calls himself a Muhammadan, Sir, it is highly regrettable, at least I regret it. This credit is given by the whole world and it ought not to be left to a Member of my own community to deny it."

"So far as the question of efficiency is concerned, I have always been urging that a fit and proper person must be chosen for the place. It is not my claim that because one happens to be a Muhammadan he must be lifted."

"As a rule, Sir, the High Court Bench is one of the highest positions in the State and as such, must be filled by men of lustre, by men of illumination and eminence and certainly not by men of any ordinary merit or qualification. As such, Sir, I submit that such eminent men can be found among my community and if the Government are of opinion that such a person cannot be found within this province, my community has no objection to one being imported from outside."

"More than one Member has referred to the Muhammadan Law not being properly appreciated by the non-Muslim Judges. I am a lawyer, however humble in my profession, and I must say that I have absolutely nothing to complain about the non-Muslim Judges who have decided cases of Muslim law. They have certainly done a good deal to set the law in order and define the law that must obtain among the Muslims of this province and among the Muslims of India and even the Muslims outside India, I may go so far as to say that. The one point that I want to submit for the

[Mr. P. Khalif-ul-lah Sahib] 20th March 1926]

consideration of this House, Sir, is that it is not the mere technical side of the question, the mere mechanical understanding of the subject that I want. We can expect only a Muslim Judge to enter into the real spirit of the Muslim law, to think along with the Muslims fighting cases before him and to give a decision that will suit the natural conditions that really obtain among the Muslims. What I want to point out is only this, that a Muslim Judge would certainly do better justice to the Muslims according to their own sentiments. I think, Sir, that one and all the Members will give their support to the resolution which I have moved before the House. I would once more request that all sections in this House will join me in unanimously supporting this motion."

The motion was put to the House and carried.

Rao Bahadur C. NATESA MUDALIYAR :—"Sir, I move my motion for reducing the allotment of"

* The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—"I should like to know, Sir, before my hon. Friend moves this motion whether he means to omit the whole allotment, thus stopping the work of the High Court, or whether he moves it only as a token motion."

Rao Bahadur C. NATESA MUDALIYAR :—"With your permission, Sir, I would convert it into a token motion."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—"Yes."

Rao Bahadur C. NATESA MUDALIYAR :—"I move

'to omit the allotment of Rs. 6,08,600 for Administration of Justice.'

"Sir, there is a grievance in the High Court among the various communities who are employed there that merit and seniority are not at all taken into consideration and that appointments are made according to the whims and fancies of the authorities concerned. Sir, among the interpreters, there are senior and very experienced men and also very capable men; but when an opportunity occurred to reward them, when there was a vacancy of the Chief Interpreter's place, those senior men with merit were neglected and it was given away to somebody whom the authorities liked. Then, Sir, I understand now that the gentleman who was appointed was not at all in service. When the place of the Official Referee was vacant, it was not given to those people who were in the run for it. Although there were Senior Assistant Registrars, some gentleman who was occupying—I do not mean anything personal—an Interpreter's place was transferred as Official Referee. Then, Sir, there are a number of Assistant Registrars non-Brahmins rotting as Assistant Registrars for many years. Sir, there is also another department called Law Reporting department or Law Reporting office. There, there is not a single non-Brahmin, to whatever community he may belong—Muhammadans, non-Brahmin Hindus, Christians; but there is only one community. That is a grievance. Now, Sir, there is so much of grievance among the staff employed in the High Court. I am sure our Law Member will tell us, as he has been telling us often, that the Government of Madras has no control over the High Court because, according to the Letters Patent, High Court Judges are independent of His Excellency's Government. But, Sir, should not they at least as a matter of etiquette carry out the resolutions of this Council, especially the recommendations of the Government based upon the resolutions of this Council? Sir, when

[Mr. C. Natesa Mudaliyar] [20th March 1926]

they do not care for us—of course here also I must say that I have very great respect for the High Court Judges—but when they do not care for us, when they are not amenable to the persuasion of the Government, it is the duty of the Government to join with the Legislative Council. What I wanted was to delete the whole votable portion of the grant; what I meant to move was the omission of the whole votable portion. Let the High Court Judges remain because their salaries are not votable, and let us omit the allotment for the establishments and let us see what they will do with the High Court. Under such circumstances, when a community's claims are not cared for, we can as well be without the High Court and we can manage with Arbitration Courts. When there is so much grievance in the country, when people are insulted by the High Court not caring for public opinion, for the opinion of this Council representing public opinion, what is the use of allowing that High Court to work. We can be without such a High Court. Therefore, I want to see that no grant is made for the establishments. Let the High Court and the Judges remain there. Now, Sir, it is the duty of the Government—because the hon. the Law Member was often telling us that the High Court was not caring for the Government, he was telling us that the resolutions of this Council were communicated to the Members ./. .”

* The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—“I do not think, Sir, I ever made myself responsible, nor could I have made myself responsible for the statement or suggestion that the High Court did not care for the Government or for this Council.”

Rao Bahadur C. NATESA MUDALIYAR :—“Sir, all the same the result has been this: often resolutions of this Council were communicated to the High Court. If it is not the present Law Member, the previous Law Member at least has told us that he communicated the resolutions of this Council to the High Court. I think my memory is right when I say that the late Sir K. Srinivasa Ayyangar told us that he was communicating the resolutions of this Council to the High Court and the High Court had not taken any steps towards observing them. That means that the High Court does not care for us. The result is the same whether the hon. the Law Member accepts my statement that the High Court does not care, or not. There is the fact that the High Court is not caring. So the Council can vote for this resolution and tell the High Court that what they are doing is not correct. I hope the Government in this respect will join, if I press this resolution, in voting with the Members of this Council and communicate the result to the High Court.”

* The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—“Mr. President, Sir, I regret I cannot join in the invitation extended to me during the close of my hon. Friend's remarks. I do not think that the Government can join him or those of his persuasion in voting this demand down and either omitting the whole allotment for the Administration of Justice or voting for it even as a token motion for many reasons. Now, Sir, I think, he is perfectly correct to this extent. He has pointed out what I had intended to point out that, under clause 8 of the Letters Patent, the power of appointing ministerial officers and of fixing their remuneration is vested in the Chief Justice of the High Court, and that the Government have no powers in this matter. Now it seems to me that when this hon. House passes resolutions, it advises the Government to do certain things. It may be that my honoured predecessor Sir K. Srinivasa Ayyangar stated on the floor of this House that he communicated certain

[20th March 1926] [Sir U. P. Ramaswami Ayyar]

resolutions of this House to the High Court. I may also say that I have communicated certain resolutions of this House to the High Court. But, Sir, it seems to me that there has been no case made out for the charge levelled against the High Court by the hon. Member for Madras. I do not think he has established or can establish a case of indifference in the matter to which he referred. Now, let me deal with some of these matters. He speaks of the Law Reporting Office. He knows quite well that the appointment of Law Reporters, the nomination to Law Reporterships, is vested in what is called a Council of Law Reporting, which is a body which consists of a certain number of High Court Judges, of certain law officers and of certain non-official lawyers and they forward recommendations in the matter of the appointment of the Reporters and this is how that appointment is made. With reference to the Deputy and Assistant Registrars, I am certain that my hon. Friend will realise that at the present moment Mr. Mir Amir-ud-din is the Deputy Registrar on the Original Side and Mr. P. Kandaswami is at the present moment acting as Deputy Registrar on the Appellate Side and also is the Secretary of a Committee appointed for the purpose of reorganizing the establishment of the High Court, when he realises that they are there as the two most important ministerial officers of the High Court next to the Registrar himself, will he not concede that his charge that there has been a communal preference cannot be legitimately levelled against the High Court? Sir, my hon. Friend said that if the High Court cares so little for the recommendations of this hon. House or of the Government, as according to him it does, the High Court may be abolished and Arbitration Courts may be erected in the place of the High Court. I take strong exception to that statement. I think general opinion is almost unanimous in this country that of all the benefits that have been conferred by the British system of administration, the erection of High Courts which are and ought to be above and beyond executive or legislative interference and which are the ultimate refuge of a citizen is the greatest benefit. That being so, I trust that my hon. Friend when he reflects over the matter will see to it that he will not persist in this statement about abolishing the High Court. After all, it is a difficult task they are discharging and it seems to me that remarks of this kind in a matter in which we have no jurisdiction are not calculated either to enhance the essential dignity and the prestige of the Court or to maintain that attitude of mutual co-ordination and harmony which, I am sure, the hon. Member from Madras will realise ought to subsist between the Government, the Legislative Council and the High Court.”

Mr. A. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—“I must apologise to the House, Mr. President, in the first place for the two frequent occasions on which I have found myself this day necessitated to address the House, solely because subjects of vast importance, subjects in which I am particularly interested, have come up too frequently somehow or other in the course of the day. I am certain, Sir, that my Friend Dr. Natesa Mudaliyar has done a great public service by the proposition that he has brought for the consideration of this House. I wish to speak with all due respect about the High Court, and I think, myself belonging to the profession of law, it will not be questioned that I yield to anyone in that respect for constituted authority, especially for legal authority, to any other Member of this House or to any outsider. I am not one of those who believe in Arbitration Courts, I am not one of those who do not realize that the system of British jurisprudence has

[Mr. A. Ramaswami Mudaliyar] [20th March 1926]

been one of the greatest blessings which the British Government, the British connection has bestowed on us.

4-15
p.m.

"Having said that, may I not appeal to my hon. Friend the Law Member to try and feel with us, to realise to the extent that he can, that there is a running sore throughout the community at the way in which appointments are being made by the High Court? I do not wish in the slightest extent to use language of an exaggerated nature. But the hon. the Law Member must realise that this perennial complaint, that this annual ventilation of grievances, must have something more substantial at its foundation than a mere *ex cathedra* statement of opinions of certain hon. Members. We are not here, Sir, as I have said before, merely to give expression to personal feelings and to personal opinions. For my part I frankly confess that appointment under Government is not the highest of my ambition, nor so far as I know most members on my side of the House have that ambition. But at the same time we must realise that public appointments at the present juncture in our country have a very direct and a very important bearing on public life. And the one set of appointments more than any other which to a certain extent direct, I was about to say, control public opinion and the formation of public opinion is the judicial establishment. I do not want to go into greater details, for I am certain the hon. the Law Member realises that the situation of the judiciary has a very direct bearing on the formation of an efficient bar. I myself have been at the bar, Mr. President, and have appeared both at the High Court and in the mufassal courts. And I will say that with the utmost confidence, without the fear of any contradiction by any one who has known the system of the working of Courts in the mufassal that the constitution and the personnel of the judiciary in the mufassal has a very important bearing.

* The hon. the PRESIDENT:—"At present we are discussing the ministerial staff of the High Court which it is the object of this motion to reduce."

Mr. A. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—"Quite so, Mr. President, I think the power which the High Court exercises of appointing district munsifs comes within the scope of the motion."

* The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR:—"Sir, that comes in under a separate motion and the present one relates only to the establishment of the High Court. The present motion relates to the items contained at pages 139 to 141 of the Civil Budget Estimate, such appointments as Deputy Registrars, Assistant Registrars, Bench clerks, Shorthand writers and interpreters."

Mr. A. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—"In that case, Mr. President, may I request you to permit me to move the next motion which I have given notice of and under which I certainly intend to discuss the question of the power of appointment which is vested in the High Court?"

Rao Bahadur C. NATESA MUDALIYAR:—"Mr. President, Sir, of course the hon. the Law Member was trying to explain the state of things as regards the Assistant Registrars and I thank him very much for giving out the names of two members of our community that are occupying the place of Deputy Registrars. May I request him to explain also why the Interpreters in the High Court were not given preference when the Chief Interpreter's place fell vacant, why the place of Official Referee was not given to one of

[Mr. C. Natesa Mudaliyar] [20th March 1926]

the Assistant Registrars of the High Court or to any non-Brahman gentlemen from the many High Court Vakils in the City. The hon. the Law Member said that the office of the Law Reporter was entrusted to a Council consisting of High Court Judges among others. I should like to know why the High Court Judges did not consider the claims of any non-Brahman available for the place.

"Sir, communal representation is not a new idea. So long ago as 1819 when deciding the case of a temple in Triplicane the High Court consisting of European Judges decided that the three dharmakartas should be of three different communities and not of the same community. Even the present High Court Judges, Indians—I have very great respect for them—went to the length of giving reservation for minority communities. They reserved one seat for a Brahman dharmakarta, one for a Komati and a third one for all the non-Brahman communities. While the High Court Judges realised the necessity for communal representation in temples, why should they not go the length of recognising it in the cases of the various offices in the very temple of justice. As for the learned Judges of the High Court, I have got the greatest respect for them. I am convinced that the High Court is the highest tribunal where we get the best of benefits. With all that, I should say that, so far as communal representation is concerned, I am sorry they are spiting us, spiting the whole Council."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT:—"I do not think the hon. Member is justified in using that term in regard to the High Court. I am sure he realises that the High Court to which he attaches so much dignity and prestige will treat the resolution with the respect that it deserves."

Rao Bahadur C. NATESA MUDALIYAR:—"I have already said, Sir, that I have got very great respect for the Indian members taking their seat there. But when I said they are spiting, I meant only that they were ignoring us."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT:—"There is a world of difference between spiting and ignoring."

Rao Bahadur C. NATESA MUDALIYAR:—"May I request the hon. the Law Member to persuade the High Court to see that there is no destruction of this kind as to the persons employed in the High Court especially the Interpreters and the Assistant Registrars?"

* The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR:—"Sir, I am glad to have the opportunity of meeting the specific points made by my hon. Friend. I must in the first place point out that speaking personally—and I have never made a secret of my feeling in that matter—I should be glad that every community is represented both in the High Court and the establishment of the High Court, but I cannot possibly subscribe to the doctrine that each office and sub-office must be taken and the doctrine should be applied to each one. Nevertheless, even doing so, my hon. Friend spoke of the Official Referee. Who was the first Official Referee? Mr. Masillamani Pillai. The next was Mr. Hakim. The third was a Brahman gentleman. I have given my views on the appointment of Official Referee and I have stated, Sir, that many lawyers think, and I am one of them, that the Official Referee must if possible be recruited from the ranks of the bar. That has been my view. But as I have said the right of appointment is vested in the hon. the Chief Justice. He has chosen that person and presumably exercised a right choice."

[Sir C. P. Ramaswami Ayyar] [20th March 1926]

And it seems to me that having regard to the history of this particular office, it cannot be said of the High Court that they have been biased in any particular manner or desired either to spite or prejudice the claims of any community. My hon. Friend spoke of the Chief Interpreter. My hon. Friend knows quite well that there have been all communities represented in that office and it cannot be said that in the interpreters staff also there was any ignoring of any community's claim. All that I desire to say now is that this is a matter in which I hope and trust that the High Court will pay adequate attention to the resolutions of this Council, but we must also realize that the power of appointment is vested in them and we must give them credit for acting on the highest of principles that commends itself to them. It seems to me that it is not wise, it is not right, it is not, I would almost say, legitimate in a matter in which we have no statutory or other right, to interfere beyond giving advice.

The motion was by leave withdrawn.

Mr. A. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—" Mr. President, I move
'that the allotment of Rs. 6,03,600 for High Court be reduced by Rs. 1,00,000.'

"Mr. President, in the first place, let me make out that my motion is more than a token motion. Before I resumed my seat while speaking before, I was trying to point out to this House the importance of having a judiciary in the mufassal especially which would conduce to the formation of a healthy and diverse bar in the mufassal. I was pointing out, Sir, that during the last five years we have been repeatedly emphasising particularly this point about the judiciary, because we realize that the situation of the judiciary is unique, unparalleled, is something which has a very direct effect on the political development of the country."

* The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—" I wish to point out, Sir, that the hon. Member from Chingleput is speaking of the mufassal judiciary in a motion relating to the establishment of the High Court."

Mr. A. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—" Sir, my point is this, that it is the High Court that appoints a portion of the mufassal judiciary."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" Yes, but the allotment is intended for the ministerial staff of the High Court and the hon. Member should have spoken on the motion of Mr. Khalif-ul-lah or on a later motion relating to the mufassal judiciary."

Mr. A. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—" My point is merely this. I did not want to take the non-voted amount and to move for a reduction. I shall not say, however, that this is intended merely as a token motion."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" He can then move the next motion."

Mr. A. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—" That relates to the staff of the High Court also, and if you are of opinion that this comes under that, I shall accordingly do so."

* The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—" May I suggest a course? Motion No. 408 on the paper deals directly with the question of the Munsifs and Sub-Judges, and I think my hon. Friend may be allowed to speak on it."

[20th March 1926]

* Diwan Bahadur M. KRISHNAN NAYAR :—" But the hon. Member in whose name that motion stands is not here."

Mr. A. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—" In that case, Sir, I shall move motion No. 397 on the paper,

'to reduce the allotment of Rs. 6,08,600 for High Court by Rs. 100.'

"I do so on the understanding that I can make my speech with regard to the mufassal judiciary when motion No. 408 on the paper comes before the House. I propose to confine at present to the object stated here, namely, the discussion of the strength of the High Court and its staff."

"Mr. President, this House is quite aware of the discussion that we had at this time last year regarding the strength of the High Court. The decision which this House came to that the strength must be reduced should be fresh in the minds of hon. Members; and it will also be remembered that His Excellency the Governor in virtue of the prerogative conferred upon him thought it fit to certify the grant and restore the allotment disallowed by this House. Later on, His Excellency the Governor in the remarks when he addressed this House when it next met in August, stated as follows :—

"A press communiqué has been recently published regarding the expiration of the term of office of two additional Judges appointed to the Madras High Court and it is unnecessary to reiterate the grounds on which the Government have felt themselves obliged, in the interests of the public, to continue the two appointments till the end of February 1926. My Government trust that the congestion of the work in the highest Court in the Presidency is only a temporary feature and, before this period expires, it will be possible to secure disposal of old cases, the pendency of which has caused the hon. Judges much concern. Hon. Members will doubtless have noticed that the action taken has been on lines contemplated and indeed suggested by the Civil Justice Committee."

"That was in short the history of the case as regards temporary High Court Judges. Most of us expected that when the end of February came, the necessity for the temporary Judges would be over. But contrary to our expectations we find that the budget that has been presented now by the Finance Member makes provision for them and I take it for the entire period of one year."

"Now, Sir, I have a complaint to make, and I use the word advisedly on this matter so far as the hon. the Law Member is concerned. He knows very well the debate that we had on the last occasion. He knows that the House came practically to a unanimous decision on the point of the strength of the High Court, and, as I told you just now, he knows also the action that he advised His Excellency to take in the matter, and His Excellency stated that very probably in February 1926 the further necessity for continuing these Judges may not arise. Now here we find that an item of expenditure is smuggled into the budget without giving the slightest opportunity for this House to come to a decision on the point. I should have thought it was fairer to this House to have come by way of a resolution, to have told the House the circumstances under which it was necessary to increase the strength of the High Court or continue the existing strength, to have placed before us some statistics, to have told us the disposals already made and the possibilities of making further disposals if the appointments are continued, and he should have told us the period for which he expected these temporary Judges are to be continued. It is only on a stray motion like mine that we have an opportunity of asking the hon. the Law Member to elucidate the

[Mr. A. Ramaswami Mudaliyar] [20th March 1926]

matter if he is prepared to give us the elucidation this evening and to what the reasons are that influenced the Government now to come to the conclusion that for one year more these temporary Judges are required. I saw a paragraph in a daily quite recently. I do not know how far there is any justification for what was contained in that paragraph. I saw a paragraph in a paper which generally publishes news of an authentic character and which is supposed to have sources of inspiration denied to others that it is possible.

* The hon. Mr. T. E. MOIR :—"Would the hon. Member be a little more explicit? It is a very difficult thing for hon. Members on the Treasury Bench to deal with such an innuendo."

Mr. A. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—"I did not make use of any innuendo, Sir. I am sorry that he has so grossly misunderstood me; after his experience of me in this House, he should have known that I do not make use of innuendos. *The Madras Mail*, Sir, . . ."

* The hon. Mr. T. E. MOIR :—"If the hon. Member had stated that it was the *Madras Mail*, it would have been helpful. In fact we did not know what he was referring to; to refer to it as 'a newspaper' does not help us to any extent to answer a discussion on that subject."

Mr. A. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—"I was only objecting to the word 'innuendo' he used. If the bare mention of the *Madras Mail* removes that innuendo, I have no quarrel with the hon. the Finance Member. The *Madras Mail*, Sir, published, I think, two or three days ago a paragraph that these temporary Judges would only sit there till about the end of September."

* The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—"The *Madras Mail* published a copy of the order passed by His Excellency the Governor-General in Council."

Mr. A. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—"I am glad, Sir, that the *Madras Mail* at least has an earlier source of supply of information than the hon. Members of this House who are expected to pass budget demands."

* The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—"There was a communiqué addressed from Delhi. It was the communiqué of the Government of India regarding this matter."

Mr. A. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—"Now, Sir, when was this decision arrived at? Not certainly at the time when the budget allotment was made. If, as I am relieved to find, it is a fact that the temporary Judges would be continued only till October, why then does the hon. the Law Member make this motion? Why does he not reduce the provision by six months salary? Will he have his motion amended now by a reduction of Rs. 48,000? That would be the fairest course. Why does he want the full amount of Rs. 96,000? Will he permit me to move that the allotment be reduced by Rs. 48,000? According to his own arguments and according to what he has stated now the Government of India have decided, presumably with the consent of the Local Government, that the temporary Judges will be continued only till the 1st of October. I think it is only fair that he should in the circumstances move or allow these motions to be amended by a reduction of Rs. 48,000. There are innumerable precedents for such a course. When the Government have decided that a certain item of expenditure introduced in a budget was not necessary, they have taken care to say that

[20th March 1926] [Mr. A. Ramaswami Mudaliyar]

before the motion is made they reduced their provision by a corresponding amount. I trust that the hon. the Law Member after the statement that he has chosen to make this evening will see his way to amend his own motion by reducing it by Rs. 48,000. There is no purpose in having a sum of Rs. 96,000 voted by this House and passed into the budget. I think it is only fair to the House to have it reduced by Rs. 48,000. If the Government have come to the conclusion that it is only until the 1st October that these temporary Judges are to be continued, I do not want to pursue the matter in order to raise any further debate over the appointment of these temporary Judges.

"I have referred to the question of the staff also in my motion. I just want to understand why the number of deputy registrars is increased from two to three. I do not know who the three deputy registrars are. I understand there is one deputy registrar for the appellate side, and one for the original side. But who is the deputy registrar who is neither on the original nor on the appellate side? I should like to have information also on that point."

* The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—"Sir, the facts are obvious. I think I must now take the House through the figures relating to the justification for the extension of the term of the High Court Judges, but before I do so, let me point out two matters. The Local Government is entitled to extend the term of High Court Judges only for a maximum period of two years. The two years expire on the 19th October 1926, and therefore it is not within the competence or power of the Local Government to extend the term of the temporary Judges beyond the 19th October 1926. But the Government of India Act provides that every appointment of a temporary Judge should be made by His Excellency the Governor-General in Council. Whereas therefore the Local Government can come to a conclusion up to when they want these temporary Judges to function and to what period their term should be extended, the actual appointment of the Judges is made by His Excellency the Governor-General in Council. His Excellency the Governor-General in Council has therefore appointed the two additional Judges and asked them to continue until the 19th October 1926 when the power both of the Governor-General in Council and of the Local Government in that matter lapses. If any further necessity be felt—I cannot at the present moment say without seeing what the work of the High Court is and what they will do in the interim—such necessity will be represented to the Right Hon. the Secretary of State and the further appointments are solely under the control of the Secretary of State."

* The RAJA OF RAMNAD :—"Further temporary appointments or permanent appointments?"

* The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—"Both. It is not open to any Government in India to appoint temporary Judges for a longer period than two years. Then the Secretary of State must function. Of course, he will function after knowing all the facts of the case. But the necessity has not yet arisen. We do not at the present moment proceed on the basis of such a necessity. But, Sir, there is no cause for any quarrel with the procedure adopted for the reason that before the budget was voted upon the term of the

[Sir. C. P. Ramaswami Ayyar] [20th March 1926]

additional Judges would have expired; it did expire, and therefore it was necessary for the Government to come to a conclusion on that matter and they did come to a conclusion on the following data.

"Now, Sir, in the matter of Civil appeals, 542 first appeals were ready on the 1st November 1925, and 753 more were getting ready though not quite ready, and so the total pendency on the 1st November 1925 was 1,295. Original Side and City Civil Court appeals were about 176; second appeals ready were 1,705, not ready 1,468, and the total was 3,173. Now, this being so, we have first appeals pending to the extent of 542, Original Side appeals and City Civil Court appeals to the extent of about 200, and second appeals to the extent of 1,705. All other figures are more or less on the same footing. Civil revision petitions were 695, civil miscellaneous petitions 504 and so forth. In view of these figures, we came to the conclusion that the first duty of the Government was to see that these arrears were disposed of. It may be asked 'How do you expect these arrears to be disposed of?' We were satisfied on a perusal of the figures relating to the work turned out by the Judges that they have been working at very high pressure and have been endeavouring their best to get through these arrears, and have passed special rules in order to facilitate them in getting through these arrears, and they have been very successful in their efforts. It is because we thought that the continuance would lead to the successful grappling with these arrears and to a disposal of them that we arrived at that decision, and I submit there is no ground to quarrel with us as to this matter. Now, Sir, another remark was made."

Mr. A. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—"May we have some figures with regard to that Government decision, as to what was the number of cases disposed of when there were twelve Judges, and what was the number now at the present strength?"

* The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—"Oh! Yes. I shall give a comparative statement of the works on the Appellate Side and then on the Original Side before the additional Judges were appointed, and then for the subsequent period—

Appeals pending on the 1st November 1924 were ...	1,302
Institutions from 1st November 1924 to 1st November 1925.	444

Total was ...	1,746
---------------	-------

Disposal from 1st November 1924 to 1st November 1925.	451
---	-----

"Therefore, the disposal out-paced the institution and they have reduced the pendency to a certain extent. The comparative statistics during the period 1923, 1924 and 1925 are these—

Institutions in 1923 ...	470
Do. in 1924 ...	469
Do. in the first three quarters of 1925 ...	308
Expected institution for 1925 ...	400
Disposals in 1923 ...	214
Do. in 1924 ...	385
Do. in for the first three quarters of 1925 ...	375

[20th March 1926] [Sir C. P. Ramaswami Ayyar]

"So that it will be seen that so far as disposals were concerned, in 1923 they were 214, in 1924 they were 385, and in the first three quarters of 1925 they were 375. Similarly, in regard to Original Side appeals and City Civil Court appeals, the disposals were—

In 1923 ...	106
In 1924 ...	201

and so forth.

Second appeals.

Disposals in 1923 ...	770
Do. in 1924 ...	1,782
Do. in the first three quarters of 1925 ...	1,193

Civil revision petitions.

Disposals in 1923 ...	873
Do. in 1924 ...	1,009
Do. in the first three quarters of 1925 ...	846

It seems to me, Sir, that in regard to the most important cases of appeals, namely, second appeals and first appeals, the disposals were in 1923, 214, and in 1924, 385 in the case of the former. Similarly, in the case of second appeals, the disposals in 1923 were 770 and in 1924, 1,782. Surely it cannot but be stated that the addition led to salutary results."

* The RAJA OF RAMNAD :—"Is this large percentage of disposals in recent years due to the addition of two Judges?"

* The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—"Not only that; it has been also due to a revision of the rules by which, so far as second appeals are concerned, they are first posted before one Judge, and thus there is more man-power available for the disposal of the second appeals. The Judge finds out whether it is necessary that the case should go before a Bench. If he thinks there is no point of law involved, he will dispose of it himself. If he thinks there is a point of law involved in the case, he refers it to a Bench. I must say it may not be legitimate to argue that the increase of Judges has itself produced the whole of the result in regard to second appeals."

Mr. A. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—"Why did the hon. the Law Member require the allotment for the whole year when the temporary Judges are required only till October? Is it with the idea of invoking the jurisdiction of the Secretary of State to continue the appointments after October? Is it the real idea with which this provision has been made, i.e., with reference to a contingency the possibility of which they could not have already foreseen?"

* The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—"The point is this. The salary of the High Court Judges, as hon. Members know, is non-votable. As to the question of establishment, we could not arrive at the figures based on the disbanding of the establishment without further adjustments being made. When the adjustments are made, then the changes in the establishment will be made. It does not follow that because there are 12/14 of the High Court Judges after the 19th October there will be 12/14 of the establishment. The salary of the High Court Judges is put in not with a view to prejudging the question. We have not made up our minds nor have we applied our minds to the question."

[Mr. Muhammad Ghouse Mian Sahib] [20th March 1926]

that there is no Muhammadan in this province fit to hold the office of the High Court Judge is correct, there is at least this alternative of appointing a Muhammadan fit enough to hold the office of the Advocate-General. I hope the hon. the Law Member will investigate into the matter farther and recommend to His Excellency the feasibility of appointing a Muhammadan to this office.

"Secondly, as regards the question of the Legal Remembrancer, the hon. the Law Member has several times promised on the floor of this House that he is going to appoint a Legal Remembrancer in order to help the non-official members of this Council by giving them legal advice in regard to non-official Bills that are introduced in this Council. This system has been working well in other Presidencies like Bombay. Moreover the number of non-official Bills that are now being introduced is also great. The members will have a true guidance from this officer. If there is such an officer as the Legal Remembrancer, he will not only be an advice-giving officer to the President but he will also give advice to the non-official members. I understand that the Government have for some time past appointed an advisory committee to help the hon. the President in the matter of legal advice."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT:—"Order, order. The Government has not proposed any advisory committee to advise me."

* Mr. MUHAMMAD GHOUSE MIAN SAHIB:—"I think so."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT:—"Not that I am aware of."

* Mr. MUHAMMAD GHOUSE MIAN SAHIB:—"I think, Sir, Government have appointed some members of this House as a standing committee in order to give legal advice."

* The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR:—"I may tell my hon. Friend that he may dismiss any idea of the standing committee from his mind for the moment."

* Mr. MUHAMMAD GHOUSE MIAN SAHIB:—"I wanted to say that such an idea was at least in the mind of the Government. An attempt was made but it has been given up. I therefore urge upon the Government the necessity of appointing such an officer to help the non-official members in the matter of non-official Bills."

* The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR:—"Mr. President, Sir, I shall first deal with the question of the Advocate-General. Like the High Court Judge the Advocate-General is appointed by His Majesty by a Royal warrant or Letters Patent. It seems to me that the question moreover does not really arise when there is a permanent Advocate-General acting as temporary Judge of the High Court."

"Now, the other point is as to the Legal Remembrancer. Now, Sir, there is some misapprehension as to what has been done with regard to the advice to be tendered to the hon. the President in matters legal. There was no standing committee of this House appointed for that purpose. Some hon. Members raised the point whether there should be a standing counsel to the hon. the President. A meeting was held at which it was left open to the hon. the President to choose such legal advice as he may deem necessary from time to time. What is called a Legal Remembrancer is quite a different official. There is a Legal Remembrancer in Bombay, and I think he is

20th March 1926] [Sir C. P. Ramaswami Ayyar]

paid more than our Advocate-General. There is also a Legal Remembrancer in the United Provinces and Bengal. The function of the Legal Remembrancer is really that of the Law Department here, that is, he is a full-time official who advises firstly the various departments of Government on questions of law which are not so very complicated as to be referred to the Advocate-General either on account of their comparative pettiness or on account of their being merely of a routine character, viz., the Statutory Rules, formulation of orders and so forth, and he is in charge also of the scrutiny of orders passed by the various departments and sees if they are within the law and not *ultra vires*."

* The RAJA OF RAMNAD:—"Is Legal Remembrancer a part of the High Court establishment? Otherwise how could we discuss it under this demand?"

* The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR:—"The Advocate-General is for budget purposes part of the High Court. Generally, as we are discussing the administration of law, I take it that it is permitted to discuss the Legal Remembrancer also. As a Legal Remembrancer has been suggested more than once on the floor of this House, some time ago the Government considered the position but did not arrive at any decision. I shall bear in mind what has fallen from the hon. Member in the course of the discussion."

The motion was by leave withdrawn.

* Mr. MUHAMMAD GHOUSE MIAN SAHIB:—"I move

'to reduce the allotment of Rs. 3,72,900 for Law Officers by Rs. 100.'

"This is merely for eliciting information as to the move made by the Government in order to appoint an officer to frame rules in accordance with the suggestions made by the Civil Justice Committee, and in order to give effect to the other recommendations of that Committee. If the hon. the Law Member makes a statement on the matter, I will be satisfied."

* The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR:—"Mr. President, Sir, in regard to this matter, the Civil Justice Committee have made a large number of recommendations. The files relating to those recommendations are those which I hold in my hands. On certain recommendations, the High Court is taking the necessary action. Some of the recommendations are being referred to the Rules Committee of the High Court, which has been statutorily constituted. Others are being referred to a sub-committee appointed by the High Court. In certain other cases, the Government have approved the action suggested by the High Court, and draft rules have to be framed by it, and approved by the Government. Some of the recommendations have been carried out. Some of the recommendations have been given effect to even prior to the receipt of the report of the Civil Justice Committee as a result of the recommendations of what is called the Judicial Retrenchment Committee. It may be necessary in the course of working out these recommendations of the Civil Justice Committee to appoint a special officer to frame certain rules. If it becomes necessary, the Government will consider that possibility."

The motion was by leave withdrawn.

Rai Bahadur T. M. NARASIMHACHARLU:—"I move

'to reduce the allotment of Rs. 34,500 for City Civil Court by Rs. 1,000.'

[Mr. T. M. Narasimbacharlu] [20th March 1926]

"In moving this motion, I wish to know in this connexion whether it is not possible to increase the number of City Civil Court Judges and reduce the number of High Court Judges by transferring business, or by making proper amendments to the existing law whether it is not possible to reduce the business of the High Court and transfer it to the City Civil Court and thus reduce the number of High Court Judges."

* The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—"I may say at once that this a matter on which the profession that may be said to be naturally interested as well as the mercantile and other communities in Madras ought to be consulted. It is not a new question at all. The question has arisen in connexion with the question of the reduction of the number of the High Court Judges. We collected opinion on this point, and as a matter of fact, it has been found that the commercial community and others that resort to the High Court are not keen on this matter, and at present the Government find from the statistics of suits that practically no real advantage will accrue from this course because in any case a number of appeals from the City Civil Court will have to be tried by High Court Judges. It has been found that the number of appeals from the original side of the High Court is less than the number of appeals from the City Civil Court."

The motion was by leave withdrawn.

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—"The time allotted for the discussion of this demand being over, I shall put this demand to the vote."

Demand XIII for Rs. 54.84 lakhs less Rs. 100 (on motion *re* appointment of Muhammadan Judges) was then put and carried, and the Grant was made.

The House then adjourned to meet again at 11 o'clock on Monday, the 22nd March 1926.

R. V. KRISHNA AYYAR,
Secretary to the Legislative Council.

APPENDIX.

[Vide answer to question No. 1702 asked by Sriman Sasibhushan Rath Mahasayo at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on the 20th March 1926, page 345 supra.]

REPORT.

The accident happened at mile 246-10 and 11 of the District Board Railway, Mayavaram to Arantangi, in the limits of Inam Nattambalpuram village, at about half past midnight on the 11th December. The permanent way had been washed out by an accumulation of storm water that overtopped the line at this place, and the train consisting of an engine and seven bogies ran into the wash-out, the engine capsized, and three of the coaches telescoped. At the time of my inquiry, 22nd, the wreckage and debris had been completely cleared and the line restored.

Seven men and one child were killed at the accident, one man died from his injuries in hospital, seven persons were so severely injured as to require hospital treatment, thirteen were only injured slightly, and were treated on

20th March 1926]

the spot by the local surgeon. The rest of the passengers, the number of whom is not known, left the train at once. I was unable to obtain even an approximate estimate of the number of persons on the train, but it appears that it was almost empty.

There is no reason to suspect any wilful damage. The scouring of the track was due to natural causes. I am further of opinion that none of the train staff or the Permanent Way staff is guilty of culpable negligence. The way had been kept in good running order and was regularly petrolled. This section had been petrolled as usual that night and found to be in order. The section beyond Pattukkottai railway station had also been patrolled, and found to be breached. I think there is no doubt that the wash-out took place after the patrolman had passed. Hence the train was allowed to proceed from Adirampatnam in the ordinary course.

I have next to consider whether there is any reason to suppose rash driving. The train left Adirampatnam at 12-18, and was making up time, being late. Time of the accident in the first report is said to be unknown. It is now said to be 12-38, but the guard of the train puts it at 12-30 a.m. The distance from Adirampatnam is nearly 7 miles, and if the guard's version is correct, the train must have run at over 35 miles per hour. But I do not consider that to be a dangerous speed on a properly laid track. I have not myself timed the running of trains on this railway, but I have had occasion to notice what appeared to be quite fast running, and making up time, without accident. I am surprised to find that the night trains run without any powerful search-lights on the engines. However, the engine driver is not responsible for that omission, and in the circumstances, as he cannot see the track or any obstacles that may be in the way, he is perfectly justified in assuming it to be all right. I therefore conclude no blame to attach to the engine driver.

Medical aid was rendered by Captain Chidambaram, the local surgeon and his staff, who arrived with the Police with lamps on motor buses kindly arranged by the Union Chairman about 3-30 a.m. Till then, the guard, the Permanent Way Inspector and the station staff had done what they could in the way of first aid.

So far as I have been able to ascertain the damage was caused solely by surface water. Though several tanks were breached near Pattukkottai, none of them affected this section of the railway line. The line runs here along the catchment of three yendals. Of these, two have definite feeder channels, to which the railway line has allowed small culverts, the third, at the site of the breaches, has no apparent channel, and there is no culvert to pass the storm water across the line. The lie of the ground is such that the water flowed rapidly as soon as it surmounted the line, and as the site is also a low dip between two gradients, I consider the omission of a storm waterway here to have been a fault in the design. It is admitted that the line has not breached here before, but Pattukkottai is sheltered from the north-east monsoon. The storm that caused the breaches was from a depression in the south, normally associated with heavy and sudden showers. As the land has been all taken up for dry crops, any moderate rainfall would be retained on the fields, and only rains heavy enough to overtop the field ridges will flow off as drainage. I consider, that, if the railway line allowed proper waterways, it would not probably breach, but I must also observe that this

[20th March 1926]

railway (the property I believe of the District Board) is of very light construction, though neatly kept. I consider that it ought to be raised at least to the standard of the South Indian Railway branch from Tanjore to Negapatam. The waterways could be increased at the same time. The mere fact that there were several other breaches at the same time, though none resulted in accidents, shows the inadequacy of the permanent way. I consider that very great credit is due to the South Indian Railway in managing to run the line and to carry the night passenger traffic over it, with accidents so rarely.

Besides the Railway staff, the Police, the local officials and the Surgeon, I understand that the following persons rendered timely and valuable aid :—

M. Ramaswami Pillai, Boy Scout.

Somasundaram, son of Subba Chetti.

Deva Asirvadam Pillai.

Ramanathan Chetti, son of Govindaswami Chetti.

The Health Officer, Pattukkottai, and Vaccinator Krishna Ayyar.

4th January 1926.

H. S. SHIELD,
District Magistrate.

THE MADRAS LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

Monday, the 22nd March 1926.

The House met at 11 of the clock, with Mr. President (the hon. Mr. M. RUTHNASWAMY, M.A., Bar-at-Law) in the chair.

PRESENT:

Ramaswami Ayyar, M.C.E., The hon. Sir C. P.	Narasimhaachari, Rai Bahadur T. M.
Marjoribanks, C.S.I., C.I.E., The hon. Mr. N. E.	Narayanan Nambudiripad, Rao Bahadur O. M.
Usman Sahib Bahadur, The hon. Khan Bahadur Muhammad.	Natesa Mudaliyar, Rao Bahadur C.
Moir, C.S.I., C.I.E., The hon. Mr. T. E.	Noyce, C.S.I., C.B.E., Mr. F.
Raja of Panagal, The hon. the.	Obolesappa, Mr. B.
Patro, Kt., The hon. Rao Bahadur Sir A. P.	Pandrang Row, Mr. V.
Sivagnanam Pillai, The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir T. N.	Prabhakaran Tampan, Mr. K.
Abbas Ali Khan, Mr.	Raghuchandra Ballal, Mr. K.
Abdul Wabab Sahib, Mr. M.	Raja, Rao Bahadur M. C.
Abdulla Ghatala Sahib, Mr.	Raja of Ramnad.
Arpudaswami Udayar, Mr. S.	Rajan, Mr. P. T.
Arumuga Nadar, Mr. P. K. S. A.	Rajappa, Mr. P. S.
Bhanoji Rao, Mr. A. V.	Ramachandra Reddi, Mr. B.
Boag, Mr. G. T.	Raman, Rao Bahadur P.
Chidambaram Nadar, Mr. A.	Vamaachari, Rao Sahib K. V.
Devendrudu, Mr. N.	Ramaswami Mudaliyar, Mr. A.
Evans, C.S.I., Mr. F. B.	Ranganatha Mudaliyar, Mr. A.
Ghouse Mian Sahib, Mr. Muhammad.	Bencontre, Mr. A. E.
Gopalan, Rao Sahib P. V.	Ross, Mr. T. M.
Guruswami, Mr. L. O.	Sagaram, Mr. P.
Haji Qasim Sahib Bahadur, Khan Bahadur Haji Abd-ul-Jah.	Saldanha, Mr. J. A.
Heggade, Mr. D. Manjappa.	Samuel, Mr. J. D.
Kesava Pillai, C.I.E., Diwan Bahadur P.	Sarvarayudu, Mr. K.
Khadir Mohiddin Elyas Khan Sahib, Mr.	Sesha Reddi, Mr. B. P.
Khalif-ul-Jah Sahib Bahadur, Khan Bahadur P.	Srinivasan, Rao Sahib R.
Krishnan Nayar, Diwan Bahadur M.	Subbarayan, Dr. P.
Krishnaswami Nayudu, Rao Bahadur K.	Subramania Pillai, Mr. K. Chavadi.
MacDougall, Kt., Sir Alexander.	Sundaramurti, Rao Sahib P. V. S.
Madanagopal Nayudu, Mr. R.	Suryanarayanamurti Nayudu, Diwan Bahadur K.
Madurai, Hony Lieut.	Tangavelu Pillai, Rao Sahib T. C.
Mallesappa, Mr. T.	Tanikachala Chettiyyar, Rao Bahadur O.
Marakkayar Sahib Bahadur, Khan Bahadur V. Hamid Sultan.	Veerian, Mr. R.
Marthandam Pillai, Mr. P. N.	Venkatachala Padayachi, Mr. K.
Moidu Sahib, Mr. T. M.	Venkatarama Sastri, Mr. T. R.
Muhammad Sahib, Mr. T. N.	Venkatareddi Nayudu, Kt., Rai Bahadur Sir K.
Murugappa Chettiyyar, Diwan Bahadur A. M.	Virappa Chettiyyar, Rao Bahadur P. K. A. Ct.
	Windle, Capt. E. G.
	Wood, Mr. O. E.

[22nd March 1926]

I

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

[Order made by the President of the Madras Legislative Council under Standing Order No. 15 on the 4th December 1924.]

1. Starred questions to be put at a meeting of the Council with their answers shall be printed and placed on the Council table an hour before the President takes his seat.

The Secretary shall call out the name of each interpellator in the order in which the names are printed, specify the serial number of his question and make a sufficient pause to give him or any other member a reasonable opportunity of rising in his place and putting a supplementary question. Supplementary questions must be put immediately after the principal questions to which they relate.

2. If a member responsible for a starred question happens to be absent when it is called, it will be open either to him or to any other member to put supplemental questions thereon after the other starred questions for the day have been answered, provided question-time is not thereby exceeded.

3. Questions, not starred, will not be called in Council, but they will be printed with their answers and placed on the table of the House along with the list of starred questions. Oral supplementary questions will not be allowed in regard to unstarred questions.]

STARRED QUESTIONS.

Irrigation.

Levy of water-rate for lands irrigated under the Mettur scheme.

* 1703 Q.—MR. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR: Will the hon. the Law Member and the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that a water-rate of Rs. 15 per acre has been fixed for the area to be newly irrigated in Tanjore district under the Mettur scheme;

(b) whether any ryots have agreed in writing to pay the water-rate so fixed and, if so, ryots of which villages and when those agreements were given;

(c) whether it is a fact that during the recent tour of the hon. the Law Member in the Tanjore district, many ryots expressed their unwillingness to pay the water-rate of Rs. 15 per acre; and

(d) whether any memorials have been received by the Government or the hon. the Law Member either for or against the levy of such a water-rate?

A.—(a) Rs. 15 is the rate proposed. It has not been finally settled.

(b) No.

(c) No ryot declined to pay Rs. 15. Every one was anxious that it should be fixed at a lower rate, but they were told that it was not possible as our calculations were made on the basis of Rs. 15.

(d) No.

Acquisition of lands submerged under the Mettur Reservoir scheme.

* 1704 Q.—MR. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(a) how many deputy collectors have been appointed in Salem and Coimbatore districts for acquiring lands and houses to be submerged under the Mettur Reservoir scheme;

[22nd March 1926]

(b) whether there is any intention of appointing any more deputy collectors for acquisition in those districts;

(c) when the acquisition work is expected to be over in those two districts; and

(d) whether the Government have come to any decision on the request of the people concerned that they may be given at once the prices of lands and houses and permitted to be in possession of them for about two years so that they may be able to get new lands and houses?

A.—(a) Four.

(b) Not at present.

(c) It is not possible to say: but probably not before the end of 1928.

(d) The Government have laid down the general policy that acquisition should as far as possible keep a year ahead of construction, that is to say, that it should be arranged that awards are passed about a year before the lands in question will actually have to be occupied by the Public Works officers. This should give persons who are to be turned out of their houses sufficient time in most cases to make their arrangements. The Special Collector in charge of acquisition has also been instructed to allow persons to continue to hold their lands or houses on reasonable rental for longer periods after acquisition in deserving cases.

Help to people whose lands are acquired for the Mettur project.

* 1705 Q.—MR. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR: Will the hon. the Law Member and the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether any help is being rendered to the people whose lands and houses are being acquired for the Mettur project in getting lands for cultivation;

(b) whether the Government have under consideration or propose to consider the advisability of disafforesting a portion of the reserved forest near the villages to be acquired;

(c) whether the houses and lands in and near Mettur required for building purposes, etc., below the proposed dam have been acquired and taken possession of by the Government; and

(d) whether the Government have any information as to where the owners of those houses and lands have gone and whether they have been helped by the Government in any way in getting new lands and house-sites?

A.—The hon. Member will find most of the information for which he asks, in the report of the Special Collector, Mr. Srinivasachari, which is being laid on the table.

Mr. Hawkins' report on Upper and Lower Bhavani projects.

* 1706 Q.—MR. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state the orders passed by the Government on Mr. Hawkins' report No. 2591/25-B-1, dated 5th August 1925, regarding Upper and Lower Bhavani projects?

[22nd March 1926]

A.—No orders have yet been passed on the scheme. The hon. Member is referred to the answer given to Mr. C. V. Venkataramana Ayyangar's question No. 1691.

Memorial from the ryots of Odugathur valley.

* 1707 Q.—Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government have received a memorial from the ryots of Odugathur valley in the taluk of Vellore, North Arcot district;

(b) whether it is a fact that as stated in the memorial the situation of the ridges and the sloping of the locality is such that by putting up a dam about 4,000 acres of land now registered as dry can be converted to wet ayacut;

(c) whether reports have been received from Government officers before or after the receipt of the memorial and, if so, whether they are for or against the scheme; and

(d) whether the Government have called for any reports from its subordinates regarding this matter and at what stage the question is now?

A.—The hon. Member is referred to the answer to the question on this subject put by Mr. Pantulu Ayyar.

Licences.

Restrictions on licences to dramatic companies.

* 1708 Q.—Mr. R. VEERIAN: Will the hon. the Law Member and the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether in issuing licence for enacting dramas by different dramatic companies in several theatrical halls any restrictions are imposed to the effect that no objectionable part in the drama should be enacted with a view to wound the feelings of any community during their performance;

(b) all the conditions which the municipalities, local boards and the police in their respective jurisdictions impose while issuing licences for enacting dramas by different dramatic companies; and

(c) if the Government have no information, whether they will be pleased to call for the information?

A.—(a) Licences are not required for enacting dramas except in the three districts of Guntur, Kistna and West Godavari where section 10 of the Dramatic Performances Act, 1876, is in force. In these districts the District Magistrates refuse licences for the performance of dramas that they consider likely to wound the feelings of any community.

(b) Municipalities, local boards and the Police do not issue licences for enacting dramas. In Madras one of the conditions subject to which licences are issued by the Commissioner of Police under the Madras City Police Act, 1888, for places of public resort or entertainment is that he shall have power to prohibit any performance which, in his judgment, does not conform to the requirements of decency or is likely to lead to disorder.

22nd March 1926

Similar licences issued by municipalities under the Places of Public Resort Act, 1888, prescribe only certain conditions in the interest of the health and safety of the public.

(c) Does not arise.

Mr. R. VEERIAN:—"With reference to clause (a), may I know whether there is any list of such dramas that are likely to wound the feelings of any community such as 'Dambachari Vilasam' or 'Nandanar Charitram'?"

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR:—"I am afraid my hon. Friend is making a mistake; it is not dramatic performances like Nandanar and Dambachari that were in view. There was a play called Roshanara in which a character was introduced, namely, Aurangzeb's daughter who was supposed to make love to a Rajput prince. Certain passages in regard to it were such that Muhammadans took strong objection to it as reflecting upon the Muhammadan community. The dramas that are referred to are those that are likely to rouse feelings of hostility between the two communities on account of improper statements or allusions."

The RAJA OF RAMNAD:—"Was that one of mere history or fiction?"

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR:—"That is a very difficult matter. On the one side it was asserted as history and on the other as fiction."

Mr. R. VEERIAN:—"May I know whether any time-limit is observed, from public health point of view, till 3 o'clock or 4 o'clock in the morning?"

The hon. the PRESIDENT:—"No one is bound to go to these performances."

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR:—"Or to stay there, Sir." (Laughter.)

Marine.

Maintenance of launches by the Cochin Port Trust.

* 1709 Q.—Mr. J. A. SALDANHA: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(a) what is the annual expenditure incurred by the Cochin Port Trust over maintaining launches and for what purposes the launches are used;

(b) whether they are used for excursions or picnic parties; and

(c) whether persons other than the officers and staff are conveyed in these launches and, if so, who and why?

A.—(a) The expenditure incurred during the current year (up to the end of February 1926) on the maintenance of the Motor launch purchased by the Cochin Port Fund in 1925 comes to Rs. 2,500 including cost of a covered shed, establishment charges, stores, etc. The maintenance charges of the launch at Cochin under the control of the Harbour Engineering Department have been as follows:—

RS.			RS.		
1920-21	...	3,177	1923-24	...	3,337
1921-22	...	4,918*	1924-25	...	3,286
1922-23	...	3,204			

* Includes the cost of replacing the old engine.

[22nd March 1926]

The launches are used for port purposes and for the use of Government officials.

(b) & (c) No.

State Prisoners.

Release of M. P. Narayana Menon.

* 1710 Q.—Diwan Bahadur M. KRISHNAN NAYAR: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government have received resolutions passed by public meetings in many parts of Malabar praying for the release of M. P. Narayana Menon who was convicted by the Special Tribunal for the trial of offences committed during the Mappilla rebellion of 1921 as an act of mercy; and

(b) whether the Government intend releasing Narayana Menon?

A.—(a) Yes.

(b) No.

Public Service.

Graded pay system in the Police Department.

* 1711 Q.—Mr. G. RAMESWARA RAO: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue, the hon. the Law Member and the hon. the Member for Finance be pleased to state—

(a) whether the time-scale pay system has been replaced by the graded system in the Police Department and, if so, to what extent;

(b) the reasons which led to the change introduced;

(c) how far the reasons apply to other departments of public service; and

(d) whether it is proposed to introduce the same change in other departments as well?

A.—(a) The time-scale of pay has been replaced by the graded system in the cases of Sub-Inspectors of Police in the mufassal and Sergeants in the Madras City Police. It is also proposed to introduce a graded system of pay for City Sub-Inspectors.

(b) *Sub-Inspectors.*—The change was made on the recommendation of the Police Committee of 1923. It was considered that a graded system of pay was more appropriate to Sub-Inspectors than a time-scale, as the latter cannot be suitably applied to a cadre of officers, who, as is the case with Sub-Inspectors, are of very unequal merit and efficiency. It was considered essential that it should be possible to reward the best and most efficient workers by promotion and at the same time prevent the unsatisfactory officers from receiving more pay than they deserve. Applied to Sub-Inspectors, the time-scale had a deadening effect, whereas the hope of promotion is likely to afford a stimulus to good work.

Sergeants.—It was found difficult to interchange Sergeants in the City and in the mufassal, as the former were on a time-scale and the latter on a graded system. With a view to overcome this administrative difficulty, Sergeants in the City Police were also put on a graded system.

[22nd March 1926]

(c) Complaints are sometimes made that the change from a graded system of pay to a time-scale of pay has led to loss of efficiency.

(d) There is no such general proposal under consideration by the Government.

Land Revenue.

Introduction of the Land Revenue Bill.

* 1712 Q.—Mr. P. ANJANEYULU: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state whether and when the Government propose to introduce the Land Revenue Bill in the present Council?

A.—The hon. Member is referred to the answer to question No. 1522.

Non-gazetted Officers.

Committee to inquire into the grievances of non-gazetted officers.

* 1713 Q.—Mr. C. RAMALINGA REDDI: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state what action the Government have taken on the resolution of the Council recommending the appointment of a committee to inquire into the grievances of non-gazetted officers?

A.—The hon. Member is referred to item (14) in Appendix VI (on page 547) to the Proceedings of the Legislative Council, 21st August 1925 (Volume XXIV, No. 4).

Criminal Tribes.

Registration of persons under the Criminal Tribes Act.

* 1714 Q.—Mr. G. RAMESWARA RAO: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether peace-loving and honest persons are registered under the Criminal Tribes Act merely because they belong to a particular class or caste;

(b) whether persons owning lands, cattle and sheep are obliged to sleep in a distant police station away from their lands and animals for 20 days in the month;

(c) whether the persons aggrieved by such harsh treatment have complained of their hardships;

(d) on what basis or principle persons who are never convicted nor even suspected are registered under the Criminal Tribes Act;

(e) what safeguards are taken by the Government to protect the house and property including standing crops and cattle of the registered persons during their compulsory detention in a distant police station miles away; and

(f) whether the Government have enquired into the question of the hardships caused to the registered persons by their being compelled to walk all the distance from their residence to a distant police station and spend the whole night there?

[22nd March 1926]

A.—(a) & (d) The registration of individual members of a tribe which has been notified as a criminal tribe is left to the discretion of the District Magistrate.

(b) Persons registered under the Criminal Tribes Act and ordered under section 10 (1) (a) of the Act to report themselves at fixed intervals cannot be compelled to sleep at police stations. It has, however, been brought to the notice of Government that some persons do in fact voluntarily sleep at police stations either to save themselves trouble or to prevent suspicion resting on them in case crime is committed.

(c) The Government have received complaints from persons who represented themselves to have been harshly treated under the Act.

(e) Persons registered under the Act are not compulsorily detained at police stations.

(f) The Government have made inquiries in certain cases to which their attention has been drawn; the revision of the rules framed under the Criminal Tribes Act is under the consideration of the Inspector-General of Police who has been directed to ensure that section 10 shall not be used to restrict the movements of members of criminal tribes.

Mr. A. CHIDAMBARA NADAR :—" With reference to the answer to clause (c), may I know whether any steps have been taken in this matter ? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—" That is why the Government have taken up the question of revising the rules."

Mr. A. CHIDAMBARA NADAR :—" In the case of specific complaints as to the hardship, I want to know whether any steps have been taken to alleviate the hardship."

The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—" The attention of the District Magistrate is being drawn to such cases."

Registration of persons under the Criminal Tribes Act in Anantapur district.

* 1715 Q.—Mr. G. RAMESWARA RAO : Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(a) the total number of persons registered in the Anantapur district under the Criminal Tribes Act;

(b) the total number whose registration has been cancelled by the Government; and

(c) the total number of those who are dead after registration?

A.—(a) The total number of persons registered in the Anantapur district at present is 2,251.

(b) Registration is cancelled by the District Magistrate and not by the Government.

(c) Twenty-nine.

22nd March 1926]

Forests.

Timber exploitation in Papanasam forests.

* 1716 Q.—Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR : Will the hon. the Home Member and the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether Government have received any memorial from the President of the Tinnevely District Association or from any other person protesting against the schemes recommended by Mr. C. S. Martin for cutting timber in the evergreen forests of Papanasam;

(b) whether any report has been received as to the effect of the cutting of trees on a large scale on the supply of water for irrigation purposes in the Tinnevely district and, if so, whether the Government will be pleased to place it on the table of the Council; and

(c) whether there is a scheme for creating a large supply of electric power from the falls at Papanasam and whether that scheme is likely to be affected by any scheme of timber exploitation and if so to what effect?

A.—(a) No memorial has been received from the Tinnevely District Association. But representations have been received from other persons

(b) Yes; an extract from the letter from the Chief Conservator of Forests No. L. Dis. 2314/24, dated 26th March 1924, is appended.*

(c) A scheme for generating hydro-electric power at Papanasam is under investigation. The Government cannot say how it would be affected by 'any scheme of timber exploitation'.

Pensions.

Commutation of pensions of retired officers.

* 1717 Q.—Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR : Will the hon. the Member for Finance be pleased to state the number of applications of retired officers for commutation of pensions that are pending disposal by the Government for lack of funds and how many of them have been pending for over 2, 3, 4 and 5 years, respectively?

A.—The total number of applications for commutation of pensions received up to the end of February 1926 and pending disposal for lack of funds is 502. These are pending for periods less than one year.

Local Boards and Municipal Councils.

Notification by the Chairman of the Cannanore municipality.

* 1718 Q.—Mr. S. MUTTAYYA MUDALIYAR : Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the notification by the Chairman of the Cannanore municipality, dated 28th November 1925, under section 249 of Act V of 1920; and

(b) what action has been taken by the Government in regard to that order?

* Printed as Appendix I on page 479 infra.

[22nd March 1926]

A.—(a) Yes.

(b) A petition received in regard to the notification has been referred to the Chairman, Municipal Council, Cannanore, for remarks.

Public Health.*Amendment of the Lepers Act of 1898 to provide for the segregation of infectious cases.*

* 1719 Q.—MR. J. A. SALDANHA : With reference to the answer to question No. 1188 given on 18th December 1925 regarding leper asylums in the Presidency, will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether Government have found it necessary to have any special legislation in amendment of or supplementary to the Lepers Act of 1898 as amended subsequently in order to provide for the segregation and cure of infectious cases and for the care and maintenance of non-infectious or burnt out cases where patients are not able to maintain themselves;

(b) if so, what measures Government have taken or propose to take for the required legislation;

(c) if no legislation is required for the purpose, what steps Government have taken or contemplate taking therefor;

(d) what will be the approximate cost of the proposed measures and what provision is going to be made in the budget estimates for 1926-27;

(e) what the position will be of privately managed leper asylums in the proposed scheme and what additional aids are Government contemplating to such asylums; and

(f) what measures Government have taken or contemplate taking in order to abate the nuisance from lepers congregating in the streets of Madras and other towns until the necessary legislation is undertaken and brought into force?

A.—(a), (b), (c) & (e) The question as to the steps to be taken to deal with leprosy in the Presidency is now under the consideration of the Government. The necessity or otherwise for special legislation in order to deal effectively with the problems and the part to be played by private asylums in any scheme which is framed, are two of the many points which are engaging the attention of Government in their examination of the question.

(d) Until the policy to be adopted is finally settled, it is not possible to estimate the probable cost of any scheme of leprosy relief.

(f) The Government have taken no steps nor do they contemplate taking any immediate steps to prevent lepers from moving about in the streets of Madras or any other town, pending a decision as to the policy to be adopted towards the leprosy problem as a whole.

MR. J. A. SALDANHA :—“ With reference to clause (a), are Government aware that the Lepers Act of 1908 has been amended by an Act of 1920, under which it is not applicable to the lepers at any stage? ”

The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL :—“ As stated in the answer, the points will be considered when the amending Bill is taken up.”

22nd March 1926]

The RAJA OF RAMNAD :—“ Is the Act extended to the Madras Presidency? ”

The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL :—“ Not yet.”

MR. J. A. SALDANHA :—“ Do not Government consider that it is at least necessary that lepers are segregated in a town like Madras? ”

The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL :—“ The whole question is now being considered, and before a conclusion is arrived at, it will not be possible to do so.”

MR. J. A. SALDANHA :—“ We have been told that the whole question will be considered. May I ask when the Government will come to a decision, whether it is the question of money or of policy that is delaying the matter? ”

The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL :—“ It is a very complicated question which involves Government in heavy expenditure. So the policy cannot be decided at once without serious consideration.”

Improvement of water-supply for the depressed classes of Ponnapuram.

* 1720 Q.—MR. R. VEERIAN : With reference to question No. 1037 answered at the meeting of the Council on the 15th December 1925 regarding improvements towards water-supply for the depressed classes of Ponnapuram, will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state whether the Government will be pleased to call for the information?

A.—The President, District Board, Coimbatore, reports that the well at Ponnapuram is full of water, and that it will not dry up for several months. He also states that the President, Taluk Board, is giving special attention to the well and that he will have it deepened as soon as it is dry. No information has been given with reference to clauses (a) and (c) of question No. 1037. The President, District Board, is again being asked to furnish the information.

MR. R. VEERIAN :—“ Sir, may I know whether Government have found out whether this particular well is a step well or a draw well, and whether Government have taken any steps for the conversion of step wells into draw wells, with a view to avoid Guinea worm and other epidemic diseases? ”

The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL :—“ As to the first portion of the question, the Government have no information. As to the second portion, I do not think that the question arises from the answer.”

Alleged prevention of depressed classes from using Neelothchera tank.

* 1721 Q.—MR. R. VEERIAN : Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that the caste Hindus submitted a petition to the Chairman, Municipal Council, Calicut, during the month of December last requesting him that necessary steps should be taken with a view to prevent the depressed classes from using the water of Neelothchera tank within the Calicut Municipal Council and maintained by the council;

[22nd March 1926]

(b) how many such tanks are being maintained by the Calicut municipality by utilizing its funds for repairs, silt removal, etc.;

(c) whether Neelothchera tank is not so maintained by the Municipal Council;

(d) whether it is a fact that the petition of the caste Hindus was forwarded to the police for making necessary enquiries into the matter by the chairman;

(e) if so, with what results;

(f) whether the copy of G.O. No. 2660, L. & M., dated 25th September 1924, has been communicated to the Chairman of the Calicut municipality; and

(g) if so, why the petition was forwarded to the police?

4.—(a) & (c) A petition from the caste Hindus of G-1 ward of the Calicut municipality was received in the municipal office on 30th November 1925 protesting against the use of the Neelothchera tank by non-caste Hindus and Muhammadans. The tank is in a Nair village and is registered in the survey records as private janmam and not as Government poramboke or municipal property. The tank has been cleaned and repaired from municipal funds on a few occasions.

(b) There are nine tanks in the municipality registered as Government poramboke. Four or five of these tanks are maintained from municipal funds. The municipality has also spent money from time to time on cleaning and repairing three other tanks of which the tank referred to in the answer to clause (a) of the question is one.

(d) No.

(e) & (g) The questions do not arise.

(f) Yes.

Mr. R. VEERIAN:—"Sir, with reference to clauses (a) to (c), may I know whether municipal funds may be utilized for such wells intended for the use of a section of the people, or the same may be utilized for all classes of people without any distinction of caste, creed or colour?"

The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL:—"It may so happen that a private well or tank may be a source of epidemocity. In such cases it is the duty of the Municipal Council to see that the well or the tank is cleansed."

Education.

Adi-Dravida students in the Adi-Dravida Hostel, Madras.

* 1722 Q.—Mr. R. VEERIAN: Will the hon. the Minister for Education be pleased to state how many Adi-Dravida students who are in the Adi-Dravida Hostel, Madras, and who are reading in various High schools, Secondary schools, and colleges pay full fees, how many of them pay half fees and how many of them are exempted from paying any school fees at all in consideration of their poverty?

[22nd March 1926]

4.—The information is given in the following statement:—

Name of Institution.	Number of Adi-Dravida students in the Adi-Dravida Hostel who study in the various institutions.	Number of students who pay		
		Full fees.	Half fees.	No fees.
Wesley College, Royapetta ..	14	..	14	..
Christian College, Madras ..	1	..	1	..
Chintadripet High school ..	10	1	8	1
Kellet High school, Triplicane ..	5	5	..	..
St. Gabriel's High school ..	3	3	..	..
St. Paul's High school ..	1	1	..	..
Total ..	34	10	23	1

Mr. R. VEERIAN:—"May I know why full fees are demanded from the Adi-Dravida students putting up in the Madras Adi-Dravida Hostel contrary to the spirit of Rule 92 contained in the Madras Educational Rules?"

The hon. Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. PATRO:—"They are able to pay the fees."

Mr. R. VEERIAN:—"The rule is to give half rate of fees for backward and depressed classes people on the production of a poverty certificate. My point is that the members of the depressed classes who are in the Government Adi-Dravida Hostel, Madras, have already produced poverty certificates for half fee concession. I wish to know whether the hon. the Minister for Education has taken any steps to make inquiries in the matter or whether he will be pleased to make inquiries with a view to help the poor Adi-Dravida students."

The hon. Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. PATRO:—"The presumption of the questioner is that the Adi-Dravida students have already applied for half fee concession. If that is so, certainly concession will be given after an inquiry."

Mr. R. VEERIAN:—"The hon. the Minister may take it from me that the Adi-Dravida students under reference have already applied for concession and a reference has already been made to the District Educational Officer giving the names of the students who are paying full fees contrary to the spirit of the Madras Educational Rules. May I therefore again request the hon. the Minister to make inquiries in the matter as to why the concessions were not allowed in their cases?"

Cosmopolitan section of the Government Training School Hostel, Calicut.

* 1723 Q.—Mr. R. VEERIAN: Will the hon. the Minister for Education be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that the cosmopolitan section of the hostel attached to the Government Training School, Calicut, is only an outhouse, that only an Adi-Dravida member is living there and that he is practically segregated from his fellow students;

[22nd March 1926]

(b) whether it is a fact that although the Tiya students in the hostel gave a written statement to the authorities that they were prepared to take the Adi-Dravida member with them nothing has been done, but instead, the former have been warned to be careful in their conduct; and

(c) how the Director of Public Instruction who was memorialized by the aggrieved Adi-Dravida boarder has disposed of the said memorial and what action the Government propose to take thereon?

A.—(a) & (b) The attention of the hon. Member is invited to the answers given to questions Nos. 874 and 912 given on the 2nd and the 3rd November respectively.

(c) The student was informed that that the Director considered that he had no cause for complaint.

The Government do not propose to take any action.

A.—(a) & (c) A

Public Works.

Communal representation in Public Works Department.

* 1724 Q.—Sriman SASIBHUSHAN RATH Mahasayo: Will the hon. the Minister for Education be pleased to state—

(a) whether there are any orders of Government on communal representation which definitely state that the list of temporary subordinates in the Public Works Department is to be recast placing junior non-Brahmans of one or two years service over senior Brahman of four to ten years service;

(b) if answer to this is in the affirmative, whether Government would be pleased to place such orders on the table; and

(c) if the answer is in the negative, how the existing list of temporary lower subordinates in the Waltair Circle has been framed?

A.—(a) & (b) The answer is in the negative.

(c) The Government do not know.

Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—"May I inquire whether the general orders that were issued for all departments did not apply to the Department of Public Works? There are general orders on the subject."

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—"But the question is with regard to appointments in the Public Works Department."

Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—"There are general orders which apply to all departments. My question is whether the orders which were issued in 1922 do not apply to the Public Works Departments also?"

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—"The original question is with reference to Public Works Department and the answer is in the negative."

Selection of head draughtsmen, etc., in Waltair Circle.

* 1725 Q.—Sriman SASIBHUSHAN RATH Mahasayo: Will the hon. the Minister for Education be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that the posts of head draughtsmen and head clerks of Executive Engineers' and Superintending Engineers' offices are to be filled up wholly by selection; and

(b) whether this procedure is strictly followed in Waltair Circle and, if not, what is the criterion for selection of men for such posts in that and other circles?

[22nd March 1926]

A.—(a) Yes.

(b) The procedure is being followed in the Waltair Circle.

Co-operative Societies.

Administrative Inspectors of the Co-operative Department.

* 1726 Q.—Mr. T. ADINARAYANA CHETTIYAR: Will the hon. the Minister for Development be pleased to state—

(a) the number of primary societies and the number of Co-operative Unions inspected, the total number of visits paid and the amount of travelling allowance drawn by the administrative inspectors of the Co-operative Department, in each Assistant Registrar's section during the year 1924-25; and

(b) the total number of administrative inspectors in each Assistant Registrar's section during the year 1924-25?

A.—(a) The Government have no information.

(b) The information is furnished below :—

Section.	Number of administrative inspectors.	Section.	Number of administrative inspectors.
Ganjam	2	Coimbatore	2
Vizagapatam	2	Madura	1
Godavari East	1	Tinnevely	2
Godavari West	3	Anantapur	4
Kistna	2	Chittoor	3
Guntur	2	Bellary	4
Nellore	2	Cuddapah	4
Madras	2	Kurnool	4
Chingleput	1	Calicut	5
Vellore	3	Mangalore	5
Salem	3	The Nilgiris	50
Cuddalore	3		—
Tanjore	2		
Trichinopoly	2		

Honorary Assistant Registrars of Co-operative Societies.

* 1727 Q.—Mr. T. ADINARAYANA CHETTIYAR: Will the hon. the Minister for Development be pleased to state—

(a) the number of Honorary Assistant Registrars in each Assistant Registrar's section during the year 1924-25;

(b) the number of visits to societies paid by the Honorary Assistant Registrars during the year 1924-25 in each Assistant Registrar's section;

(c) the number of Co-operative societies inspected by the Honorary Assistant Registrars during the same period in each Assistant Registrar's section;

(d) the number of arbitration references disposed of by the Honorary Assistant Registrars during the period in each Assistant Registrar's section; and

(e) the total amount drawn by the Honorary Assistant Registrars during 1924-25 in each Assistant Registrar's section?

A.—(a) The attention of the hon. Member is drawn to the statement printed at pages 143-152 of the Proceedings of the Legislative Council—Volume XXIV, No. 1.

(b), (c) & (d) Government have no information.

[22nd March 1926]

(e) The amount of travelling allowance drawn is furnished below :—

Name of section.	Amount of travelling allowance drawn.	Name of section.	Amount of travelling allowance drawn.
RS. A.		RS. A.	
Berhampur	522 9	Salem	418 15
Vizagapatam	625 15	Chittoor	1,828 9
Cocanada	982 12	Conjeeveram	1,506 10
Bezwaada	810 8	Cuddalore	165 5
Guntur	130 0	Tanjore	1,341 9
Nellore	751 7	Trichinopoly	667 4
Anantapur	2,348 8	Madura	480 0
Kurnool	1,131 14	Tinnevely	1,116 3
Cuddapah	811 13	Mangalore	304 15
Bellary	1,121 1	Calicut	1,224 0
Vellore			607 5

Rai Bahadur T. M. NARASIMHACHARLU :—“ With reference to the answer to clause (e), I wish to know whether the travelling allowance bills of the Honorary Assistant Registrars are passed by themselves or by any other superior officers ? ”

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir T. N. SIVAGNANAM PILLAI :—“ They are countersigned by the Registrars.”

Rai Bahadur T. M. NARASIMHACHARLU :—“ I wish to know whether they send up any diaries of their work before they send their bills.”

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir T. N. SIVAGNANAM PILLAI :—“ Monthly reports of their work, I understand, are submitted.”

Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—“ May I know the number of Honorary Assistant Registrars in each of the Ceded districts ? ”

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir T. N. SIVAGNANAM PILLAI :—“ The attention of the hon. Member is invited to answer to clause (a) and the information asked for has also been published in the *Port St. George Gazette*.”

II

COMMUNICATION TO THE COUNCIL.

* The Secretary laid on the table a copy of the Proceedings of the Eighteenth meeting of the Finance Committee for 1925-26 held on the 2nd March 1926.

[Note.—An asterisk* at the commencement of a speech indicates revision by the Member.]

III

MOTIONS ON THE BUDGET FOR 1926-27.

DEMAND XIV—JAILS.

The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—“ On the recommendation of His Excellency the Governor, I beg to move

‘ that a sum not exceeding Rs. 30.80 lakhs be granted under Demand No. XIV—Jails ’.”

a Printed as Appendix II on pages 479-483 infra.

22nd March 1926]

Rai Bahadur T. M. NARASIMHACHARLU :—“ I beg to move

‘ that the allotment of Rs. 10,000 under Miscellaneous grants to Andaman administration be omitted.’

“ I find from the newspapers and also from some of the speeches and communications made by some hon. Members of this Council who have gone on deputation to the Andamans that the Andamans are not the proper places for the colonization of the Mappilla and other persons. I wish to know whether the Government have arrived at any conclusion upon the question of colonization of the Andamans by the Mappillas or other inhabitants or convicts of the Madras Presidency. I wish also to know what this sum of Rs. 10,000 is intended for ? ”

* The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—“ In response to the resolution that was passed in this House the colonization scheme of the Andamans by Mappillas has been stopped for the present. The Committee appointed by the Government of India have reported to that Government and we have not yet got any orders from the Government of India as to what their intentions are in regard to the Mappilla colonization of the Andamans. As for the sum of Rs. 10,000 I may say that it is for the purpose of building mosques and schools in the Andamans for the Muhammadan population who are already there. This item was placed before the Finance Committee and they have approved it, and therefore I have come before this House for the grant. The Chief Commissioner of the Andamans has already reported that a sum of Rs. 5,985 has already been drawn and paid to the contractor for the purpose of building some of the mosques and schools. Whatever may be our decision with regard to the colonization of the Andamans, by the Mappillas this amount has to be paid.”

* Diwan Bahadur M. KRISHNAN NAYAR :—“ With reference to the last statement that this sum of Rs. 10,000 is intended for the construction of mosques and schools, I thought that four mosques had already been constructed there and that the grant asked for was intended for the construction of another mosque and some four schools. I wish to know with reference to this grant, whether there are not Muhammadan convicts and other non-convict population in the Andamans from other Provinces in India, and if so, whether other provinces have also contributed for the construction of the mosques and schools or only this Government is asked to contribute. If there are non-convicts and Muhammadan population from other provinces also in the Andamans, I believe it is not fair for this Government alone to make this contribution. I wish to know whether other Governments are contributing, and whether there are other Muhammadan population in the Andamans.”

* The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—“ At the present moment we have no information on this matter. All I can say is that because a lot of Mappilla prisoners have gone to the Andamans the Government decided that they should be provided with mosques and schools and this was done before the resolution of the Legislative Council to stop the sending of the Mappilla prisoners to the island was passed.”

The motion was by leave withdrawn.

* Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—“ I beg to move

‘ that the allotment of Rs. 44,600 for superintendence be reduced by Rs. 101.’

[Mr. A. Ranganatha Mudaliyar] [22nd March 1926]

"Sir, we have been hearing occasionally of cases where prohibited articles are smuggled into jails. We have also heard of cases where prisoners are not treated with that consideration that is due to them. I think, all these evils are not reported either in the papers or to the Government. Many things take place in the jails which do not see the light of day. Whatever might be the explanation, I think the system of administration prevailing in jails is bound to improve if a better class of people are to be recruited for the posts of warders, jailers and deputy jailers. The appointment of warders carries a good pay. I must say that there are very many appointments of warders which carry a pay of Rs. 40, Rs. 70 and even Rs. 100 and I do not know why as in the case of other departments the department should not insist upon proper educational qualifications for these posts. We are talking so much about unemployment of educated people and here is a department which has to deal with a number of appointments for which educational qualification would be an advantage rather than the reverse. I ask the Government therefore whether they cannot insist upon properly qualified people being appointed for these posts. The same argument would apply in the case of jailers and deputy jailers. I do not think any one will do for these posts. These officers should possess a good knowledge of human nature and psychology and several other subjects of that sort. I suggest therefore that the hon. the Home Member should take steps to recruit a better class of people for these appointments."

* The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—"For the information of the House I may say that the remarks made by him are in accordance with the views of the Government. As a matter of fact the Jails Committee presided over by Sir Alexander Cardew have stated thus 'Recruitment for the posts of jailers and deputy jailers should not be made at the last point, i.e., at the bottom of the clerical grade. We are having this idel before us and as a matter of fact recruitments at the present moment are made by the Staff Selection Board and those who have passed the B.A., the Intermediate and the School Final examinations have been called upon to apply."

"As regards the warders the case is quite different. It is not always that we can have anybody for this post. The present salary is small. What we want is men with strong physique and good educational qualifications and if we want such men we cannot have them for the small salaries that are provided for them. For gate-keepers the grade is Rs. 40—60. For the chief reserve head warders the grade is Rs. 40—60 and also from Rs. 30—40. For the warders who are actually doing the work, we have got two grades one selection grade from Rs. 25—1—30, and the other ordinary grade from Rs. 17—22. For these small salaries you cannot get educated people who have passed S.S.L.C. examination or the Intermediate."

* Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR:—"I find from the remarks made by the hon. the Home Member that he would bear the points raised by me in regard to the appointments of jailers and deputy jailers. I do not know whether I have made a mistake or the hon. the Home Member has been misinformed, but I find on page 158 there is provision made for one warder on Rs. 100—125, I am not concerned with other warders. There is one on Rs. 75—100 and three on Rs. 45—50. Turning again to page 160 there is a warder's post on Rs. 100, and again on page 162 there are 10 warders on

22nd March 1926] [Mr. A. Ranganatha Mudaliyar]

Rs. 40—60. So there are a number of appointments which carry a reasonable pay and I must say, a pay not less in any way than that of the lower division or upper division clerks. It is only in order to bring out that point I make this motion."

* The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—"Sir, these appointments are generally given to Europeans and Anglo-Indians. But this is only in a very few cases; in all the other cases the pay ranges only from Rs. 17 to Rs. 30."

11-30
a.m.

* Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR:—"I am somewhat surprised at the statement of the hon. the Home Member which introduces a racial distinction in regard to these appointments. The prisoners concerned are mostly Indians and I do not see any particular reason why the warders, specially in the higher grades, should be exclusively recruited from a particular class of people. I am sure the hon. the Home Member himself realizes the unsatisfactory nature—I won't call it inequality—of the recruitments. I wish he gives us an assurance that he would look into the matter and see that a fairer distribution of these appointments is made."

* The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—"All that I can say is that I am unable to give any assurance to the hon. Member. This has been done for years."

* Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR:—"The mere fact that the system has been going on for a long time does not make it just; anyhow I shall withdraw the motion in view of the assurance of the hon. Member that he would look into the matter when new appointments are made."

The motion was by leave withdrawn.

* Mr. B. VEERIAN:—"Sir, I beg to move—

'That the allotment of Rs. 14,90,500 for Central Jails be reduced by Rs. 100.'

"Sir, I know that the hon. the Home Member is ever ready to sympathize with the feelings of the so called depressed classes and do what lies in his power to ameliorate their condition. In that hope I wish to place before him a few facts. All the members of the so-called depressed classes are not by profession totis; some of them are agriculturists; some others follow other trades; some others still are employed as domestic servants. I do not think it is reasonable to ask all the convicts belonging to the so-called depressed classes to do this toti work. If convicts of the toti class are not available in a particular jail, the jail authorities may arrange to get them from other jails. This can be quite easily done. Sir, every community has got feelings of their own, and the feelings of the depressed classes also should be respected. It is a sin to ask such members of the depressed classes who are not by profession totis to do this class of work. I feel it very much, Sir. I hope, after hearing this from me, that the hon. the Home Member will readily admit that it is a great sin. If, Sir, the members of the depressed classes were to take up this matter very seriously, to their minds, I am sure that there would be confusion and chaos. Unless rule 387 of the Jail Manual is altered the jail staff will always pitch upon the members of the depressed classes to do this work. They are so helpless, Sir, and they would never go against the orders of even the lowest jail authorities. I want

[Mr. R. Veerian]

[22nd March 1926]

to know, Sir, why there should be preferential treatment in jails. As I said before on a previous occasion, jails are not the houses of mothers-in-law and fathers-in-law. (Laughter.) I know, Sir, that in Bangalore, only such convicts who are put in jail often for offences, are asked to do this work with a view to teach them good conduct and reform them. On the other hand, Sir, if members of a particular community alone who are not accustomed to this work outside the jail are asked to do this work, can that be called right kind of reformation? Will not that degrade a particular community which forms more than one-sixth of the population of the country? Sir, I do not want to make a long speech (Laughter); for on account of my strong feelings in the matter I may utter very forcible and probably wonderful sentiments. (Laughter.) But in my heart I have got a great regard to the hon. the Home Member; for he belongs to the Mussalman community which knows no untouchability. It is for that reason I appeal to the hon. the Home Member to see that the rule in the Jail Manual is altered so that all the members of the depressed classes may not be pitched upon to do this work. The other day the hon. Member said that it would not be possible to introduce incinerators in the jails. Where is the difficulty in doing so? Different classes of convicts are removing their own night soil and urine from their prison cells without the aid of anybody. No objection is raised by them while doing the work. All the convicts therefore may be asked to throw their nightsoil in the incinerator. If this is not possible they can employ *totis* from outside, who are not convicts and they may be paid for the work. It is said that they would bring in epidemic diseases into the jail. Another way of tackling the problem is by means of the flushing system introduced. If they were to say that this is not suitable and that is not suitable, I do not know, Sir, what is suitable and what is not suitable. I hope that the hon. the Home Member will respect the feelings of the community and do his very best to put an end to the present practice."

* The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—"Sir, it is not the intention of the Government to insult any community by asking the members of the community to do this kind of degrading work. Government know it fully. There are certain difficulties with regard to the introduction of incinerators. They have been installed in the Alipuram jail, Bellary. That has been possible because the Alipuram jail was once a barracks for British soldiers. It is not quite possible to instal them in all the other jails. The other alternative is the system of flush-out latrines. This system requires a large quantity of water for its operation and most of the jails cannot afford to supply the required quantity. The only possible thing that can be done is to ask the members of the depressed classes who are by profession *totis* to do this work inside the jails. In this matter the hon. Member's representations to the Government have been of great use. The Inspector-General of Prisons has sent a circular to all the jails to the effect that only convicts of the sweeper class should be given this kind of work and if such convicts were not available in a particular jail, the authorities of that jail may apply for a transfer of such convicts from other jails. As I promised on a previous occasion, the Inspector-General is coming here to see me to-morrow to discuss this subject also, and I shall draw his attention to the remarks made by the hon. Member."

The motion was by leave withdrawn.

[22nd March 1926]

* Mr. R. VEERIAN:—"Sir, I beg to move

'that the allotment of Rs. 14,90,500 for Central Jails be reduced by Rs. 100.'

"Sir, in moving this resolution I do not want to make a long and forcible speech. (Laughter.) The warders who belong to the depressed classes are made to live in separate quarters away from the warders belonging to the other communities. I have seen only lepers being segregated; but here I do not see any reason why the warders should be treated as lepers. They are also human beings. It is a great insult from many points of view to make these warders of the depressed classes, who are also Government servants, to live in separate quarters. I appeal to the hon. the Home Member to make enquiries in the various jails where such things prevail and put an end to this system."

* The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—"Sir, all the warders employed in the jails are provided with quarters except in the Penitentiary at Madras where they are given an allowance. The question of providing separate accommodation for the Adi-Dravida or the depressed class warders is rather a difficult matter. It is not possible to provide separate quarters for caste Hindus, depressed classes and Muhammadans. It is very much better that the depressed classes live with the members of the other communities."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT:—"The hon. Member's complaint is that they are segregated."

* The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—"I do not think they are segregated generally."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT:—"If there is any particular jail in which this takes place the hon. Member may give the information to the hon. the Home Member."

* Mr. R. VEERIAN:—"In the Coimbatore Jail, Sir, there is a row of houses separately set apart for the warders belonging to the depressed classes. They are segregated like lepers. The hon. Member may kindly call for the information and have an idea of the deplorable situation."

* The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—"Certainly, Sir, I shall call for the information."

The motion was by leave withdrawn.

* Mr. MUHAMMAD GHHOUSE MIAN SAHIB:—"I beg to move

'to reduce the allotment of Rs. 30.80 lakhs for jails by Rs. 100.'

"This is to discuss the unwisdom of the policy of Government in releasing the long-term prisoners with a ban that they should not go to their houses; and also to afford greater facilities to prisoners to observe their religious ceremonies, and to build mosques and temples as far as possible inside prisons and offer religious instructions at Government cost."

"Sir, the Government has pursued a policy of releasing such of the long-term prisoners whose character and conduct have been satisfactory, before the term expires, on the condition that they should not return to their homes. I think, Sir, that that policy is not a good one, and does more harm

[Mr. Muhammad Ghouse Mian Sahib] [22nd March 1926]

than the policy of allowing them to continue in the prisons themselves. The Government policy might be vindicated on one ground, viz., that the Government entertains a fear that if the long-term prisoners who have some landed property in their native places who have some influence are allowed to go there it would have a bad effect on the people. But most of the prisoners are not of that kind and they are poor people; I do not see why they should not be allowed to go to their homes when they are released. There is another reason why the Government should not adopt this policy as it will swell the number of beggars in the city and in other places. If the prisoners are released and not allowed to go to their homes, opportunities would be afforded to them to turn into vagabonds. It will do more good than harm if they are kept in the prison itself.

"Secondly, I urge upon the Government the necessity to afford greater facilities for the observance of religious rights. Last year, the hon. the Home Member's predecessor made a promise that a mosque and a temple would be constructed in the Alipuram Jail. I do not know how far that programme has been carried out. There was another promise that he would give greater facilities for the Muhammadan prisoners to observe Ramzan and to offer prayers inside a mosque. I do not know what facilities have been afforded.

"Thirdly, Sir, I wish to emphasize the fact that hereafter religious instruction in jails ought to be given at the Government cost. Hitherto the policy pursued by the Government was that, in case non-official members found proper and fit persons to give religious instructions, the Government was helping them to go and preach inside the prison; but the cost would be borne by non-official members themselves. That policy also was not given full effect to. Although there were three or four persons who were willing to give religious instructions inside the Trichinopoly Jail, they were not allowed to go and preach. There was much correspondence with the district collector as a result of which some concessions have been granted. This rule is not at all followed in other places than Trichinopoly. I wish to emphasize the fact that it would be better to adopt, in future as one of reformatory influences, the policy that religious instruction ought to be given at the Government cost. I hope, Sir, that the hon. the Home Member will consider these points favourably."

* The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—"Sir, with reference to the point with which I am concerned, viz., the policy of the Government in releasing long-term prisoners, I may say that, long before notice was given of the motion before the House, the records of the past five years were looked into and only four cases have been traced where the condition was imposed, viz., that the prisoners ought not to return to their native districts. Those cases are connected with the rebellion and I have, since receiving notice of this motion, looked into those cases again and satisfied myself that it is because it is apprehended that this entry will give rise to difficulties at Malabar at the present moment they have been kept out and they are only four in number."

* The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—"With regard to moral and religious instructions in jails and giving facilities for religious observances, I may at once say that in my non-official days I took a keen interest in these matters and I went before the Jails Committee which was presided over by Sir Alexandar Cardew and made

22nd March 1926] [Mr. Muhammad Usman Sahib]

certain proposals. I am very glad that those proposals have been accepted by the Jails Committee and they are being given effect to in almost all the jails in our Presidency. Whenever I visit jails I have always made it a point to see whether these things are observed. I am glad to say that facilities are given to prisoners who want to perform their religious ceremonies. As for the Muhammadan prisoners, my hon. Friend said that facilities should be given to say their prayers and observe fasts. I may at once say that they get in almost all the jails all the facilities they require to say their daily prayers and to fast during Ramzan. Further, certain changes with regard to their dress have been made. Trousers have been given to Muhammadan prisoners instead of shorts. Water is given for ablution; facilities for saying prayers exist in every jail in this Presidency. With regard to the construction of a temple in the Alipuram jail, it was not considered necessary as almost all the prisoners in that jail are Muhammadans. The question of providing a mosque in the same jail was carefully considered by the Inspector-General of Prisons and he came to the conclusion that it was better not to have congregational prayers in any jail because when prisoners assemble for prayers they may take advantage of the opportunity to conspire for the breaking of the jail discipline for which they would be put to trouble. Except this one suggestion, all the other suggestions made by the hon. Member have been adopted. Although there is no mosque in the Alipuram jail, I know as a matter of fact—I have visited the jail—the Muhammadan prisoners perform their daily prayers and are given water for ablutions."

* Khan Bahadur P. KHAIIF-UL-LAH SAHIB Bahadur :—"Sir, as one of the non-official visitors to the central jail I should certainly thank the hon. the Home Member for all that has been done in this matter. At the same time I should like to point out that something more useful can be done for the Muslim prisoners. During the month of the Ramzan, facilities should be given to the prisoners to observe their fasting. The rules regarding labour have not been relaxed. Especially now when the fasting season happens to be the hottest part of the year, unless some facilities are given in the remission of labour it is physically impossible for them to observe fast in any way. Unless they are so fanatical as to observe it in spite of the insurmountable difficulties, any man in ordinary circumstances would be forced not to observe. So I would suggest that, so far as Muhammadans are concerned, labour during the fasting season should be limited to at least 2 p.m."

The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—"I know the difficulty mentioned by the hon. Member is a real one: It will be difficult for people to do heavy work when they have to fast for one month without taking any food during daytime. I shall draw the attention of the Inspector-General to this matter."

* Mr. K. PRABHAKARAN TAMPAN :—"May I know whether the Government make facilities for Hindu prisoners to perform their religious ceremonies, such as father's anniversary which are obligatory on their part?"

* The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—"I have no information. I shall certainly look into the question and see that facilities are given, if they are necessary."

Mr. MUHAMMAD GHOUSE MIAN SAHIB :—"In view of the statement made by the hon. the Law Member that in the matter of release of long-term

[Mr. Muhammad Ghouse Mian Sahib] [22nd March 1926]

prisoners it is not the general policy and that it is done only in special cases and in view of the other statement made by the hon. the Home Member, I do not wish to press the motion."

The motion was by leave withdrawn.

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—"The question is that the Government be granted a sum not exceeding Rs. 30·80 lakhs for Jails."

The demand was put to the House and carried. The Grant was made.

DEMAND XV—POLICE.

* The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—"Sir, on the recommendation of His Excellency the Governor, I move for a grant not exceeding

'Rs. 153·09 lakhs. under Demand XV—Police.'"

* Rao Bahadur C. NATESA MUDALIYAR :—"Mr. President, Sir, I move *'that the allotment of Rs. 11,38,200 for Presidency Police be reduced by Rs. 100.'*"

"My object in moving this motion is to place before this Council certain facts about the attitude of the Police at the time of the last elections. Sir, it pains me very much to do so. I hope the hon. the Law Member will not misunderstand me. There is an impression created in Madras that the Police were siding a particular political party. There is the impression that they were favouring a certain political party and that they allowed that party to molest other parties as they liked. Sir, what horror, what intimidation there was at the time of the elections? Loyalists people belonging to any political party were afraid to go out and canvass votes for their candidates. The workers of a particular political party were belaboured in the public streets. Boys carrying the placards of a certain political party were beaten in the open streets."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—"To which election is the hon. Member referring to?"

* Rao Bahadur C. NATESA MUDALIYAR :—"I am referring to the municipal elections. One man was chased and beaten within the premises of the Corporation itself. I said that a particular political party was allowed to do these things. Sir, in one case they molested the other parties as much as possible and when the other parties retorted they were arrested. Sir, that was the condition of Madras."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—"To make these charges a little more real, may I ask the hon. Member to specify the localities in which these occurrences took place."

* Rao Bahadur C. NATESA MUDALIYAR :—"Sir, Surendranath Arya was beaten at Lawders' Gate Road and Mr. Purushotham was chased and beaten in the Corporation compound itself."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—"I am not concerned with the names at all."

* The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—"The hon. Member was written to and requested to give the Government some idea of the subject on which he wished to base his remarks on this motion but no reply has been received by the Government. But he is at perfect liberty, if he thinks that these facts had been sufficiently proved and takes the responsibility for making

22nd March 1926] [Sir C. P. Ramaswami Ayyar]

the allegations, to make them. Government, however, is in the position of being absolutely unprepared to meet those points nor has the department been asked about it."

* Rao Bahadur C. NATESA MUDALIYAR :—"I sent the reply. I do not know how it did not reach the Government; but I was under the impression that it reached the hon. the Law Member."

* The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—"Anyhow, I have not got it."

* Rao Bahadur C. NATESA MUDALIYAR :—"Sir, such was the condition of Madras, and there is an impression created that the Government is siding at particular political party. There is an impression created, Sir."

* Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—"May I know, Sir, if points similar to these were not raised and discussed on the motion of my Friend the Member from Chingleput?"

Mr. A. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—"Absolutely not, Sir. I am the Member from Chingleput and since my name has been dragged, I may say that the hon. Member did not hear me; but I can assure him that no such point was raised by me."

* Rao Bahadur C. NATESA MUDALIYAR :—"Sir, I am sorry that there is another impression created in Madras. I may not be able to substantiate it, but anyhow I am speaking of what happens in Madras. Sir, people are prosecuted and then after they are prosecuted, there is the magistracy to decide the question, to punish those people. There is a fear, Sir, that the portfolio of both the prosecutor and the judge are in the hands of one hon. Member of the Executive Council. Sir, may I request the hon. Member to see . . . ?"

* The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—"Sir, I rise to a point of order and ask that these allegations be forthwith withdrawn. When judges appointed directly by His Majesty or by his delegates are trying prosecutions and they decide cases, it is in the highest degree derogatory to the dignity of the House and to the traditions of every parliamentary body that it should be suggested, because forsooth a member of one community is for the time being holding the portfolio of law and order, that judges decide cases in a particular manner. I trust, Sir, that in the interests of proper parliamentary development, in the interests of that respect for the Judiciary which is essential for any growth of self-governing institutions, in the interests, I may almost say, of ordinary propriety, that the allegation be forthwith withdrawn."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—"I must also deprecate all such references to the action of the Judiciary. Just as we want to maintain our own dignity, we ought to help the maintenance of the independence and dignity of the Judiciary. Hon. Members are quite free to make charges against the Executive."

* Rao Bahadur C. NATESA MUDALIYAR :—"Mr. President, I did not make any allegations. I only said there is an impression in Madras. If the hon. the Law Member likes, he can prosecute a man and punish him. That is the impression in Madras. Certainly . . ."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—"How can he prosecute and punish?"

* Rao Bahadur C. NATESA MUDALIYAR :—"Because he is the Police and he is the Judge."

[22nd March 1926]

* The hon. the PRESIDENT:—"It is certainly not in keeping with the dignity of the Magistracy and the Judiciary to say that they decide and punish people at the beck and order of the hon. the Law Member. He is attributing to the hon. the Law Member powers which he does not at all possess."

* Rao Bahadur C. NATESA MUDALIYAR:—"I did not refer anything to the hon. the Law Member; but that is the impression. What I mean to say, Sir, is that when we are fighting for the separation of Judicial and Executive functions, if these two also are separated, I should be much obliged to His Excellency's Government. Sir, the impression is that the loyalists are not treated properly in fact, they are punished for their being loyal. Sir, between the Swarajists and ourselves there is not much difference; we want swaraj under the British Government and they say that they can exist with or without the British Government. That is the difference between us. If His Excellency's Government lay down the policy that they are against the loyalists, of course we can make up our differences with our Swarajist friends."

* The hon. Sir O. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR:—"Mr. President, Sir, I hold that the statement that has just now been made will, if it is seriously considered in the year 1929 by the Royal Commission that comes out to find how these self-governing institutions have been working, be one of the strongest arguments against the grant of further powers to a provincial legislature, Sir, if it is open to an hon. Member to say that his impression is that the Law Member is both prosecutor and judge, what is the meaning of that? Let me dilate on it a little further. The impression, translated into order phraseology, leads to this result that the hon. the Law Member apparently suggests that some prosecutions should take place, that after the prosecutions take place suggests to the judge that some particular persons should be convicted and thereafter they are convicted and punished."

* Rao Bahadur C. NATESA MUDALIYAR:—"That is not my point. I never said anything of the sort; nor do I mean anything. Only to be on the safe side, to make the people believe that the Government is all right, I want the separation of the two functions."

* The hon. Sir O. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR:—"Sir, I propose to deal with the statements as they have been made on the floor of this House and as I understand them. I still maintain that one, at all events, of the deductions to be drawn from the speech of the hon. Member from Madras is that the Law Member is responsible for the prosecution, that the Law Member directs the Judge to punish, the Law Member directs that a conviction should take place."

* Rao Bahadur C. NATESA MUDALIYAR:—"I object to the last sentence, Sir, and I should say it is not my impression."

* The hon. Sir O. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR:—"I still propose to read it in that manner and I propose to answer it on that footing."

* Rao Bahadur C. NATESA MUDALIYAR:—"Let it be his understanding and not my allegation."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT:—"The hon. Member has made some statements and the hon. the Law Member is dealing with those statements as

[22nd March 1926]

[The President]

they were made. If the hon. Member says that it was not his intention to make the charges he is free to withdraw them even at this stage."

* The hon. Sir O. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR:—"While that statement has not yet been withdrawn, I am fortified in that argument. Now, Sir, I consider that what I have listened to is the most deliberate insult that could be offered to a lawyer and I regard the assertion as a particularly deliberate insult, as offered to the lawyer who occupies at this moment the position of the Law Member of Government. I regard it as an insult offered generally to the profession of Law and I regard it as a special insult offered to the Judiciary; moreover, I regard it as an unwarranted insult offered to that great body of faithful public servants who constitute the police in this Presidency. That it should be open to any Member of this hon. House to persuade himself to make these statements is a matter which evokes amazement and horror in me and I feel sure in every Member of the House. I trust that for the dignity, the future well-being of this House and the future of the Government of this Presidency, we shall not hear any such speeches or any such suggestions hereafter."

"Now, Sir, after having dealt with the general features of the argument, let me deal with another aspect of the matter. The other aspect of the matter is that the Government—meaning not only myself, but my hon. Friend Mr. Moir, my hon. Friend Mr. Usman Sahib, my hon. Friend Mr. Marjoribanks and my hon. Colleagues the Ministers, because the Government is composed of all these persons—that the Government is out to favour a party which incidentally is stated to have set itself up against Government. That may be so. It may be that my hon. Friend may have persuaded himself that one hon. Member is in that way inclined; but, Sir, this is not an autocracy. This is a system of Cabinet Government. This is a system of deliberate executives. Is it suggested, Sir, that seeing these things taking place, my Friend Mr. Moir shuts his eyes to these matters, my Friend Mr. Usman Sahib shuts his eyes to these matters, my Friend Mr. Marjoribanks shuts his eyes to these matters—I am only dealing with the Reserved subjects for the moment. If they do so, they are derogating from their duty, they are not fulfilling the trust and confidence reposed in them by His Majesty when he gave them the warrant for holding the appointments they hold or is it suggested that they are blind and will not or cannot see? I go further. Whatever the facts are, let me assume, that before I took up the office, I was a Swarajist, I repel that idea because, Sir, I fought the whole of the extreme block in the Delhi Congress and I was one of the few who fought the predecessors of the Swarajists arrayed in their thousands and my political life and political career are beyond the criticism of such men as the hon. Member from Madras. I have fought and shall continue to fight the Swarajists, because I think that one of their essential political doctrines i.e., of civil disobedience is poisonous and is intended to retard and not to foster the growth of political institutions. But assume, Sir, for a moment that before I took this post I had been a Swarajist, are there not certain oaths and obligations incidental to my taking up this office which every Member of the Government enters into, solemn oaths and obligations which he enters into with His Majesty the King-Emperor? He takes these oaths of office, Sir, and after having taken that office, whatever one's political

[Sir C. P. Ramaswami Ayyar] [22nd March 1926]

preoccupations and prepossessions were, whatever my views may be of the rightness or wrongness of the procedure of certain political parties, and whether I consider that the Swaraj or any other party say, the party to which my friend belongs has a right to exist or not, my opinions are free and unrestricted and probably are known to most persons. But in the translation of those opinions into practice, if I allow any conscious bias or any prepossession to influence me, I should be unworthy of that confidence. And I trust, Sir, that these speeches, these insinuations which have not been isolated or singular in this House will no longer be made, that even the exigencies of elections will not evoke such speeches and sentiments.

"There is one other matter, Sir, with which I will conclude. Sir, it was said, and said more than once by the Member for Madras, 'I don't believe it, I do not entertain these opinions, but there is an impression.' Are we to repeat rumours in this House, are we, Members of the Legislative Council, not to exercise some fragmentary, elementary rights of sifting between the right and the wrong, of sifting between what is credible and what is incredible, of sifting what is decent from what is indecent? Are we to say 'there are these impressions, I trust these impressions are not true'. Sir, in that case, if I should repeat what rumours I hear about hon. Members and hon. Colleagues, where shall we be? This will be a bear-garden, and I trust, following the illustrious tradition of this House, following the tradition of the British institutions, following parliamentary traditions, such insinuations will no longer be allowed and that this House will, by a direct and substantial vote, make it clear to the hon. Member that this House will not tolerate such paltering with the decencies of public life, such dealing with people in a manner wholly unworthy of this House and of every component part of it." (Applause.)

Raj Bahadur T. M. NARASIMHACHARLU :—"Sir, I belong neither to the Ministerialist party nor to the Swarajist party nor even to the Government party. I belong to the Independent party and I am proud to say so, Sir. Now, Sir, it has considerably pained me to hear the other day by one of my best friends, the hon. Member from Chingleput . . ."

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—"The hon. Member might restrict yourself to the speeches of to-day."

Raj Bahadur T. M. NARASIMHACHARLU :—"It has considerably pained me to hear on the floor of this House that the Member from Madras should have made a statement and while he professed not to make it as an allegation by him, was bold enough to say that that is the impression and that he was simply conveying the impression to the hearing of this House. I am unable to understand the difference between an allegation and the conveying of an impression. At any rate, the allegation has got this aspect, namely, that it is an honest expression of one's opinion. It is a bold statement of fact. I am prepared to face a reply on that. On the other hand, the way in which the hon. Member from Madras said that he was conveying an impression to the hearing of this House, I submit, Sir, has neither the boldness with it nor, may I say, the uprightness with it. I submit there is absolutely no difference between the two. My friend, Dr. Natesa Mudaliyar, if he had only been on this side of the House as he was some time ago, I do not think he would have made that statement; because he would have been pulled by

22nd March 1926] [Mr. T. M. Narasimhacharlu]

the Members of the party and then they would have brought him to order. I submit, Sir, we have got the highest privileges, I mean the Members of this House have got the highest privileges, in that the law says that we are not to be prosecuted, that we are not to be sued against for whatever we may say on the floor of this House. Well, I take that as one of the highest privileges that have been conferred upon the Members of this House.

"I, therefore, say that when such a great privilege has been conferred upon us, we should be very cautious, greatly hesitant before we make any allegation on the floor of the House which will have either indirectly or directly the effect of casting any reflection on any Member of this House, not to say on any Member of the Executive Council. I say, Sir, that having been clothed with such privileges, we have got our own responsibilities. And I think, Sir, it is beneath the dignity of this House, it is beneath the dignity of any Member of this House to cast any aspersion however ill-founded it may be on the floor of this House simply because we cannot be called upon to answer in any court of law for such an allegation. I submit, Sir, so far with reference to the privileges of Members of this House and their responsibilities." 12-15 p.m.

"Sir, I have been closely watching, if you will permit me to say that, the career of the hon. the Law Member in this House. I am not holding any brief for him but I submit, Sir, I say with confidence that all his actions in this House and outside it have been beyond any kind of the least suspicion."

* The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—"Sir, may I repeat the appeal which I made the other day that for many reasons it is well that it be left to me to defend myself because any defence of me made by my hon. Friend is likely to be misconstrued, especially as he shares my misfortune and belongs to my community and probably that may be another reason why further statements and suggestions will be made. I appeal to the hon. Member, Sir, through you not to speak for me, and I trust that nobody will come to my defence for if I am not able to defend myself, I am unworthy of this place."

Raj Bahadur T. M. NARASIMHACHARLU :—"I will do the same thing with reference to any Member of the Executive Council or the Ministry, Sir."

* The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—"Will not the hon. Member listen to me, Sir, and will he not refrain from dealing with the personal aspect?"

Raj Bahadur T. M. NARASIMHACHARLU :—"All right, Sir. So far as the allegations or impressions which he gathered from outside, and which he conveyed to the House, they are allegations which are quite unfounded. And I beseech the hon. Member for Madras for the sake of our own honour, our own dignity and for the sake of the heavy responsibility that lies on Members of this House, as well as other hon. Members here not to dwell upon such aspects, to deal with every question on its own merits and not rely on this kind of rumour or that and say that that is the impression and not an allegation made by him on the floor of this House. I request the hon. Member as his friend, nay, as his brother, to withdraw the aspersions as it will add to his own dignity to do so, and add to the prestige of the House and help us to forget and forgive each other."

[22nd March 1926]

* Rao Bahadur C. NATESA MUDALIYAR :—" Sir, I am sorry that the hon. the Law Member who knows me so well misunderstands me. Personally he knows what regard I have for him. More than that, we have been friends for the last thirty years, I think. And he knows, I believe, that he was a benefactor of my family in one way. I will therefore never impute anything against him. But what I say is the impression in Madras is that such and such a thing is taking place. If impression means alleging of course, I withdraw my statement. I shall simply request the hon. the Law Member to see that the things that took place at the last elections are not repeated in the coming elections too. Let him not make it personal. Even now I request Government to see that the portfolios of Police and Magistracy are assigned to different Members of the Cabinet. With these words, I do not want to press the motion."

* The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—" With great respect, Sir, before you allow the hon. Member to withdraw his motion, I should like to make a statement arising out of his speeches. Mr. President, Sir, it is perhaps as well that my hon. Friend from Madras has referred to the thirty years' acquaintance between us. I am glad that he remembers that at a time when his family was in difficulty in regard to a case concerning their properties, I had the honour and distinction of doing something by way of benefitting that family as their legal adviser. I am glad also that the hon. Member does not impute anything personal to me. Knowing Mr. Natesa Mudaliyar, knowing that he is not wholly responsible for any venom that may have tinged the statement that has emanated from him, I accept the assurance at its full value from the personal point of view."

"But, Sir, the hon. Member had still referred to certain impressions. Let me at once investigate what these impressions are. A certain political party carried on a procession in one corner of the city, I believe it was Tondiarpet and members of another party are alleged to have disturbed the procession and thereupon the police charged some persons belonging to both groups of assailants or opponents; they were all prosecuted, some were convicted while some were let off. Government could have had nothing to do with the initiation of the prosecutions, absolutely nothing. These papers never go through Government. The Commissioner of Police was an Englishman. Is it suggested that he was so suddenly smitten with the desire to benefit the Swaraj party or to injure the other party that he, an Englishman, suddenly made up his mind to prosecute men belonging to my friends party. Then, Sir, the charge was brought by the Police. The Magistracy heard it. I think more than one magistrate heard the case. There was conviction in certain cases. If it comes to that, the suggestion can evidently be made on the floor of the House that certain persons alone are to be convicted because they are unfriends of the Government and others acquitted because they are otherwise, Sir, then, there would be an end of British administration, there would be end of that sense of justice and fair play to which Britain has laid claim and gloriously vindicated. Such a suggestion is beneath notice."

"So far as the personal aspect is concerned as my hon. Friend has withdrawn his statement, I do not want to say anything more."

The motion was by leave withdrawn.

* Mr. D. MANJAYYA HEGGADE :—" Mr. President, Sir, I beg to move

'that the allotment of Rs. 1,50,600 for Superintendence be reduced by Rs. 100'.

[22nd March 1926] [Mr. D. Manjaya Heggade]

"The main object of this token motion is to bring to the notice of the Government the inefficiency of the present police staff in detection work and to protest against any proposal to abolish a certain number of police stations in the Presidency. There are thefts and murders committed in a larger number in the country than before. This can be confirmed by the Police Administration report regarding the true cases of grave crimes during the three years ending with 1924. In 1922 it was 35,883, in 1923, 32,995, and in 1924 it was 36,410. Then again, let me refer, Sir, to the statement laid on the table on the 12th of the last month in reply to question No. 1474 of Mr. K. Raghuchandra Bellal with reference to murders in Karkal taluk of South Kanara. Out of three murders reported in 1924 in the taluk only one was charged which was discharged in the Sessions Court and two cases were undetected. Briefly from 1922-25 only 11 murders were reported, of which seven were charged and four were undetected. Of the seven charged only two were convicted. I do not wish to comment upon these figures for they speak for themselves."

"Now, Sir, turning to the proposal to abolish a certain number of police stations throughout the Presidency, I learn in the district of South Kanara about seven stations are to be removed. It appears that the stations to be removed or some of these are located in the interior parts of the district and this policy surely will not lead to the maintenance of peace and order in those rural quarters. Sir, in my district some police stations like Charmady are situated near the boundary of the Mysore State and such stations are necessary and important. In these hilly regions where communications are bad, robberies and thefts are not uncommon and life and property are not safe and it is very inadvisable to remove the existing police stations. Sir, in these days when ignorant people under the present circumstances of stringency and hardship due to the economic upheaval in the country are ready to commit crimes and to face the consequences boldly, it is regrettable that the Government are going to reduce the number of police stations."

"If this is a measure of retrenchment, I would then suggest that it is not the proper and safe means of reducing expenditure on the Police department. The number of sub-inspectors may be conveniently reduced and a number of outstations at least may be left in the charge of well-experienced head constables. I hope the hon. the Law Member will kindly consider these facts and take steps to improve the efficiency of the police. I therefore press this token motion to protest against the proposal to abolish a few police stations."

* Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—" I have got a motion, Sir, on the same point numbered 486 on the paper. I wish to take this opportunity of speaking on the matter. I intend to add a word to what the hon. Member has just said. In the first place, I must endorse his statements in all their details. But I wish to add that the present move for a decrease in the subordinate police, while we find at the top an increase of expenditure on the superior police services, is very much to be deprecated. Sir, South Kanara is not a non-criminal district to justify any reduction of the police force, of police stations or police sub-inspectors. What applies to South Kanara applies to other districts as well, whether more or less criminal. I find there is a reduction in the subordinate police all over the Presidency and South Kanara also comes in for a share. The whole district is alarmed, except of course, people

[Mr. J. A. Saldanha]

[22nd March 1926]

who are inclined to crimes. A large number of thefts and other cases take place in our district and go undetected. Even if they are carried to the courts we find a large number of acquittals. I hope the Government will reconsider the position and see that the subordinate police force is not reduced."

* The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR:—"The reduction in the number of police stations is consequent on the reallocation proposals of the police in the districts. This has been undertaken as a measure of retrenchment by the Government. And arising out of the reallocation of police in the South Kanara district on which orders have been issued, the financial effect so far as that district is concerned is a saving of Rs. 52,682 per annum in recurring expenditure. Proposals for the reallocation of other districts are also pending. It will thus be seen that in response to the request made on the floor of this House for this reallocation this step has been taken and

* The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR:—"The reduction in the expenditure will so far as this one district is concerned, the reduction in the expenditure will be more than Rs. 50,000. Similar reductions are expected elsewhere and in replying to a later motion, I think I shall have to point out that as a result of general retrenchment in the department, the total saving is expected to be about 15 lakhs.

12-30
p.m.

"I shall endeavour to point out presently, that so far as this year is concerned, the retrenchment is about 5 lakhs. Something was said about the lack of retrenchment in regard to the higher ranks. When the question arises, and if it arises, I shall point out that it is not so. Even there, there has been a certain amount of retrenchment. We find that in almost every district where retrenchment has been practised, the inhabitants have said that the retrenchment is not necessary and that we must go back to the previous number of police stations and outposts and so forth. If we find that such requests are generally made and that such a feeling is generally prevalent, we shall have to retrace those steps. But at the present moment, I may say an order was issued on 2nd January 1926 so far as South Kanara is concerned, and that order was passed after very careful consideration. I think it is necessary to read what the District Magistrate and the District Superintendent of Police say as to that. The order is placed on the Editors' Table. This is what the District Magistrate of South Kanara says on the point:

"I support Mr. Cunningham's proposals to-day. I may mention that they were drawn up after consultation between Mr. Cunningham and Mr. Dawson (that is the District Superintendent of Police) and myself, and I think that they are the best that can be devised under the circumstances of this district. I should have been quite prepared to support a more drastic retrenchment in the numbers of the police force. When examining police stations, I have been struck by the extraordinarily small amount of work which each station has to do during the course of the year."

"I am afraid that my hon. Friend, Mr. Saldanha, has given a worse certificate to his district than the district authorities. They say that it is not very criminal, that it is comparatively law-abiding, as may be easily inferred from those reports. I may say that the general impression of the district authorities is that the South Kanara district is a very peaceable and law-abiding district. But what the District Magistrate says is curious:

"But, however, from the point of view of the public, a further reduction would not be advisable."

[22nd March 1926]

[Sir C. P. Ramaswami Ayyar]

because apparently the public are very keen that there should be no reduction. The Magistrate continues:

"As I have mentioned above, Mr. Cunningham's proposals have been drawn up after consultation in detail with myself and I commend them to the favourable consideration of Government."

"I may also say that the Inspector-General, the District Superintendents of Police and the Deputy Superintendents of Police have been asked to go into the whole question of the reallocation of the police stations and outposts in all districts. One point which they have been asked to keep in mind is that a police station should, as far as possible, be situated in a central locality so that other localities which may require scrutiny might be within easy reach. It was from that point of view that the reallocation took place. However, I may point out that, if in any particular district or locality—for instance, I remember a number of questions being asked about Karkal taluk of the South Kanara district which may be perhaps less law-abiding than other taluks of the district—special circumstances exist, they will be considered. As a matter of fact, in this Karkal taluk about 7 or 8 murders have taken place, and some of them have not been detected. I need not go into matters of detail; but I may say this. It may be that in the case of Karkal taluk in view of the fact that several murders are committed, some of which are undetected, a greater degree of protection is advisable. I am willing to transmit to the Inspector-General for scrutiny and consideration, and consider myself, any representations regarding individual cases. But it must be remembered that this retrenchment proposal leading, as I have already stated, to a total of about Rs. 14 lakhs in the Police expenditure is a part of a bigger arrangement, and I trust that excepting cases of specific localities as to which hon. Members may have definite ideas, they will not propose general increases because if these considerations are to be upheld in the case of South Kanara, they will have to be upheld in Madura, and also in Ramnad, and I think one hon. Member from Ramnad has seen me with regard to a particular outpost. These requests may be good so far as individual cases are concerned, but I would deprecate any general requests of this kind. We are working the system, and if at the end of the first year of the working of the system we find that on the whole we have depleted the ranks of the police or lessened beyond what I may call the margin of safety the number of police stations, then it may be a case for reconsideration."

The motion was by leave withdrawn.

Rai Bahadur T. M. NARASIMHACHARLU:—"Sir, I beg to move my motion No. 476 on the paper."

* The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR:—"May I ask my hon. Friend whether it is a real cut or is a token motion?"

Rai Bahadur T. M. NARASIMHACHARLU:—"I wanted it to be a real cut, Sir, but after hearing the explanation or the reasons for retaining the present strength, I shall reconsider my position. Now, Sir, I want

to reduce the allotment of Rs. 2,58,500 for pay of officers by Rs. 45,000.

"My object is to omit the provision for 14 Deputy Superintendents of Police out of the provision for 39 Deputy Superintendents. It will be seen on turning to page 178 of the Civil Budget Estimates that it is proposed to have 27 District Superintendents of Police, 25 Assistant Superintendents and, in addition to that, 39 Deputy Superintendents. These 39 posts and

[Mr. T. M. Narasimhacharlu] [22nd March 1926]

the other 35 come to 74, which gives an average of 3 Assistant or Deputy Superintendents of Police for each district. I may claim to have some knowledge of the work that these deputy superintendents do, and I cannot say, Sir, that they have justified the expectations originally entertained for the necessity of their appointments or their continuance. In my opinion, Sir, it seems to me that these gentlemen have almost an easy time of the day, and they are not taking any particular care either in helping in investigations or in the inspection of offices that are placed under them. I do not want to say more because that will be going into very unnecessary details. All I can say is that there is no justification for retaining so many of them, on an average of 3 per district. It may be also seen that in the motion No. 482 I have given a cut by one hundred inspectors. My object is that the persons who are engaged in investigation are the sub-inspectors, and these superintendents are more or less a supervising authority, and I am not satisfied either with their supervision or with the efficient discharge of their functions. They have not satisfied the expectations that were originally entertained of them. I therefore beg to move for the reduction."

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR:—"Mr. President, this matter has formed the subject of discussion in this House for a very long time and ideas more or less akin to those that have emanated from the hon. Member from Cuddapah have found expression on the floor of this House. I may say, Sir, that it is not an unreasonable attitude on the part of an hon. Member of this House who does not know at first hand the extent of work that they have to do, to come to the conclusion that the system is really one hierarchy of supervision—I am using an expression which was used on the floor of this House once. It was said that the constable does some work, somebody else supervises him, some other officer supervises him in turn and so on until it is supervision to the Nth degree—that is my own expression. But the exact phrase used on that occasion was 'hierarchy of supervision.' Now, when dealing with this matter, Sir Lionel Davidson made the following statement when there was a motion of Rao Bahadur K. Gopalakrishnayya to reduce the allotment of Rs. 1,88,160 for deputy superintendents by Rs. 75,000 and with your permission I shall quote those remarks:

'I do not think that either the mover or the seconder can realize what the effect of accepting this motion would be. The deputy superintendents of police constitute the Provincial Police Service and if they are annihilated the number of Indians in the superior ranks in the department will be very substantially reduced. The functions of deputy superintendents of police correspond ordinarily to the functions of the assistant superintendents of police (that is, their Imperial confreres). They hold subdivisional charges in the districts, and there is not the least doubt that there is ample employment in such charges for the present staff. The question of additions to it has, I think, on two occasions been before the Finance Committee this year or last year. The number of deputy superintendents has been carefully worked out with reference to the actual charges which have to be held. They are not all subdivisional charges and the deputy superintendents form the Provincial branch of the Madras Police Department.'

"Now, I may, for the information of the hon. Member, give from the Police orders an abstract of the duties of the deputy superintendent. The duties of a deputy superintendent in charge of a subdivision are these:

'He is responsible for all matters relating to the internal economy and management of the District police force and for the maintenance of its discipline and punctual and regular performance of all its preventive and executive duties. He is responsible for seeing that his assistants and deputies work efficiently and to bring to the notice of the Inspector-General any defects of character or temperament or want of zeal. He shall make constant tours of inspection. He shall not confine himself to examining only police stations, but shall visit villages and make himself acquainted with the local village officials and inhabitants and ascertain the state of crime and enquire into the work of his subordinates.'

22nd March 1926] [Sir C. P. Ramaswami Ayyar]

'The deputy superintendents in charge of subdivisions are entirely under the orders of the District Superintendent of Police whom they are bound to keep fully informed of their proceedings and of what is going on in the subdivision. Subdivisional police officers shall, whenever possible, investigate cases of the following classes, visiting the scenes of crime and superintending the enquiry: dacoity, highway robbery, murder, robbery of over Rs. 100 and any case presenting important features, thefts of a specially grave nature, any disturbance, riot or affray of a serious nature, all cases in which a native has met with his death at the hands of a British soldier, any important or specially grave cases, and counterfeit currency notes. They shall investigate in portant cases of lesser gravity which may occur near their halting places.'

"Now, it may be said, Sir, and it has been said on the floor of this House, that this is a counsel of perfection, that as a matter of fact many deputy superintendents are merely office heads or hacks, that they do not do very much of investigation, that they do not go to the villages, as they are required to do and so on. If so, Sir, may I again plead, as I have pleaded during the last budget and also on the occasion previous to that, that it is only to the extent to which the deputy superintendents of police realize that they are not supermen but in general are servants of the public to the extent to which the Police realize that they are servants of the public, will the administration of the department reach the highest pitch. But there must be active co-operation on the part of the public to secure the best results. If there are any specific instances of backsliding or misconduct or negligence prejudicial to the interests of the public, if you approach the Inspector-General or the Member who for the time being has the honour of holding the Police portfolio, you will see that there will be no remissness in bringing such people to book. But it seems to me to say that these men are supernumeraries is not taking the right line. Sir, may I conclude with what Sir Lionel Davidson said that this is not the direction in which I would ask the hon. Member to move."

* Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR:—"May I know, Sir, what are the classes of investigation attended to by the deputy superintendents of police, what are the classes of crimes investigated by them and the other officers? From the list read out by the hon. the Law Member, he gave us an idea that the deputy superintendent does not only supervision but also investigation."

* The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR:—"In connexion with the subject of inspectors which is coming up separately, I shall deal with it."

Rai Bahadur T. M. NARASIMHACHARLU:—"No doubt, Sir, the hon. Sir Lionel Davidson appealed to the Indian sentiment to preserve this Indian cadre. I am very much flattered by it and of course that is the only way of appealing to us for retaining such provisions. Very well, as regards the duties, I have very carefully heard the list of the duties of the deputy superintendents of police, but I may say, Sir, that they are very delightfully vague, and any one can undertake such duties without feeling any difficulty whatsoever. My point is this. The question is not that they can do much work but that they do not do such work as they are expected to do.

"I only wish, Sir, that these gentlemen are stirred up and are asked to do their duties as public servants, servants of the public. It is all very well to say that the public must co-operate with the police. But as regards that point I may say that the police consider themselves masters and that is the reason for the rub. If all the public servants think that they are the servants of the public then there will be no difficulty whatsoever. Especially these

[Mr. T. M. Narasimhacharlu] [22nd March 1926]

gentlemen of the Police department consider themselves as masters and the people as their servants. That is to borrow an expression from some of our brother members here"

* The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—" I thought that the deprecation of such impressions was most emphatically urged by my hon. Friend from Cuddapah."

Rai Bahadur T. M. NARASIMHACHARLU :—" With this difference that this is my impression and it is on my responsibility as a pleader in a criminal district. My experience is that they could do better work, that they could show better investigation and that they could do better inspection and supervision. Unfortunately they do not come up to the point. I do not borrow other people's impression but it is my impression. If the hon. Member will only kindly stir them up I should have been very much pleased. I do not want that the officers should go to their houses from their offices. I do not press my motion."

The motion was by leave withdrawn.

* Mr. A. CHIDAMBARA NADAR :—" I beg to move

'that the allotment of Rs. 2,58,500 for pay of officers be reduced by Rs. 100.'

" Sir, so far as the Police department is concerned there are two or three sub-inspectors in my community of whom one, I understand, is in the selection grade. Moreover, Sir, it seems he has rendered meritorious service as a prosecuting sub-inspector. In spite of that, he has not been promoted to the inspector's grade. Though we have not been fortunate enough to see that some of our younger generations are recruited to the higher appointments in the Police service such as deputy superintendents of police and circle inspectors, I shall be glad if the hon. the Law Member considers this single case of sub-inspector who, in spite of his meritorious service, has not been promoted."

* The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—" I think it was my hon. Friend, Mr. R. Veerian, who last year put me a similar question. May I suggest to hon. Members of this House that cases where particular individuals have got claims to recognition or to promotion are just the cases where they ought to come direct to the Inspector-General or to the Member in charge and make a reasonable representation. There are a number of similar resolutions. May I make a statement? One hon. Member has stated that there are not sufficient number of Nadars in the Police department. One other hon. Member—I think he is looking at me—has appealed to me to promote certain Tiyyas to higher ranks in the Police department. I think six motions have been tabled by hon. Members belonging to the depressed classes suggesting that members of the depressed classes be promoted. Now, Sir, I may say that in this matter I have the fullest co-operation, and also His Excellency in the advice that he gets has the fullest co-operation of the Inspector-General in this matter. But it must be seen that the appointment of sub-inspectors and inspectors never comes to the Government at all. All these appointments are made by the Deputy Inspectors-General and Inspector-General Grades above that come to His Excellency and the Member in charge. In all these cases the House will take it from me that very great care is taken to see that communities

[22nd March 1926] [Sir C. P. Ramaswami Ayyar]

get adequate representation. I am not saying this ad hominem. The number of Muhammadan gentlemen who have been given high places in the Police department is very large. That is really because there were men who distinguished themselves. I may say this, if members of any community do good work and service it will lead to prompt recognition. Having said that, let me make a statement. To say that a person who is 76th on the police list should be promoted makes it very difficult for any department to take action. But the inevitable result is that all the 75 are up in arms against the 76th. If the 76th man is out for something which the others won't get, a general discomposure is produced to the detriment of the 76th and of discipline in general. I would strongly suggest that when such recommendations are made the most expedient course is that those suggestions be made to the Inspector-General or the Member in charge. Else the whole department is up in arms against the 76th. With this statement I assure the hon. Member that the department will carefully consider the various claims."

Rao Bahadur P. RAMAN :—" I beg to move

'that the allotment of Rs. 2,58,500 for pay of officers be reduced by Rs. 100.'

" I beg to invite the attention of the hon. the Law Member to the fact that there is no member of the Tiyya community as Deputy Superintendent."

* Khan Bahadur P. KHALIF-UL-LAH SAHIB :—" I move

'that the allotment of Rs. 2,58,500 for pay of officers be reduced by Rs. 100.'

" My only object in moving this is to bring to the notice of the Government the reasonableness of appointing a fair number of Muslims as District Superintendents of Police. Since giving this motion I understand some appointments have been made in this direction. In view of this fact of course I do not want to press my motion. At the same time I want to urge upon the Government the reasonableness of giving a fair number of representation in this department to which at any rate my community can claim to have rendered loyal and faithful service."

* The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—" There is one Muhammadan gentleman in the cadre of Deputy Superintendents, Mr. Ammu Sahib by name. He is at present acting as Superintendent of Police in the district of Malabar. He will in due course be made a Superintendent when the turn comes. There are ten Muhammadan permanent Deputy Superintendents. Of these, one is on leave and one is officiating as Superintendent of Police, West Godavari district. It will be thus seen that we have not ignored the claims of this community. Government realise that this community is specially fitted both by tradition and personal qualities to fill up places in the Police department and we are doing our best to encourage them."

* Mr. A. CHIDAMBARA NADAR :—" With regard to the case I have mentioned, it is not a question of 76th or 86th in the list. It is a case of sheer neglect. So, Sir, if the Government at least communicates this matter to the Inspector-General I shall be very glad."

* The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—" Certainly, Sir. If that statement had been made to me the communication would have been made and probably produced a greater effect."

[22nd March 1926]

* Mr. A. CHIDAMBARA NADAR:—"In such a case I will withdraw the motion."

* Mr. K. PRABHAKARAN TAMPAN:—"Sir, with reference to my hon. Friend Mr. Raman's motion in relation to the Tiyya community I wish to say a few words. I am a Malayali and the Tiyyas are a fairly advanced community among us. I am one of those who believe that we people of Malabar need not go to Government and make appeals for communal preferences and all such things. There is a Judge of the High Court recruited from the Tiyya community. It is not through efforts of this kind that he was made a High Court Judge. There are other persons among the Tiyyas who hold equally responsible appointments in Government service. They got into the service by dint of their sheer merit. The Tiyyas like other Malayalis are a highly educated community who can afford to stand on their own legs. I am confident without special pleadings on their behalf they will be able to get into service if only they deserve them. I therefore ask my Friend Mr. Raman to withdraw his motion."

* Rao Sahib P. V. GOPALAN:—"I wish to speak a few words with reference to Mr. Raman's motion and from what has fallen from Mr. Tampan. I heard the hon. the Law Member say that if the seniormost Tiyya is to be appointed as a deputy superintendent of police that step will mean the supersession of so many other people. Well, I submit for the information of the hon. the Law Member that lately when selection of candidates for the deputy superintendents of police was made I understood that a Tiyya candidate was selected by the Staff Selection Board and approved by His Excellency the Governor. If there was any objection to select the seniormost Tiyya thereby ignoring the claims of men above him, what I would submit to the hon. the Law Member is to have a direct recruitment. I understand the Tiyya candidate who was selected has lately qualified himself in the Malabar territorial force and that he is a second lieutenant in the force. I submit to the hon. the Law Member that if he cannot give promotion to the seniormost Tiyya he will at least sympathetically consider the claims of the Tiyya who has been selected by the Staff Selection Board and afterwards qualified himself in the territorial force. I heard him say that unrepresented communities are given representation in the Police department. When the members of the depressed classes or backward communities are concerned it is said that the very fact that they belong to the backward community is no good by itself but that efficiency and qualification are the sole test. I have to submit, Sir, that last year when the selection of sub-inspectors was made, ever so many members of the backward classes . . ."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT:—"I think the House will consider the question of sub-inspectors and inspectors later on as there are notices of such motion."

* Rao Sahib P. V. GOPALAN:—"I am just mentioning this as I heard the hon. the Law Member to say that the depressed and the backward communities are given representation in the Police department. My grievance is that we are told that the very fact that we happen to be members of backward or depressed classes is no right or claim unless we have qualifications. Ever so many of our members have been trying to get the post of sub-inspectors and they are qualified S.S.L.C.'s. Not a single member of our community has been selected last year among the number of candidates

1 p.m.

[22nd March 1926]

[Mr. P. V. Gopalan]

taken as sub-inspectors, and, if my information is correct, they are not selected even if they are duly qualified candidates. This is the position in which we are placed, and so we, the members of the depressed and backward communities, have certainly to bring this to the notice of the Government. I appeal to the hon. the Law Member that hereafter he will bear in mind that the real progress of the country lies in giving genuine representation to the members of the depressed classes and backward communities."

* The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR:—"Sir, while I generally sympathise with the remarks that have been made by my hon. Friend who spoke last, he will perhaps allow me gently to remonstrate with him on one statement, viz., that hereafter at least I should be in sympathy with those communities. I may say, Sir, that in 1923 a communication was addressed to the Inspector-General of Police which was adverted to on the floor of this House during a debate on a similar matter, wherein the Inspector-General had been requested prominently to keep in view the claims of communities which have not already been sufficiently represented in the Police department, and he, Sir, has assured us that he will do so. Let me reiterate, what I said: sub-inspectors and inspectors are recruited at the present moment in the mufassal by the Inspector-General and the Deputy Inspector-General—these will be replaced in time by the Staff Selection Board or the Public Services Commission when it comes; I trust it will come soon. So far as the Deputy Superintendents are concerned, the procedure is as follows: the Staff Selection Board makes a preliminary choice out of the applicants. There are 300 or 400 of them, and a few who are found to be qualified and also chosen with advertence to the principle that all communities must have equal opportunities, are placed before His Excellency who generally interviews the candidates in the presence of the Member in charge of the portfolio and the Inspector-General, and sometimes His Excellency and the Member interview the candidates. At such an interview a Tiyya candidate was present, but the choice fell upon a Coorg candidate who had exceptional claims and whose past career was such that we could not possibly think of a better choice. What may be said is this: that the Tiyya candidate produced quite a favourable impression. This year there are two assistant superintendents of police to be recruited and certainly also a fresh recruitment of deputy superintendents, and I may say that the principles for which the hon. Members have contended will be prominently kept in view."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT:—"I understand that the three hon. Members are desirous of withdrawing their motions."

The motions were by leave withdrawn.

Mr. A. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—"I beg to move

'that the allotment of Rs. 2,58,500 for pay of officers be reduced by Rs. 100.'

"Mr. President, this is merely a motion to get some information. I think we had a similar motion with reference to the Revenue Department, and it was said that it was by a mistake that all those officers were made non-voted. I should like to know whether the same sort of mistake has crept in here, or whether it has anything to do with any specific recommendations made by the Lee Commission or with any action taken thereon. I find that the district superintendents of police have been increased by three and all these are put in the non-voted list."

[22nd March 1926]

* The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR:—"This is not a slip, Sir. What happened is that in pursuance of the principle of Indianisation of the district superintendents of police, certain persons from the Provincial Service were put into the Imperial Service and have been appointed district superintendents. On their appointment in the Imperial Service they have been put into the non-voted list."

* Mr. J. A. SALDANHA:—"May I ask under what principles these persons, when they are put in the list of whatever appointment on whatever ground should be treated as non-voted?"

* The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR:—"Under the Government of India Act all appointments made by the Secretary of State are non-voted. It may be inconvenient and embarrassing to hon. Members. But facts are facts. What happened was, the Secretary of State threw open two more places for being filled up by members of the Provincial Service who may be promoted to the Imperial Service. In pursuance of that principle, for instance, Mr. Govindan Nayar and Mr. Ramanuja Ayyangar who were made District Superintendents of Police have now gone into the Imperial cadre. The other place went to the new district of West Godavari for which a district superintendent of police became necessary."

"As for their being put in the non-voted list, I may refer the hon. Member to section 72-D. of the Government of India Act—

'Nothing in the foregoing sub-section shall require proposals to be submitted to the Council relating to the following heads of expenditure:— (iv) salaries and pensions of persons appointed by or with the approval of His Majesty or by the Secretary of State in Council.'

"As these appointments are made by the Secretary of State, they are not put in the voted list."

Mr. A. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—"Mr. President, Sir, the explanation that the hon. the Law Member has been pleased to give makes me ask you how these appointments were made. Were they appointments open to the Provincial Service men before, and have they since been absorbed into the Indian Police Service cadre? If so, may I know, Sir, how the Secretary of State came to throw open these appointments to the Indian Police Service? Did it happen that two more appointments were given to the Imperial Service so that the cadre was increased by two?"

* The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR:—"Two appointments for which men would normally be recruited from England as assistant superintendents were allowed to be made by promotion from the ranks of the Provincial Service."

Mr. A. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—"I do not press the motion."

The motion was by leave withdrawn.

Rai Bahadur T. M. NARASIMHACHARLU:—"I beg to move

'that the allotment of Rs. 80,65,000 for Police Force—General—Permanent—be reduced by Rs. 2,10,000.'

(i.e., to omit provision for 100 Inspectors of Police out of the provision for 253 Inspectors of Police)

"As I already intimated, it seems to me that we have got too many inspectors with very little work. Very often, Sir, I have noticed sub-inspectors and inspectors are, so to say, of contrary opinion as regards the

[22nd March 1926]

[Mr. T. M. Narasimhacharlu]

investigation and progress of a particular criminal case. The result is that the investigation suffers, and people are not done proper justice. So far as the supervision question is concerned, I submit that there are the District Superintendent of Police and his assistants, viz., the Assistant Superintendent of Police and also the Deputy Superintendents in the district. As I have already submitted, there are three Assistants, either as Assistant Superintendents or Deputy Superintendents, on an average in every district to assist the District Superintendent in the matter of supervision. I do not at all understand why there is a necessity for 253 inspectors, when their work of supervision can be equally done by the superior officers, Assistant Superintendents and Deputy Superintendents and the District Superintendent, and when the work of investigation can be done and is being done by the sub-inspectors of police. Very often, the inspector's interference in investigation of cases causes only confusion in the case, and consequent improper investigation of the criminal case. I submit, Sir, that Government must consider this question, which is being raised every year, i.e., the question of the continuance of inspectors of police. It is possible that by reducing the number of inspectors you may increase the sub-inspectors. Sometimes the jurisdiction of one single sub-inspector is too large, and you may have two sub-inspectors for a single station, allotting one portion of the jurisdiction to one sub-inspector and the other portion to another sub-inspector, just as we post two district munsifs or two sub-judges to one station. In that way, you may increase the number of sub-inspectors, so that the sub-inspectors may do the work properly, the work of investigation of crimes. I submit, Sir, that that will be a proper way of spending our money instead of employing so many as 253 inspectors, which means on an average nearly 10 inspectors per district, and the amount that we spend on them is not at all justifiable. I therefore submit that as a first step a hundred inspectors of police might be reduced for the current year. In any case, my submission is that the question of supervision and the work done by the police do require further consideration at the hands of the Government, and I submit that unless the Government do really seriously consider the question there is every chance of the crimes being left undetected or unsatisfactorily detected."

* The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR:—"Mr. President, Sir, I am indebted to the hon. Member from Uddapah for, if I may use the expression, the reasonable speech which he has made in regard to this matter. The reasonableness of the speech, however, was somewhat in contrast with the unreasonableness of the request with which he wound up his speech, namely, the immediate abolition of 100 inspectors. Sir, let me take the House back to not very ancient days. I think it was last year the question was raised in a direct form and then I pointed out that in 1916 and 1917, the Government tried an experiment . . ."

* At this stage, Mr. Saldanha's voice in conversation from behind the official Benches being heard, the hon. the PRESIDENT said:—"May I say to Mr. Saldanha that there is one debate going on here, which only can be carried on, and not another debate in any other part of the House?"

* The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR:—"I pointed out then, Sir, that in 1916-17 Government tried the experiment of abolishing inspectors of police and creating additional subdivisions in charge of Assistant

1-15
p.m.

[Sir C. P. Ramaswami Ayyar] [22nd March 1926]

Superintendents. The experiment was tried in Trichinopoly and Kurnool, where the inspectors were completely removed, and in a modified form in Coimbatore where two inspectors were attached to Subdivisional Officer for the purpose of investigation and control of crime, the system of circle inspectors being abolished. The experiment went on for about three years. In 1919, the Inspector-General of Police reported that the experiments were a complete failure and that supervision over the work of sub-inspectors had become bad. I am quoting his words: 'Investigation of crime becomes more and more unsatisfactory and discipline wholly below the mark' These were attributed to the absence of circle inspectors who were considered an indispensable link in the police grade. This position was accepted by the Government and the restoration of circle inspectors was ordered in 1919.

"Then in 1923, in connexion with the work of the Police Committee, it will be remembered that there was a very thorough and exhaustive enquiry of this specific question by the Police Committee on which there sat some hon. Members of this House and also certain very experienced and efficient members of the police force. The conclusions are contained in the Police Committee Report of 1923 at page 109. They are:

'that inspectors cannot be dispensed with though it may be possible to effect some reduction in the present number, that sub-inspectors should be retained as the officers in charge of stations and as the ordinary investigating agency, though an enquiry should be instituted as to the necessity of the existing number of stations.'

"I can further say that orders were passed on this report in September 24, 1923, in which the Government stated as follows:—

'The Government agree with the Committee that though it may be possible to effect some reduction in their numbers the grade of inspectors must be retained. A very important part of their duties is to guide and help the sub-inspectors and with their greater experience take on some of the more difficult parts of their work. The sub-inspector must continue as the officer in charge of a station and as the ordinary investigating agency. The Government are further of the opinion that the question of the pay of this grade needs serious and careful examination. The pay and status of the sub-inspector has been improved from time to time in the hope of recruiting the really good men who would improve the standard of work performed by the old station-house officer. While the Government admit that there has been considerable improvement since the old system was abolished, it is clear that the sub-inspector scheme has not on the whole been a success, a rather better class of station-house officer has been obtained, but at greatly increased expense. The Police Commission contemplated very definitely that the sub-inspector would be of the best type of the educated class. The effective commentary on the failure to secure this is the suggestion of the committee that the proportion of sub-inspectors to be recruited by promotion from the rank of head constable should be increased above the maximum of 30 per cent at present allowed.'

"But the fact of the matter was that the Government came to the conclusion that there was a defect in the system of recruitment of sub-inspectors, for we have not got that class of sub-inspectors which would enable us to dispense with the grade of inspectors. It is true that theoretically much may be said in favour of the system of having sub-inspectors as not only an investigating agency but as an agency which may be in direct correlation with the Deputy Superintendents, if sub-inspectors could be recruited of the kind of calibre which was originally contemplated. That was not practicable. The question of the abolition was examined by the Police Committee of 1923 and the Government agreed with the majority view. Consequent on the reallocation proposals, the number of sub-inspectors to be reduced permanently by 70, and we have not got that grade of sub-inspectors to enable us to dispense with the inspectors. We came to the conclusion that we might retain the sub-inspector purely and simply as

22nd March 1926] [Sir C. P. Ramaswami Ayyar]

an investigating agency. The propositions are now under consideration for the reduction at once in the course of this year of the sub-inspectorate by 56. This reduction will be increased next year. The present police budget for 1926-27 is based on the footing that 56 sub-inspectors go. That is the exact position to-day. In view of these matters I ask the hon. Member to bear in mind that the Government have been very anxiously considering the question of the reduction of the number of sub-inspectors and inspectors taken as a group, that they have come to the conclusion that on the whole any reduction that is to be effected or that may be effected should be rather in the ranks of sub-inspectors than in the ranks of inspectors, really because there is not very much difference in the matter of the quality of persons actually recruited, between the head constable, and the sub-inspector. We have not been able to realize our ambition to get as sub-inspector a person who would be of superior type, both by character and attainment so as to do away with the institutions of inspectors. If we are fortunate enough to get that class of person as sub-inspector, very much retrenchment in the ranks of the inspector would be possible. At present it is not possible. With these words, I would ask the hon. Member to bear in mind that the Government is not unalive to these matters."

* Diwan Bahadur M. KRISHNAN NAYAR :—"Sir, my hon. Friend the Law Member referred to the report of the Police Committee and said that in the opinion of the Government as well as of the Police Committee the recruitment of sub-inspectors has not been on the whole a success and therefore it is not possible . . ."

* The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—"the quality of the sub-inspectors recruited has not been that which we hoped for."

* Diwan Bahadur M. KRISHNAN NAYAR :—"That is, the quality of sub-inspectors recruited is not of that quality which would make it possible to reduce the number of circle inspectors. That is how I understood my hon. Friend and that is how I understood the Police Committee report when I read it. It seems to me that that shows that there has been considerable fault in the system of recruitment of sub-inspectors. I know personally and I believe it must be within the experience of many Members of this Council, and possibly within the experience of my hon. Friend himself before he began to occupy that Bench that amongst the applicants for sub-inspectors places were men of very high education. I know personally there were many graduates who were applicants for appointments as sub-inspectors. And I know also that there are a few graduates among those who have been appointed as sub-inspectors; there are not many. If the recruitment, I am not confining my remarks to any particular district or area, it is a general observation, if the recruitment to the ranks of sub-inspectors had been more careful, this result, namely, that the sub-inspectors that have been actually recruited have not been of the desired quality, would not have happened; and if we have had the necessary quality in sub-inspectors that were actually recruited, then there would have been no necessity to retain the present number of inspectors. In fact, if we have sub-inspectors of the requisite quality, and deputy or assistant superintendents of the requisite quality, then there is no need for the circle inspector to stand midway between the two. There may be exceptional cases where the circle inspector may be necessary. I submit that this middle class officers is unnecessary, and if the

[Mr. M. Krishnan Nayar] [22nd March 1926]

quality of sub-inspector is not of the required type, it is due to the defect in the system of recruitment. So that, if my hon. Friend will impress on those whose duty it is to recruit sub-inspectors to pay particular attention to the quality and the qualification of the candidates, I submit the desired men may be easily got."

* The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—" May I thank my hon. Friend from Malabar for having put the matter, perhaps, in a more trenchant and better way than I was able to do. The real difficulty is, as I have stated, that we have not been able to get the right kind of men, not the head constable type, but of a type of men superior to the head constable. If we secure that type, then the number of sub-inspectors can be very considerably reduced. I shall keep in the suggestions that have been made by the hon. Member from Cuddapah and my hon. Friend from Malabar and impress on the department the expediency, indeed the necessity of recruiting to the first superior grade of the police, men of the required calibre and qualifications, and in the best possible manner."

Rai Bahadur T. M. NARASIMHACHARLU :—" As to this want of quality in the recruitment, can it be due to recruitment on a communal basis ? "

* The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—" If my hon. Friend will permit me, I do not think any single cause can be assigned to it; it may be lack of promotion, it may be there are other avenues which attract the better type of young men, it may be that the Police department is not as popular as it should be, there may be a hundred reasons, and it will be very difficult to assign any specific reason. I trust my hon. Friend will not pursue that line."

Rai Bahadur T. M. NARASIMHACHARLU :—" I will never pursue that line; it is not in my line. All I suggest is that the statements made by the hon. the Law Member clearly go to show that there must be some enquiry before we make this department efficient and attractive. I submit, Sir, as the hon. the Law Member has stated that he would make enquiries into these matters, I withdraw the motion."

The motion was by leave withdrawn.

* Mr. A. CHIDAMBARA NADAR :—" I am going to withdraw my motion (No. 487 on the agenda). Before withdrawing the motion, I want to say

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" I wish the hon. Member would not speak of withdrawing so early, as he could not make a speech."

* Mr. A. CHIDAMBARA NADAR :—" Then in such a case I have nothing more to say except to thank the hon. the Law Member for his kindness in asking the police to take the necessary steps in the matter of the Nadars of Maveedupannai. Sir, it was a dispute between two communities, the Nadars and Brahmans."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" The hon. Member is already satisfied with the action taken by the hon. the Law Member."

* Mr. A. CHIDAMBARA NADAR :—" I want to thank the hon. the Law Member."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" Motions of gratitude to Members of the front Bench are hardly in order on budget motions."

[22nd March 1926]

* Mr. A. CHIDAMBARA NADAR :—" I have been asked to convey the thanks to the hon. the Law Member in the open House."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" If hon. Members want to convey their thanks to Members on the front Bench, I am afraid very valuable time of the House will be taken up. I thought criticism was more legitimate."

The House adjourned for lunch at 1-30 p.m.

After Lunch (2-30 p.m.).

Rao Bahadur M. C. RAJA :—" I beg to move

' that the allotment of Rs. 1,21,59,400 for District Police be reduced by Rs. 100.'

" Sir, I have been giving notice of motions like this year after year to reduce the grant under Police and have been asking the hon. the Law Member to give more appointments to my community in the Police department, and every year I have been assured and also promised that it would be done so, but to no effect. The only department in which my people would be of great service is the Police department. You know, Sir, by long ancestry that it was our people who served in the Indian army from the earliest times of the East India Company up to the present day and as such we deserve every support from the Government in the Police department. In spite of this fact, the representation given to my people in the Police department is very very small. The other day with reference to a question tabled by my hon. Friend Mr. Veerian a statement was presented before the House that the number of candidates of the depressed classes that applied for posts of sub-inspectors of police, etc., in the Madras City was three, that the Staff Selection Board had the kindness of selecting one from among these three, and that the department had the generosity of rejecting even that one candidate. Then, again, Sir, as regards the appointments of probationary deputy superintendents of police there were three candidates from my community. The Staff Selection Board with their usual generosity selected one candidate and the department rejected even that one candidate. If that is the state of things that is going to prevail under the present Government, I do not know where we will stand in regard to our claims in the public services. I respectfully ask the hon. the Law Member to consider the question of recruiting more from the depressed classes to the Police Service and at least this year I hope he will give special instructions to the Inspector-General of Police to see that a larger number of my people are recruited in that department. The position is this: we do not ask that inefficient people should be entertained in that department, but other things being equal, I want that preference should be given to the members of the depressed classes when they apply for recruitment in the Police department. According to a statement furnished to me, I see that there are three candidates belonging to my community possessing the required qualification to be entertained as sub-inspectors of police but not one of them has actually been taken. In the other case three qualified men have applied and not one of them has been taken. That clearly shows the amount of sympathy which is extended to our community. I therefore request the hon. the Law Member to issue special instructions, special instructions I ask, to the Inspector-General of Police to entertain our men."

[22nd March 1926]

* Mr. R. VEERIAN:—"I am going to convince the hon. the Law Member (hear, hear) by facts and figures as to how the members of the depressed classes are being selected as constables in the Police department. I know for certain that selections are being made, not by the hon. the Law Member, but by the District Superintendent of Police on the recommendation of every circle inspector of police or the inspector of police or by some of the responsible officer in the department, or I think he can select them of his own accord without considering any recommendation from any of the responsible officers of the Police department. When I made several months ago my representation in a very constitutional manner to the hon. the Law Member with reference to this matter, he told me that he would issue a circular to the department to recruit men from among the depressed classes."

* The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR:—"It is not merely question of telling the hon. Member. A circular has been issued enjoining on the department the imperative necessity of seeing that as many as possible of the members of that community are enlisted."

* Mr. R. VEERIAN:—"I want to say that I am a believer in frequent circulars and not in one or two circulars. Because I am sure that by issuing frequent circulars the desired results will be achieved. I particularly request the hon. the Law Member in charge of the portfolio of Police (laughter) to issue frequent circulars. I am sure that if the members of the depressed classes are selected, it will be a great honour done to the depressed classes as a whole. I am very grateful for the small mercy shown towards the depressed classes by the hon. the Law Member in issuing circulars."

"Sir, I think the following qualifications only are required for persons to be selected as constables in the Police department namely satisfactory character, social status, and ability to read and write the vernaculars of the Presidency."

"They should be well-built in body. They should be loyal also. Do you think that the members of the depressed classes are lacking in any of these qualities? No, certainly not. I want to bring to the notice of the hon. the Law Member that no member of the depressed classes was selected in 1924-25 in the districts of Vizagapatam, Kurnool, Godavari East, Kistna, Godavari West, Guntur, Nellore, Cuddapah, South Arcot, Ramnad, Tinnevely, North Malabar, South Malabar, South Kanara, Railway Police Madras, Railway Police, Trichinopoly. In Coimbatore only one was selected in the year 1924; in 1925 none was selected. In 1925 also none was selected in so many of these districts. After all only 30 persons were selected in the year 1924 and only 28 were selected in the year 1925. This is far from satisfactory. I request the hon. the Law Member to issue frequent circulars so that they might have the desired effect."

* The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR:—"Mr. President, Sir, I have heard with interest the businesslike and persistent appeal of my hon. Friend Mr. Raja. I have also listened with considerable interest to the somewhat thrilling statement made by the hon. Member Mr. Veerian, every one of whose actions and gestures proclaimed that he not only was moved himself with great emotion, but was obviously desirous of communicating that emotion to his hearers. (Laughter.) I realize that the state of things under which only 30 were recruited in one year and only 28 in another

[22nd March 1926] [Sir C. P. Ramaswami Ayyar]

year is not quite satisfactory. Let me say that deliberately from my place here, Government are satisfied that recruitment can be accelerated from among the depressed classes. I realize what has fallen from Mr. Raja in regard to the qualities of the depressed classes which may enable them to become efficient police officers. They yield to none in their fine physique, in their instinct for discipline and loyalty to their superior officers. They have moreover martial traditions. Having regard to all these factors, Government deliberately enjoined upon the department the necessity of speeding up. I may here make one remark apropos what has fallen from the hon. Member Mr. Veerian regarding frequent circulars. Sir, there is no particular efficacy in frequent circulars. When the Government in a responsible capacity tells the Inspector-General that they expect him to do a certain thing, the Inspector-General knows what the intention of the Government is. I do not think, Sir, as sometimes happens in our domestic affairs, constant lectures whether they be curtain lectures or otherwise, are necessary from the head of the administration to the departmental officers. Let us hope that what I have said to-day and what I shall say as a consequence of the whole debate will result in much better statistics next year, when Mr. Veerian, I trust, will utilize his undoubted eloquence on some other subject and not on constables."

Rai Bahadur T. M. NARASIMHACHARLU:—"If he is renominated." (Laughter.)

* The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR:—"I do not think I have said anything to cause amusement. I wish to state, however, that what I said is not to be taken as a pledge of renomination." (Laughter.)

Rao Bahadur M. C. RAJA:—"In view of the assurance given by the hon. the Law Member that he would do his level best to show better statistics next year, I beg to withdraw my motion."

The motion was by leave withdrawn.

* Mr. A. CHIDAMBARA NADAR:—"Sir, I beg to move

'that the allotment of Rs. 10,100 for pay of officers be reduced by Rs. 1,000.'

"In spite of what has fallen from the mouth of the hon. the Law Member as to the calibre of the present day inspectors of police, I wish to know the necessity for an additional police training school."

* The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR:—"Mr. President, Sir, I think there is a misapprehension on this matter and I shall endeavour to clear it up. There are now only two Central Recruiting Schools, one at Anantapur and the other at Vellore. The former is intended for the Telugu recruits. There is accommodation in the Central Recruiting School, Vellore, for the training of not more than 275 recruits at a time. The period of training is six months. In future the vacancies in the Tamil districts are expected to be 7 per cent per annum on the sanctioned strength of head constables and constables. After allowing for the reduction in the sanctioned strength of the police force which will be effected by the reallocation schemes now under the consideration of Government, it is expected on this calculation that about 382 Tamil recruits will have to be trained every six months. It is therefore necessary to re-open the Central Recruits' School at Coimbatore."

"After allowing for the reduction in the sanctioned strength of the police already mentioned there were 305 vacancies on the 30th October 1925, in

[Sir C. P. Ramaswami Ayyar] [22nd March 1926]

the ranks of police constables in the Tamil districts; this was due to the stoppage of the recruitment of constables last year. There is room for only ten more recruits at the Central Recruits' School, Vellore, as there are already 265 recruits under training in that school. It is therefore necessary that in a central place like Coimbatore a school should be opened. The existing number of vacancies in the Tamil districts justify the re-opening of the Central Recruits' School, Coimbatore, from 15th April 1926."

The motion was by leave withdrawn.

* Diwan Bahadur M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—"I beg to move

'that the allotment of Rs 2,00,900 for Criminal Investigation Department be omitted.'

"Sir, when my hon. Friend, the Law Member, made his observations in reply to what I stated regarding the incident at Pondicherry when Mr. Venkataramana Ayyangar who went to see Mr. Arabindo Ghose was made to give his thumb impression, unfortunately I was not here; but I read them in the papers and having regard to these observations I have no desire to press the motion. But I wish to elicit this information whether there are any policemen, constables or head constables or sub-inspectors or other officers of a higher rank belonging to the British Police, that are stationed in Pondicherry and if so why they are there."

* The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR:—"I trust my hon. Friend who, in addition to his public experience, has also administered an important Indian State will realize the limitations that I labour under in giving a full information on the subject on the floor of the House. Suffice it to say this that there are certain British Police officials in Pondicherry the reason for their being there being purely political. I think I can say this; but I have to guard myself naturally. There are certain movements not only of an all-India but of a universal character which are engaging the anxious attention of the Government, the British Government and the Indian public. Such movements have amongst other objects the object of subverting all governments in this country. They are not imaginary as sometimes stated in the newspapers. The Communist and Bolshevik movements are really existing. Having regard to the position of Pondicherry, a certain number of people have always taken refuge there and have taken part in such movements. It is with reference to such movements and for that reason alone that the British Police is there—a small number of them—I may say. With regard to the particular matter referred to by the hon. Member I may say that the British Police had nothing to do with the procedure followed."

* Diwan Bahadur M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—"After the statement of the hon. the Law Member I have no desire to press the motion."

The motion was by leave withdrawn.

* Rao Sahib R. SRINIVASAN:—"Sir, I beg to move

'that the allotment of Rs. 6,03,900 for Railway Police be reduced by Rs 100.'

"My object is to discuss the necessity of maintaining a police staff with an inadequate contribution by the Railways."

22nd March 1926]

* The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR:—"Sir, I have got the papers here ready. I should like to know exactly what the hon. Member means. Does the hon. Member mean by his token motion that the Railways should contribute more or contribute less?"

* Rao Sahib R. SRINIVASAN:—"I do not see the reason why the rate-payers' money should be spent for the benefit of the share-holders of the Railway Company. The Company must arrange for the *bandobast* of their own goods and for the proper safety of the goods of the passengers. The rate-payers should not be made to pay for the benefit of the Railway Company."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT:—"The word 'tax-payers' would be better than 'rate-payers' which is used only in the case of a municipality."

* Rao Sahib R. SRINIVASAN:—"Yes, Sir, the tax-payers. The tax-payers should not bear so much of the cost of the Railway Police."

* The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR:—"Sir, if I were to explain the whole of the relations between the Government and the Railways as a result of arrangements between whom this contribution was arrived at, it would be taking an unreasonable amount of the time of the House. Suffice it to say, however, that the whole question was discussed in the year 1914 between the Government of India, the various Local Governments and the Railway administration. The principle laid down was that the various Local Governments should pay for the police stationed to prevent crime and maintain order and the Railway Companies were to pay for the watch and ward police. Government are responsible to see that the passengers are not molested, and that order is preserved in the Railway stations, that dacoity and theft do not take place and that things are kept safe in the various enclosures. The Government are responsible for what may be called the bigger items of preventive work while the Railway Companies make themselves responsible for the watch and ward, namely, guaranteeing to the various consignors and consignees the safety of their goods from pilferage. As to how far they have adequately discharged their responsibility is a matter which has been dealt with separately and on which I cannot enter just now. Acting on that principle what has been done is this. So far as the Madras and Southern Mahratta Railway is concerned, in 1922-23 they contributed 1½ lakhs while the Government contributed 3 lakhs. As far as the South Indian Railway is concerned, the Railway contributed 1½ lakhs while we contributed 3½ lakhs. The whole question has from time to time been engaging the attention of this Government and the Government of India and I may assure hon. Members that the point of view of this Government that the Railway Companies should bear an increasing proportion of the cost of the police has been pressed upon the attention of the authorities."

"Incidentally, I may mention that one of the great difficulties confronting the Railway Companies with regard to the prevention of thefts within the premises of Railway Companies is the absence of a law like the Pilferage Law which is on the tapis. I wish only to conclude with one observation bearing upon a remark which fell from the hon. Member, that all these moneys go to swell the shareholders' dividends. That is not quite correct so far as the policy of the South Indian Railway is concerned. The hon. Member is undoubtedly aware that with regard to the South Indian Railway that 13/14

[Sir C. P. Ramaswami Ayyar] [22nd March 1926]

of the shares are held by the Government and that only 1/14 of the share by the shareholders. It is not correct to say that the dividends of the shareholders alone are swelling."

The motion was by leave withdrawn.

* Mr K. PRABHAKARAN TAMPAN:—"Sir, I move

that the allotment of Rs 3,31,000 for Malabar Special Police be reduced by Rs. 100."

"My object in bringing this token motion is to discuss the desirability of introducing legislation to place the Military Police on a statutory basis and other minor matters connected with it. Sir, before I approach the subject I must deprecate in my own humble way the manner in which the subject of the special police in Malabar is dealt with in this Council. I find two hon. Members have given notice of abolishing the force altogether and three other hon. Members have given notice of motions for reduction of the grant for the special police force. I am glad none of these motions has been moved. Sir, it is a matter which affects the life and death of the people of Malabar. Until the rebellion broke out in 1921 the Government of India had stationed a contingent of European soldiers at Malapuram and Cannanore. They were maintained for more than fifty years. Now that the Government of India on account of financial stringency have decided not to keep the military force, it is highly necessary that as long as the Mappilla mentality is not altered the special police of Malabar should be continued. I do not mean to say that all the six stations should be continued, or that the present number should be kept up. But what I do maintain is that a force is highly necessary and it should not be interfered with at all. The hon. the Leader of the Opposition, the other day, when the question of purchasing motor-cars came up for consideration doubted the legality of the question. He said also that it was more a Central subject than a Provincial one and that the matter ought to be dealt with by the Government of India. But as I have already stated, the Government of India have once for all told the Madras Government that they would have to depend on their own resources in such matters. I believe it was in connexion with the salary and other terms of service of the military police that Mr Stokes who was deputed to inquire into the matter, raised the desirability of placing the force on a statutory basis. I think, Sir, that in Burma or in some other province in India there is a similar enactment on the statute book and I should like to impress upon the Government if it is decided to keep the force in Malabar, that it is highly necessary that their service, pensions and emoluments should be statutorily guaranteed. That will also give an opportunity to the House to enter into the question fully in all its aspects and place it on a substantial basis. With these few words I commend the motion."

* The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR:—"Mr. President, Sir, let me welcome the statement that has been made by the hon. Member from Malabar which, I have no doubt, will tend to dispel much of the ignorance that prevails on this subject. As he has very legitimately pointed out, in the absence of a force organized and maintained on a strictly military basis, it behoves the Government to see to it that no such opportunity in the future be permitted as would give rise to the possibility of such lamentable disturbances as disfigured Malabar some time ago. It is, undoubtedly, the case that the country is settling down and it has settled down much faster than

22nd March 1926] [Sir C. P. Ramaswami Ayyar]

was originally anticipated. But there is nothing like adhering to the principle of the doctrine that prevention is better than cure. Now, Sir, while on this subject and with advertance not solely to the remarks that have fallen from the hon. Member who is speaking with a full knowledge of the subject and with experience of what took place in that beautiful country some time ago and has assured the House of the necessity of proper steps being taken in this matter but because this will dispel the doubt that prevails on the subject I may say that the extra expenditure involved in the proposed reorganization of the special police force will be more than counterbalanced by the savings effected by the reduction in armed reserve and other ranks. Let me say that Mr Stokes, in that report to which tribute must be paid in passing for his careful and exhaustive analysis of the situation and the masterly manner in which he has approached the problem, has suggested that there should be two special forces, the East Coast Special Police costing Rs. 43,003 and the Malabar Special Police costing Rs. 51,162. The total cost is Rs. 94,765. By the abolition of certain local allowances and by the abolition of parts of the older system of armed reserves which alone costs not less than one lakh of rupees we have indeed effected a slight saving.

"But let me deal with the matter specially adverted to by the hon. Member, Mr. Prabhakaran Tampan. It would be realized that what Mr Stokes said was this: 'The opinion has been strongly urged that the existing Police Act and Police Orders are not primarily designed for a force that is to be under strict military discipline and that the new striking forces if proper discipline and efficiency is to be attained, must be enrolled under some more suitable enactment. Not only are the existing law and rules deficient in that they make little or no provision for summary discipline, but it is open to any constable to give two months' notice and to quit the force at the expiry thereof without being liable to be dealt with as a deserter. In this opinion I agree and recommend that suitable legislation be undertaken on the model of the Assam Military Police Act. Considerable difficulty, I was informed by Mr. Sweney, has been felt during the present fituri operations in dealing with petty breaches of discipline, while on service under the existing Police Act and Rules, which require a personal hearing, the recording of explanations, etc., and contemplate an elaborate system of appeals.' I may say in answer to the criticisms which have been made that the object of the special force is not to create a military but a semi-military force, a striking force, which will take the place of a military force that for many reasons political and others, it is much better that there is a force organized on a semi-military basis which will deal with the situation rather than that military should be called in to deal with the situation according to martial law. It is on that basis that the Government of India have suggested that we ought to have these special forces. It is from that point of view that it is essential to emphasize that these forces are to be striking forces in the strict sense and must not be saddled with extraneous duties such as escort of prisoners and treasure guarding. I may say that the Government in reviewing that report and passing orders on the 12th February 1925 have arrived at the conclusion that they agree that the existing Police Orders are not primarily designed for a force which is to be under strict military discipline and that these forces must be enrolled under some more suitable enactment and they propose as soon as practicable to introduce legislation on the model of the Eastern Bengal and Assam Act III of 1812. The matter is receiving the consideration of the Government."

[22nd March 1926]

* Diwan Bahadur M. KRISHNAN NAYAR :—“ Sir, I am perfectly at one with my hon. Friend, the mover of this motion, and also with my hon. Friend, the Law Member, in thinking that this subject . . . (A voice: Inconsistent?). There is nothing inconsistent. I am perfectly at one with both in thinking that there is need for maintaining at present a special police force in Malabar. As has been remarked the relations between the Hindu community and the Mappilla community are fast being restored to the harmonious state that existed before that unfortunate rebellion of 1921 broke out. Whenever the necessity of maintaining this force in Malabar arose on the floor of this House I have always lent the support of my voice and vote for maintaining the force in Malabar. The question recently arose some time ago, I believe, during the last sitting of this Council in connexion with a supplementary demand, and I pointed out that the time for abolishing the force in Malabar had not yet come, and that it was necessary to continue to maintain this force for some time more. That supplementary demand arose in connexion with buying motor bicycles to the officers of that force. That was my opinion then; that is my opinion now.

“ But I differ from my hon. Friend, Mr. Prabhakaran Tampan, in thinking that a statute should be passed for this purpose, and that the special police force should be stationed in Malabar on a statutory basis. I would rather leave it to the executive orders of the Government; for, say what we may, we cannot shut our eyes to the fact that the existence of this force in Malabar is a source of soreness to the Mappilla community. I still maintain that it is necessary to have the force for some years more. But it would be a soreness to the Mappilla community if we place this force on a statutory basis. It is only after the repeal of that statute that the force can be abolished. If, on the other hand, the force is continued to be maintained at the present basis by executive orders of the Government, and as those orders will be based on the grants passed by this Council, the Government may at any time either abolish the force or reduce its strength. That will give very much greater freedom and proper latitude to the Government to deal with this force. I said that maintaining this force on the executive orders of the Government would enable the Government or this Council as the occasion required to reduce the force, increase it or abolish it altogether. So, I am certainly not for encumbering the establishment of this force and adding greater difficulty. Therefore I am against placing this force on a statutory basis.”

8-16 P.M. Mr. T. M. MOIDU SAHIB :—“ Mr. President, Sir, when I tabled a similar motion, I thought that the day has come to take away the special force from Malabar, because when I went through the Administration Report of the Police department in this Presidency for 1924, I found that Malabar comes next to Vizagapatam and Ganjam, that is, the least crime-committing districts, i.e., serious offences against persons and property. It is stated in the Administration Report that Malabar comes under 2,500 to 3,000, i.e., one crime for 2,500 to 3,000 persons. That is the next least in the Presidency. Under these circumstances, I think I can at least convince this House that Malabar is coming to normal conditions. I do not agree with my hon. Friend, Mr. Prabhakaran Tampan, that there will be always a necessity for a special police force in Malabar, but a day may be near at hand when we may dispense with the special police.”

[22nd March 1926]

* Rao Sahib P. V. GOPALAN :—“ Mr. President, Sir, I am sorry that I have to disagree with my hon. Friend who last spoke. Malabar, as we are aware, is divided into two parts, North Malabar and South Malabar. My hon. Friend who just spoke comes from North Malabar, and, as a matter of fact, we practically have no animosity and we bear not any malice for the people in North Malabar, because every one of them is educated. Unfortunately, my Muhammadan friends in the Ernad and Walluvanad taluks are uncivilized, uncultured and unlettered, and unless and until the conditions improve, they cannot stand on the same footing and level as my Muhammadan brethren in North Malabar. I for one would oppose any resolution of this hon. House to do away with the special police in South Malabar. In saying this, I have the assurance of one Muhammadan representative in this august assembly, I mean the Council, to say that he realizes the necessity for the retention of the special police in South Malabar, and it was that which prompted me the other day to oppose a motion for the wholesale release of political prisoners, after knowing my Friend Mr. K. Uppi Sahib approached the hon. the Law Member and requested him that the grandsons of the great Mampuram Thangal should never be permitted into South Malabar unless and until the political situation in Ernad and other places improved. What does this mean? It means that a Mappilla elected representative of Malabar comes forward and says that the political situation in Malabar is not safe and sound even now.”

* The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—“ May I appeal to my hon. Friend that these representations were made to me personally by hon. Members of this House, and I do not know whether it is quite in order to refer to that.”

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—“ I was under the impression that they were made on the floor of this House.”

* Rao Sahib P. T. GOPALAN :—“ Whatever it may be, Mr. President, my point is this. If an elected representative of the Mappillas of Malabar should approach any one Member of the Government of Madras and request that the time has not come for the . . . ”

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—“ I would ask the hon. Member not to refer to private conversations between Members of the Council and Members of the Government because we do not know what the conversations were about.”

* The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—“ I may say this, Sir. It may not be accurate to call it a private conversation, because it was a deliberate statement made by an hon. Member of the House and it is quite open to him to take any attitude in the matter. It is as well to keep out of open discussion that kind of representation made by Members of Council to Members of Government. That is what I say.”

* Rao Sahib P. V. GOPALAN :—“ If what I represent, Sir, is not correct, it is open for the hon. the Law Member to deny it. But I make special emphasis on the point, Mr. President, for this reason. If an elected representative of the Mappillas of Malabar could impress upon the Government the necessity that some people who have been deported should not be given passport to enter Malabar, that shows that Malabar has not resumed its normal conditions. Hence, I would oppose any proposal made in this House to do away with the police force in South Malabar. So far as my hon. Friend

[Mr. P. V. Gopalan]

[22nd March 1926]

Mr. Prabbakaran Tampam's views before the House are concerned, all that I say is that I would strongly oppose any measure from any one of this House to do away with the special police in South Malabar."

* The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—" Mr President, Sir, following the appeal which I made to the hon. Member, I do not propose to refer to the instance that he has adverted to. But there is no doubt that there is a feeling amongst responsible persons in South Malabar that there ought to be no cessation of vigilance as to this matter. As to the statute I may say that the Government are contemplating this, but they will take the opinion not only of this House but of the public. They will publish their Bill for opinion and we shall see what the general opinion is. There is only one misconception which I should like to correct: that is, that this Bill would not be applicable solely to the striking force in Malabar. If there is going to be a striking force in any locality, that will be subjected to the regulation, so that the continuance or the permanence of the special force in Malabar will not be a kind of concomitant of the existence of the statute. Rather will the statute regulate the special force wherever it is stationed."

* Mr. K. PRABHAKARAN TAMPAN :—" In spite of what my hon. Friend on the left has said, I feel convinced that the continuance of the special force in Malabar is absolutely necessary for the peace and order of the district."

* Diwan Bahadur M. KRISHNAN NAYAR :—" Sir, a word of personal explanation. My friend certainly misunderstood me, or I was rather obscure in my statement. I did not say at all that the special police force is not necessary in Malabar. What I stated was that it is better to have it on the executive orders of the Government. Government may reduce it or abolish it whenever they think it necessary. It is not necessary and it is undesirable to place it on a statutory basis. That is my point. As I said, I was obscure myself or my friend has misunderstood me."

* Mr. K. PRABHAKARAN TAMPAN :—" One other point, Sir, that I wish to impress upon the House is that the special police has more than justified its existence during the rebellion and later in the fiteri. Sir, though it is stationed in Malabar, it may be availed of for similar service in any part of the Presidency. I only want that the Madras Government should maintain a striking force and that it should be located in Malabar so that it may be used whenever any emergency comes. That aspect of the question seems to have not received the attention of the House. Since the hon. the Law Member has told us that it is under the consideration of the Government to bring in a Bill, I do not wish to press my motion, if you will allow me to do so, Sir."

The motion was by leave withdrawn.

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" The time allotted for the demand being over, it is now my duty to put the demand to the House."

The question that Government be granted the sum of Rs 153.09 lakhs for Police was then put to the House and carried. The Grant was made.

DEMAND XVI—PORTS AND PILOTAGE.

* The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—" Sir, on the recommendation of His Excellency the Governor, I move

'that the Government be granted a sum not exceeding 57 lakh for Ports and Pilotage.'

The motion was put and carried. The Grant was made.

[22nd March 1926]

DEMAND XVII—SCIENTIFIC DEPARTMENTS (OTHER THAN HYDRO-ELECTRIC SURVEYS).

* The hon. Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. PATRO :—" Sir, on the recommendation of His Excellency the Governor, I move

'that the Government be granted a sum not exceeding 52 lakh for Scientific Departments (other than Hydro-Electric Surveys).'

* Rao Bahadur C. NATESA MUDALIYAR :—" Sir, I move my motion, viz.,

'that the allotment of Rs. 50,200 for Provincial Museums be reduced by Rs 100.'

"In doing so, I only want to bring to the notice of the Minister the hardships which the clerks and others employed at the Museum Library are undergoing. They have to go, Sir, at 7 o'clock in the morning and come back at 5 in the evening and to attend on holidays. So, what I would request the Minister is to see that the staff is increased, so that they may attend on holidays by turns, I mean not only the staff of the Library but also of the Museum."

* The hon. Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. PATRO :—" Sir, we recently went into the question of revision of the staff of the Library and the Museum; but we found that there were no adequate grounds for a revision."

The motion was by leave of the House withdrawn.

The demand that the Government be granted a sum not exceeding 52 lakh was put to the House and carried. The Grant was made.

DEMAND XVIII—EDUCATION (RESERVED).

* The hon. Mr. T. E. MOIR :—" On the recommendation of His Excellency the Governor, I move

'that the Government be granted a sum not exceeding 7.28 lakhs for Education (Reserved).'

* Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—" Sir, I beg to move

'that the allotment of Rs. 6,08,200 for direct grants to non-Government Secondary Schools—European—be reduced by Rs. 100.'

"Sir, I beg to refer to page 229 of the Budget Estimates wherein we find that so far as boarding houses for Indian boys are concerned, the grant is only Rs. 30,000 and so far as Europeans are concerned, on page 248, we find the grant is Rs. 2,22,500. It is true that in the case of Indians, i.e., Muhammadans and Hindus, they do not resort to a large extent to boarding houses and that to a large extent European boys resort to boarding houses; but at the same time, I must point out that in the case of Indians, the agencies imparting education should be asked to maintain boarding houses everywhere, just like in the case of European children—as we have got in Mangalore, in Madras and elsewhere, in fact wherever education is spreading.

"We must admit that education among the Indian Christians has spread very widely. And the provision of Rs. 30,000 in the budget is hardly sufficient to meet the requirements. There is an impression in the minds of the public that because the Indian Christians are able to devote so much in

[Mr. J. A. Saldanha]

[22nd March 1926]

the interests of education, they are economically, advanced and progressive as compared with the other communities. I think that it is not a fact. In some towns it is true that the Indian Christians are economical, are advanced in trade and are much more enlightened. But taken as a community, the Indian Christians are in wealth lagging behind most other communities, I may say even behind the Muhammadans. Therefore it is not fair to consider this community as one not in need of a larger provision than is made at present. I do not think that it is in any way a concession to the community but I should urge that they are entitled to it as a matter of justice. Europeans and Anglo Indians are but a handful of the whole population and if they are to be treated as a privileged class, I do not know what is to become of the larger communities and the backward classes. The European and Anglo-Indian population for the whole Presidency will be about 25,000, while the Indian Christians exceed a million. We have got a population of over a lakh in South Kanara alone, in Trichinopoly about a lakh and in Madras slightly over that number. The large population of a million and 25 thousands surely require at least a lakh of rupees towards boarding houses. Just as in the case of the Europeans and Anglo-Indians, the missionaries experience a great deal of difficulty in maintaining boarding houses for the Indian Christian pupils. I am sure the hon. the Education Minister realizes it. But our grievance is that he has been able to get only a small provision from the Finance Member for these boarding houses."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—"What boarding houses does the hon. Member refer to?"

* Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—"I draw the hon. Member's attention to page 229 of the Budget Estimates where we find an allotment of Rs 30,000 for boarding houses for Indians. Over two lakhs have been provided for in the case of Europeans and Anglo-Indians for the same purpose. Even the missionaries have got a sort of racial prejudice in this case. And when I happened to ask a European why his community should have this special concession and not the Indian Christians whose habits of life are much similar to those of the Europeans, he said: 'Oh, the Government give us the sum'. And I asked: 'Where do the Government get it from; they do not get it from England. We pay; you get from our country, not from the English treasury.' Sir, we pay as much and even more than all the taxes collected from the European and the Anglo-Indian communities put together. This racial discrimination is very galling and painful to the Indian Christian community. Belonging as we do to the same religion, considering the progress that we have made in culture and in civilisation, we are surely entitled to better consideration at the hands of the Government. The Indian Christians are becoming sensitive more and more to their needs, to the amenities and comforts of life; and as they are advancing they have been adopting for good or for evil European habits and I think they deserve to be treated on a par with the Europeans. The provision for the other Indian communities is equally meagre and I do not see why no cut has been proposed to raise the point in this Council. I do not however argue their case. But in the case of the Indian Christians in future at least if a provision is not made equal to that for the European, there will be much discontent; and the Indian Christians would be entitled to agitate against this obnoxious and most painful racial distinction made in their case. For

22nd March 1926]

[Mr. J. A. Saldanha]

a long time we have been trained to be meek and humble, but we have now realized that our rights have not been recognized. I am reminded of the Kanarese proverb which says that the man who bows gets one kick more. (Laughter). As I have to speak further on the matter a little later, I shall for the present stop with this. We do not want any concession or favour from you. We claim justice at your hands. If we do not get it, we will see that it is got."

* The hon. Mr. T. E. MOIR :—"Sir, I am afraid that the process of training to which the hon. Member referred will have to be continued for a still longer period in his case. And I must admit that I should have been much more alarmed to reply in view of the attitude of the hon. Member if it were not the case that he has been hanging up his hat on the wrong peg. I may say that so far as I am concerned, I am not responsible for matters connected with the education of the Indian Christian community or with their needs. And it seems to me that the hon. Member's speech should have been directed to my hon. Colleague, Sir Parasuram Patro. But the hon. Member raised a minor point, the only point which I have to deal with and that is the point as to the comparative expenditure. The hon. Member, I may point out, was comparing with the expenditure under boarding grants under secondary education in the case of European education with the grants under primary or elementary education in the case of education in charge of my hon. Colleague. So that even in that respect, it seems to me that the comparison fails. But I may point out to the hon. Member that the conditions in respect of the Anglo-Indian or Domiciled community when it comes to a matter of secondary education are entirely different from that of any other community in the Presidency. It is, as the hon. Member said, a small community, and it is impossible for us to maintain a secondary institution in all schools at every taluk headquarter or every big centre in the Presidency for their use. As a result, it is inevitable that boys and girls of that community have to be concentrated into a few centres where sufficiently equipped secondary institutions can be maintained with sufficient number of students attending them. That means that a very large proportion of the community in so far as secondary education is concerned must be educated in institutions to which boarding schools or boarding hostels are attached. That really is the fundamental difference on which alone this, I admit, considerable expenditure can be based. As regards the question whether it is in any case excessive, I may say that it is a point which we have under consideration, and if any economies can be effected as a result of our investigation, steps will be taken to that end."

* Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—"Sir, may I point out that we find in the case of the European boarding houses, a provision of over two lakhs is made, while in the case of Indian, taken as a whole, for boarding houses it is only 30,000. And that is not, I believe, the fault of the hon. the Education Minister. I think he must have asked for more like Oliver Twist. (Laughter.) Originally I recollect, it was as a result of a motion from my hon. friend Mr. Arpudaswami Udayar or some other Indian Christian M.L.C. there, we were given Rs. 15,000. Last year we got Rs. 30,000, and for this year, while we expected there would be a further increase, the provision has become stationary."

[22nd March 1926]

* The hon. Rao Bahadur Sir. A. P. PATRO :—"The provision of Rs. 30,000 which my hon. Friend refers to relate to orphanage and not boarding houses."

* Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—"I have got the budget figures. It does not make such difference. In the case of the Europeans also I think a large number of them are orphanages. Call them orphanages or boarding houses, they are for school children who are given boarding and lodging. We had nothing formerly under this head. We had a small provision of Rs. 15,000 to begin with which was subsequently raised to Rs. 30,000. I am sure the hon. the Education Minister must have asked for a larger provision this year, and that he has not got it is not his fault. It is the duty of the Finance Department to have given us more. I hope at least next year a larger provision will be made. As it is a serious matter concerning the Indians as a whole, and the Indian Christians in particular, I do not want to withdraw it but feel obliged to press it to a division."

The motion was put and the House divided thus:

3-45
p.m.

1. Diwan Bahadur P. Kesava Pillai.
2. Mr. J. A. Saldanha.
3. Dr. P. Sambharayan.
4. Mr. A. Ranganatha Mudaliyar.
5. " A. Chidambara Nadar.
6. Diwan Bahadur M. Krishnan Nayar.

7. Mr. P. T. Rajan.
8. " J. D. Samuel.
9. " K. Sarvarayudu.
10. " K. Chavadi Subrahmanya Pillai.
11. Rai Bahadur T. M. Narasimhaachari.

Noes.

1. The hon. Sir C. P. Ramaswami Ayyar.
2. " Mr. N. E. Marjoribanks.
3. " Khan Bahadur Mubammal Usman Sahib Bahadur.
4. " Mr. T. E. Moir.
5. " Diwan Bahadur Sir T. N. Sivag-nanam Pillai.
6. " Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. Patro.
7. " the Raja of Panagal.
8. Mr. T. R. Venkatarama Sastryar.
9. " F. B. Evans.
10. " G. T. Boag.
11. " V. Pandrang Row.
12. " F. Noyce.
13. " Abdulla Ghatala Sahib.
14. Rao Sahib T. C. Tangavelu Pillai.
15. Mr. K. Prabbakaran Tampan.
16. " A. E. Rencontre.
17. Capt. E. G. Wintle.
18. Sir Alexander MacDougall.
19. Rai Bahadur Sir K. Venkatarreddi Nayudu.
20. Rao Bahadur C. Natesa Mudaliyar.
21. " M. C. Raja.
22. Mr. P. K. S. A. Arumugha Nadar.
23. " N. Devendrudu.

24. Rao Sahib P. V. Gopalau.
25. Mr. L. C. Guruswami.
26. Rao Bahadur K. Krishnaaswami Nayudu.
27. Mr. B. Madanagopal Nayudu.
28. Honorary Lieutenant Madurai.
29. Mr. T. Mallesappa.
30. Diwan Bahadur A. M. Murugappa Chettiar.
31. Mr. B. Obalesappa.
32. " G. Premayya.
33. Rai Bahadur K. V. Ramachari.
34. Mr. P. Sagaram.
35. " P. S. Rajappa.
36. Rao Bahadur P. Raman.
37. Rao Sahib R. Srinivasan.
38. Mr. R. Veerian.
39. Diwan Bahadur K. Suryanarayanamurti Nayudu.
40. Rao Sahib P. V. S. Sundaramurti.
41. Mr. K. Venkatachala Padayachi.
42. " Haji Abd-ul-Jah Haji Kasim Sahib.
43. " Muhammad Ghouse Mian Sahib.
44. " Khan Bahadur P. Khalif-ul-Jah Sahib.
45. " T. M. Moidu Sahib.
46. " Khadir Mohiddin Elyas Khan Sahib.

Neutral.

1. Mr. S. Arpudaswami Udayar.
2. " D. Manjappa Heggade.
3. " A. V. Bhanaji Rao.
4. Mr. K. Raghubhendra Ballal.
5. " B. P. Sesha Reddi.

11 hon. Members voted for the motion ; 46 against it ; and 5 remained neutral. The motion was lost.

[22nd March 1926]

Mr. A. E. RENCONTRE :—"Sir, I beg to move
'that the allotment of Rs. 7.28 lakhs for Education (Reserved) be reduced by Rs. 100.'

"My object is to enquire when the report of the conference of heads of European schools held some time ago may be expected and to point out the inadequacy of the grant to aided schools. Some time ago, I think it was in 1924, in response to an address to His Excellency the Governor by the members of the Anglo-Indian Association, His Excellency promised to have a conference held to consider the question of European education in the Presidency. I remember also that Sir Arthur Knapp when he was Home Member did call for a report embodying a preliminary survey of European education in the Presidency. And I take it that that report has been seen by the present Home Member. I believe the present Home Member some time in December held a conference and invited some of the heads of European schools to consider the memorandum on the subject."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—"Not the present Home Member."

Mr. A. E. RENCONTRE :—"The hon. the Finance Member, the Member in charge of European education. I do not know what has been the result of the conference. What I wish to point out is that the community requires education which will suit the present needs. Many of the avenues of appointment that were available to them at one time are now practically closed to them and it is desirable that the community, the younger generation, should receive such education as will fit them for the further avenues of employment that will arise by the development of industries of the Presidency."

"The other matter to which I wish to draw attention is that I find from last year's budget that Rs. 9.07 lakhs were provided, and that was the demand asked for. The present amount is reduced to Rs. 7.28 lakhs. If the reduction in the demand means that there will be proportionate reduction in the grant to aided schools, I am afraid some of the schools will have to be closed. I know the management of these schools are mostly in financial difficulties and they find it very difficult to make both ends meet. Every year it is a very anxious time for the management of these schools when they have to make good the annual deficit. If some of these schools are going to be closed, it will become necessary for Government themselves to start institutions which will certainly cost them a great deal more than to give a grant to these aided schools. It is with the object of eliciting information on these two points that I move this motion."

* Rao Sahib P. V. GOPALAN :—"Mr. Deputy President, Sir, last year just at the time of the budget discussion, I had one or two out motions under the very same head, and therein I brought to the notice of the hon. Member who was then in charge of European education that due regard might be given for the percentage of Indians to be admitted to European schools, and that the double fees should be reduced to single fees. As a matter of fact Anglo-Indian boys and girls who attend the European schools are generally expected to pay one single fee, whereas Indians who then had only 6 per cent of admission had to pay double fees. The hon. Member then in charge of this portfolio, Sir Arthur Knapp, gave me an assurance that he would await the result of a conference which he was just then arranging. That is my first point."

[Mr. P. V. Gopalan]

[22nd March 1926]

"My second point is this. However bright the Indian boys may be in the European schools, they are very seldom given scholarships. I know in the Calicut St. Joseph's European Girls' School, a Parsee girl who stood first in the examination results was actually refused scholarships. I brought this fact to the notice of the hon. Member then in charge and he told me that he would make the necessary inquiries, and see that due regard is given for granting scholarships to Indian boys and girls as well. What I wish to impress upon the hon. the Finance Member who, I see, is now in charge of the portfolio of European Education is, that he may kindly take the necessary steps to see that a larger percentage of Indians are admitted into European boys' and girls' schools, and that the double fees are reduced to single fees on the same level with Anglo-Indian boys and girls, and that when they pass out from the schools with greater efficiency and qualification, without making any racial distinction, he will cause the necessary arrangements to be made that they also may be granted the necessary scholarships."

* Mr J. A. SALDANHA :—"Sir, I am called upon to make some remarks in connexion with the suggestion made by the hon. Friend from Malabar, Mr. Gopalan. Now, before I object to the concession he demands I must point out that I am not in favour of any privileged rates being given to European schools as compared with Indian schools. We must bear in mind that these institutions are the results of efforts of self-sacrifice of large missionary bodies, be they European or Indian. For aught I know, this school—what is called the European girls' school—at Calicut is maintained by Indian sisters, a large number of them belonging to my own community. They get no money from foreign countries for working these institutions. They are depending so far as teachers are concerned on the voluntary labour of a large number of ladies of our community who have sacrificed their future happiness in this world by becoming sisters and taken up a life of chastity, poverty, and obedience. And relying on the sacrifice of these people the schools are maintained with fees and grants. Though I am against any privileged rates being given to European schools, at the same time we must bear in mind that the substantial work that is done in these schools is due to Indian sisters. In the case of European children, there cannot be any doubt that they require an equipment for which a larger expenditure is necessary. The education of the Anglo-Indians is of a superior kind, because they are prepared for the higher examination for women which is a higher and more difficult test at least so far as English and general knowledge are concerned than the local examinations. Therefore they have to incur heavier expenditure. Now, in the case of purely Indian children, the difficulties in training them are these. As a rule, these children speak the Indian vernaculars at home, and when they are admitted to European schools where English is the main language, there is a great difficulty in training, especially infant children, and more labour has thus to be spent in training the Indian children in European schools than in the case of Indian schools, where the starting language is the vernacular. So, my hon. Friend from Malabar must understand the difficulties of our sisters in managing the schools, and if larger numbers of girls are admitted without paying double fees, their difficulty will be how to meet the extra expenditure that is involved in training these Indian children for the purpose of European education the basis of which is mainly English."

[22nd March 1926]

[Mr. J. A. Saldanha]

"So far as the other question of special scholarships is concerned, the parents who send their children to these schools are mostly Parsees and others who are generally well-to-do. If they send their children, I do not understand why they should claim any scholarship. The scholarships are meant for a very large number of Anglo-Indian children who are poor, poorer than the Indian children who study there. For these reasons, I think my hon. Friend from Malabar—I know distinctions are galling—will have consideration to the fact that the schools are maintained by our own Indian nuns and are incurring large expenditure for which they get nothing from Europe. For these reasons, Sir, I hope the hon. Member will not press his points."

* The hon. Mr. T. E. MOIR :—"Mr. President, Sir, I will first deal with the two points raised by Mr. Rencontre. He asked what has resulted from the conference which was held in January last. He was perfectly right in saying that one of the resolutions arrived at in that conference was that a general survey should be made of the whole position of European education in this province. As a result of that, an invitation was issued to a very large number of individuals, of firms, of heads of Anglo-Indian schools and others who, it was supposed, were interested in this question asking them to place at our disposal all the information that they could on the subject. I am sorry to say that the response to that invitation was not nearly so ready or so general as we could have desired. The material which was collected was summarized by the Inspector of European Schools and in that form it was placed before the Government by the Director of Public Instruction. In the meantime there had been a change in the Member who had to deal with the subject of European education, and the result was that I came to it and if I may say so after having been disassociated from educational questions for a considerable number of years. The conclusion that I came to was that this survey did not deal adequately with the real issues which underlie the resolutions of that conference. The hon. Member has summarized those chief points absolutely correctly. There is no doubt that in recent years there has been a very considerable change in the avenues of employment which are open to the Anglo-Indian community. But the Anglo-Indian community remains and if it is to serve any useful purpose in the social organization of this Presidency it is obvious that it must not, if possible, drift into the ranks of the unemployed or unemployable. It is therefore necessary that the question where and how they could receive employment or find employment should be very carefully examined and that the existing educational system should be adapted towards fitting them for those avenues of employment which will be open to them in future. That, at any rate, is a very large question and I took the opportunity some little time ago to have it very thoroughly discussed at a small meeting of a number of those who are deeply interested in the question. As a result of our discussions, our enquiries are being further pushed and I do hope that it will not be very long before we shall be able to let the hon. Member know that we have arrived at some practical solution and that we hope to correlate the system of education with the practical needs of the Anglo-Indian community."

"To turn now to the second point raised by the hon. Member. He was apprehensive that the grants which were being devoted to Anglo-Indian education were being curtailed and reduced. Perhaps I may point out that it is only on one item that this reduction actually appears in the coming

[Mr. T. E. Moir]

[22nd March 1926]

year. Under teaching, medical inspection and miscellaneous grants the allotments are exactly the same as they appear in the revised estimate for the current year. It is only under buildings that there has been a reduction and that is due to the fact that the requirements as regards buildings of the various institutions which come under the European School Code do vary from year to year. In one year there is a large demand and in another year they are not exactly the same. Next year we anticipate smaller requirements under the building programme than has been the case for some years past. I may point out that in the year 1924-25 the amount was Rs 58,200. The budget estimate and the revised estimate for the current year is Rs 1,38,400. These variations are due merely to the varying amount of building operations that are going on.

"Now I may refer to the points which were referred to by the hon. Member for Malabar. One was a request that the differentiation in fees between those attending these schools—between the Anglo-Indian community and the Indian community—should be done away with. I may say that orders have been issued to that effect and the only case in which any special fee in future will be demanded from Indian pupils are those where a special course has to be provided; because obviously an Indian child which has not a good knowledge of English will not be benefited by the special courses of study in these schools unless its knowledge of English and other essential matters is brought up to the standard required by further instruction. As regards the scholarships I regret I am unable to agree that these scholarships should be granted irrespective of financial considerations. The amount available is small and one of the questions which has been discussed in our recent meetings is the nature of the cases in which these scholarships should be granted. If we had unlimited funds we would be perfectly willing to grant them to any one simply on the point of merit. We have strictly to limit our scholarships to those who combine merit with financial inability to prosecute their studies. That it seems to me, ought to be the primary object of any system of scholarships. If we had abundant funds I would not object to extending them. But what must be our primary object is to encourage poor and deserving students; we ought not to give scholarships to those who can very well afford to send their children on to higher stages of instruction.

"As regards the remarks that fell from my hon. Friend from South Kanara I am entirely one with him in what he said about the great services which are rendered by the sisters and nuns of the Roman Catholic community in Mangalore and elsewhere. Wherever I have been in the mufassal—and I know Mangalore well—I have found that those services are not only most valuable but are highly appreciated. And I can assure the hon. Member that in so far as European education is benefited by the services which they render I shall not fail to recognise their value."

Mr. A. E. RENCONTRE:—"In view of the satisfactory explanation I beg to withdraw my motion."

The motion was by leave withdrawn.

The demand was put and carried and the Grant was made.

[22nd March 1926]

DEMAND XIX—EDUCATION (TRANSFERRED).

* The hon. Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. PATRO:—"On the recommendation of His Excellency the Governor I move

'for a grant not exceeding 148.98 lakhs for Education (Transferred)'. "

Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"I beg to move

'that the allotment of one lakh for Grants-in-aid—Miscellaneous—Non-recurring be reduced by Rs. 100.'

"Mr. President, only a sum of one lakh is provided for in the budget for the Andhra University. I admit that it is the beginning of the new University, and before plans are submitted it is impossible for Government to provide more than what they have put forward. But I want an assurance from the hon. the Minister that when plans are ready and when the University gets into working order Government would see their way to provide with adequate grants so that the new University may not suffer for want of funds and so that it may not be strangled at its birth."

* The hon. Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. PATRO:—"I agree with the Mover that more funds should be provided to give effect to the purposes of the Andhra University Act. The hon. Member referred to one lakh. It is only a lump sum provided to meet more urgent needs of the University in the initial stages. As soon as the University bodies are formed and they are able to put forward schemes of education, Government will be prepared to provide for those. A lump sum is now provided to meet the initial expenditure."

Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"I could understand it. But I hope that in the case of the Andhra University at least they would not suffer for want of funds as it has been in the case of the Madras University."

* The hon. Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. PATRO:—"I must again contradict that the Madras University suffered for want of funds. The charge is not well founded. At least such a charge could not be laid at the door of the Government. Under the University Act the University has to prepare the schemes and submit them for the consideration of Government. Last year the Madras University prepared three schemes and necessary provision for those schemes has been made. Three and a half lakhs more has been given to the Madras University. As soon as the University is in a position to prepare its scheme and communicate with the Government, they will be glad to consider those schemes."

The motion was by leave withdrawn.

* Mr. MUHAMMAD GHOUSE MIAN SAHIB:—"Mr. Deputy President, Sir, will you allow me to move the motion standing in the name of Mr. P. N. Marthandam Pillai?"

4-15
p.m.

The hon. the DEPUTY PRESIDENT:—"Where is the objection?"

The hon. Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. PATRO:—"The hon. the President has ruled that a motion standing in the name of one Member who gave notice of it cannot be moved by another."

Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"In one or two particular cases, he did allow such a motion being made. For instance, Mr. Ranganatha Mudaliyar was allowed to move one."

[22nd March 1926]

* The hon. Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. PATRO :—"No, no."

The hon. the DEPUTY PRESIDENT :—"Exceptions may be made."

* Diwan Bahadur M. KRISHNAN NAYAR :—"May I say one word before you give your ruling. I am speaking only on the point of order and not on the merits of this question. On the merits perhaps I would personally allow any Member of this House to move any motion standing in any other Member's name. But on this point of order, it seems to me that there must be some consistency in the rulings, particularly at a continuous sitting. The permanent President, the Hon. Mr. Ruthnaswami, ruled more than once during the course of this sitting,—and he also gave his reasons, elaborate reasons for the rulings—to the effect that when a motion . . ."

The hon. the DEPUTY PRESIDENT :—"I too heard them, and they need not be pointed out to me. What I would do is that if an hon. Member is prepared to move a motion as his own, I can dispense with the necessary notice and allow the motion to be made."

* Mr. MUHAMMAD GHOUSE MIAN SAHIB :—"I thank the hon. the Deputy President for kindly granting me leave to say a few words upon the most talked of matter, viz., the beginning that is now attempted to be made in starting a Tamil University in the south. Mr. Marthandam Pillai has left word with me that owing to some work which he had . . ."

The hon. the DEPUTY PRESIDENT :—"The hon. Member need not refer to Mr. Marthandam Pillai. He may move it as his own motion."

* Mr. MUHAMMAD GHOUSE MIAN SAHIB :—"I move, Sir, . . ."

* The hon. Mr. T. E. MOIR :—"On a point of order, Sir, I do not wish to dispute any ruling of the Chair. But I should be glad to know whether you, Sir, consider your present ruling consonant with the ruling which the hon. the President gave on the matter. It seemed to me that the ruling which was actually given, I think, on at least two occasions in the course of our discussions would have naturally ruled out the course which has now been adopted by the hon. Member, as I understand, with your permission."

The hon. the DEPUTY PRESIDENT :—"I have just said I have got the power to dispense with the time necessary for giving notice of a motion. I consider that the subject is one that might be discussed now and that such an occasion may not arise for another year. I am not saying anything contrary to the ruling that has been passed by the President. I think if an hon. Member is absent on account of illness or for some good reason his motion may be allowed to be moved by another. Otherwise, such a motion cannot be permitted to be moved by anybody else. I looked into the motion and it raises an important subject, and if any hon. Member moves it as his own, I have got the power to dispense with the necessary notice . . ."

* The hon. Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. PATRO :—"I doubt whether it can be done under the circumstances, Sir."

The hon. the DEPUTY PRESIDENT :—"Order, order, please. When I am on my feet, no hon. Member should interrupt me. What I was saying is that I have dispensed with the time necessary for notice. I have consulted the Secretary, and I do not think any further discussion is necessary on the matter."

[22nd March 1926]

* The hon. Mr. T. E. MOIR :—"Perhaps, Sir, as we are still on the point of order, I merely wish to know—I am not questioning the ruling of the Chair I merely wish to know whether the Chair considers whether the present ruling is agreeable to the ruling of the President, or that the point which has now arisen is not covered by the ruling of the President. It seems to me most desirable that there should be no breach of continuity in our rulings and that we should not be given one ruling one day and another ruling another day. I merely wish to know whether the Chair considers that this is a new point which was not covered by the ruling of the hon. the President."

* Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—"I may say, at once, Sir, that such a courteous Member as the hon. the Finance Member, could never suggest even for a moment that you had deliberately given a ruling which is not in consonance with the ruling of a predecessor of yours. May I, as the person whose name has been brought into this matter by my hon. Friend Mr. Subbarayan explain exactly as to what took place? It is true that when I wanted to move a motion standing in another hon. Member's name on the agenda the President said he would not give the permission. Subsequently, I raised the question in this House, and requested the President to reconsider his position, and I said that we were under a disadvantage in regard to the motions put on the agenda in this House, as we thought that many of them might come up for discussion after being moved by some one Member or other and I submitted that if the Member was absent someone else who was very much interested in the question might be given the facilities to move the motion. I said, further, that I would move a particular proposition as if it was mine, without reference to the person in whose name it was noted down. Then, the hon. the President asked whether the hon. Member for Government objected to my moving that motion on the ground of want of notice, and the hon. the Home Member said—I think it was the hon. the Home Member—he did not mind the lack of notice. After that I did move a proposition, notice of which had not been given in the regular course but which was waived by the hon. the Home Member and the hon. the President. What I did move then was a motion made exactly under circumstances similar to the present one. I do not think there is really any inconsistency."

The hon. the DEPUTY PRESIDENT :—"Now, Mr. Ranganatha Mudaliyar has explained the matter, I do feel that what is wanted is only my permission to dispense with the notice necessary for the motion. I think that occupying the Chair I ought to have the discretion to do it and not to be bound by any ruling that might have been given by the Chair previously. The circumstances of each case has to be considered. Here is a proposition brought forward to make a cut in the demand for Grant with a view to raise an important debate, and the Standing Order No. 53 says :

"Provided also that in the course of the discussion of demands for grants, the President shall have discretion to admit new motions of demands for grants and motions for the omission or reduction of such grants, subject to such shorter period of notice as he may think fit."

"I have given the ruling. The hon. Member will now proceed."

* Mr. MUHAMMAD GHOUSE MIAN SAHIB :—"I am much obliged to you, Sir. The motion is—

"that the allotment of Rs. 3,21,500 for grants to Universities be reduced by Rs. 100."

"Notice of it has been given, as is printed in the agenda, in order to elicit information regarding the establishment of a Tamil University. I want to

[Mr. Muhammad Ghouse Mian Sahib] [22nd March 1926]

move this motion in consideration of the very great importance which this subject has been evoking in the minds of all those who are representing the Tamil districts in the south of this Presidency. At the time when the Andhra University Bill was launched in this Council, there were many references and appeals made to the hon. the Minister for Education that in the near future he should lay the foundations of a Tamil University, and promises have been made on the floor of this House that he would favourably consider those requests and any schemes that may be put forward by those interested in the Tamil University. Not only that, Mr. Deputy President, there have been many resolutions passed by all the local bodies in the southern districts to the effect that in the near future a Tamil University ought to be started for the Tamil districts with Trichinopoly as the centre for that university. The Government on the receipt of those resolutions promised also that they would favourably consider those appeals. I need not emphasise too much on the importance of the necessary notice

with the Andhra people have got one for themselves. The hon. the Minister for Education that the Government leave themselves. I emphasize and appeal to the Minister, viz., the beginning of the Tamil people also should be considered. The southern districts contain many first-grade colleges and in Trichinopoly alone there are three first-grade colleges giving education to the Tamil students, not only to the Tamil students but also to students from Malabar. There is also a move on the part of Malabar members, I understand, to open in the near future a Kerala University. The Government has already pledged itself to start as many universities as possible and to centralize them on the basis of the Andhra University. Without pressing further I move the reduction of the grant in order to bring home to the hon. the Minister for Education the importance of the subject and to appeal to him for rendering a helping hand in opening the university."

Mr. K. Chavadi SUBRAHMANYA PILLAI:—"Mr. Deputy President, I support this motion, my object in supporting this motion is this . . ."

Mr. J. A. SALDANHA:—"I rise to a point of order. So far as I can see from the speech of the Mover there is absolutely nothing to show that there is any scheme prepared, or any provision being necessary to be made in the budget. If there is a scheme well in hand and matured, then we can consider this question . . ."

The hon. the DEPUTY PRESIDENT:—"If that rule were to be applied, many of the speeches should not have been made here." (Laughter.)

Mr. K. Chavadi SUBRAHMANYA PILLAI:—"My object in supporting this motion is this. I know how strong is the feeling of the people in the Tamil districts to establish a Tamil University of their own in the Madras Presidency, and I also know that it was long long ago settled by them that there should be a Tamil University founded soon. Many public meetings have been convened in several Tamil districts and resolutions passed unanimously for the establishment of one for the whole of the Tamil districts, viz., Chingleput, South Arcot, North Arcot (in part), Tanjore, Trichinopoly, (including the Pudukkottai State), Ramnad, Madurai, Tinnevely (including Nagarcovil), Coimbatore, and the Nilgiris and Salem. Considering the above circumstances, I think it my duty to endeavour my level best to better the

22nd March 1926] [Mr. K. Chavadi Subrahmanya Pillai]

education of my country and I therefore wish to raise the question of establishing a Tamil University for the Tamil districts. The main objects of the Tamil University are—

(a) the development and enrichment of the Tamil language and literature;

(b) the development of historical knowledge and of the critical spirit among the Tamil people; and

(c) the adoption of the studies to the needs of the people with a view to give the general mass and the unemployed practical and useful knowledge to employ themselves in different sources instead of solely depending on Government for their livelihood.

"The Telugu district people are all very much satisfied on the establishment of the Andhra University and the Tamil district people are also anxiously waiting to establish one for themselves. I therefore request the hon. the Minister for Education to make necessary and immediate arrangements to have the bills, plans and estimates ready to urge upon the Government the immediate necessity of establishing the Tamil University. If the Government have the real idea of educating the masses, if they have really any sympathy for the people, and if they think very seriously over the matter, certainly the Tamil University can be started very easily. I do not think it is a question of finance but it is a question of real interest. The Government should take this question very seriously. I am not one of those who feel diffident about the possibility of providing funds for that purpose. If it is agreed that the question is sufficiently important, I think the question of finance ought not to deter us from taking further steps. I would suggest that some of those works which are budgeted in the next year's budget under Civil Works on buildings might be given up. I might also bring to the notice of the Government that there is also reduction of the provincial contribution and further reduction may be expected in the course of successive years. I think this House owes a duty to itself in pressing on the attention of the Government to establish a university for the Tamil districts as early as practicable. I therefore request the hon. the Minister for Education to make a start at once and I hope and trust that it would be possible to see at least the beginning of the Tamil University in the course of the year.

"As regards the type of university and its location, they may be considered later on.

"I hope and trust that the hon. the Minister will try his level best to bring the Tamil University scheme to success, as early as practicable."

* The hon. Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. PATRO:—"Mr. Deputy President in the Chair." (Laughter.)

The hon. the DEPUTY PRESIDENT:—"That is a very peculiar style of addressing the Chair. I think you can stick to the old style."

* The hon. Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. PATRO:—"Mr. Deputy President, Sir, on the question of the Tamil University there need be no apprehension whatever, because the Madras University Reorganization Act lays down clearly the policy, that in course of time other universities may be started, so that the Madras University may become a unitary and practically a residential university. The principle is conceded in that Act, and the Act

[Sir A. P. Patro]

[22nd March 1926]

also lays down the procedure in regard to the starting of new universities. Under section 16, clause 12 of the Act and section 58 of the Madras University Act, certain preliminary steps have to be taken and it is the university that has to take the initiative in the matter. When the hon. Mover referred to a resolution before the Senate for a Tamil University to be formed, with regard to the principle Government have had no objection. On the other hand, the Government said that if all the preliminary steps which the university had to take in order to mature the scheme and the details prepared and submitted to Government, it would not at all be difficult to consider such a proposal or scheme. Under section 58, the university has to find centres and the university will have to depute a committee to investigate whether there have been developments in university education in such centres with a view to make them the future universities. Under the provisions of the Act, the university has to submit such schemes to the Government and Government may pass orders thereon. These preliminaries are necessary in order to give any practical effect to the principle of the Tamil University. I need hardly refer hon. Members to the result of the resolution moved in the Senate. The resolution was that a committee be appointed consisting of certain members so that they may go into the whole question of the Tamil University and submit a scheme to the Government. The Senate seems to have discussed it at length; there were differences of opinion, and ultimately the Senate passed on to the next item of business on the agenda. The Senate has therefore considered that the question is not so very urgent. But when the Senate do take those necessary steps and submit the proposals, the Government will consider them.

"Then the hon. the Seconder has stated that it is not a question of finance but it is a question of willingness. As for the will to give effect to the principle, I may assure him that it is not at all wanting. One would be very glad, for myself I am very glad to examine any scheme that has been placed before the Government for inaugurating a new Tamil University and I shall also assist those that are interested in the scheme to determine the type of the university, so that the cultural development may be foreshadowed in any scheme for a Tamil University. If a university is intended to reflect the culture, the experience, the knowledge of the Tamil people, the ancient people of the Dravida, it is necessary to have a very well thought out scheme. It is not by a stroke of the pen or by imitating any particular type of university that you may formulate a scheme. It is necessary that the scheme should embrace all the activities of the nation, it should reflect the entire civilization of the people and if you want to develop the culture and tradition of a particular locality for which the university is intended, it must be examined by those persons interested in it and conversant with the traditions of the locality. Therefore the University Reorganization Act of 1923 rightly placed the obligation on the Senate which is the proper body of the university and which is more competent than any others to discuss such academical questions as these and advise Government. I have told you what the Senate has done very recently in the matter. If therefore a scheme is prepared and placed before the Government it will receive all the consideration that it deserves.

"As regards the financial aspect of it, the hon. the Seconder said that it is not a question of finance altogether, and he has also stated that there have been a remission of contributions, and therefore it is for th

av

22nd March 1926]

[Sir A. P. Patro]

Government to finance another university. A moment's reflection will show the present condition of our finance, and we know what it is as we are now dealing with the budget. If the Government of India did not come to our aid we should have had a deficit budget, and expenditure on new schemes would have come to nil, and all developments would have to be stopped. Hence if elementary education is to be developed as has been rightly urged by my hon. Friend Mr. M. C. Raja and others, and if secondary education is to be reorganized and put on a better basis so as to be of practical utility to the people, and in consonance with the progressive ideas of higher education, if these were to be recognized, we would have to reflect how far the finances would permit of starting new universities.

"My hon. Friend from Cuddapah would say 'Well, don't spend any money on universities.' He has given us a warning on the budget discussion—'Spend more money on secondary education.' I do not agree with him because all education, secondary as well as collegiate, must be developed as far as possible, it cannot be stopped because more funds are required at one stage and less at another stage. I cannot agree with him to stop altogether university and collegiate education and only develop secondary and elementary education. I therefore suggest that the financial problem is not a small problem. If a properly considered scheme is placed before the Government as required by the Madras University Reorganization Act of 1923, and if the University submits its proposals, we are prepared to consider them."

Mr. P. T. RAJAN:—"Is the hon. the Minister who is so sympathetic prepared to appoint a committee? If he is so sympathetic which he says he is, why should he not appoint a committee?"

* Khan Bahadur P. KHALIF-UL-LAH SAHIB Bahadur:—"With your permission, Mr. Deputy President, I wish to say a few words on this subject. Of course from the way in which personal interest is being taken by the Tamil Minister—I mean the Minister for Development—we all realize that the Ministers are taking some interest in the matter. What we want is some more active interest to be shown in this direction. That is all my Friend wanted to say when he moved his motion. There is a Tamil proverb which says 'வட்டு சரக்காய் கறிக்கு உதவாது'. The mere fact of the University Act mentioning certain procedure for starting a university will not give us a Tamil University. Something more has to be done. It is true that Government has taken some step in the matter. In referring to the action of the Senate, it has to be regretted indeed that the Senate should have passed on to the next subject on the agenda, thus making us believe that it at any rate considered that this was not a very urgent subject. I should take this opportunity of impressing upon this House that the subject is certainly not one which can be so lightly treated. There is a very strong feeling in the House that the matter must be taken in hand at once. The present Ministry has certainly to be congratulated for the expeditious manner in which the Andhra University Act was carried through this House, and the Andhra university has become a realized fact to-day.

"But so far as the Tamil University is concerned, I think it is needless for me to point out that the question of starting a Tamil University is as important as having an Andhra University, and that the Tamil districts deserve a separate university for their own area is a fact recognized much earlier than the cry for the Andhra University was raised in this Province.

[Mr. P. Khalif-ul-lah Sahib Bahadur] [22nd March 1926]

So, Sir, it is on these grounds that the starting of a Tamil University is certainly a very urgent matter, and unless the Government takes some special interest in the matter and sees that a committee is appointed to investigate into the necessary steps to be taken in that direction or sees that the Senate formulates its own proposals, a Tamil University can never be dreamt of in this province. I earnestly appeal to the hon. the Minister to take up this matter in hand and see that the establishment of a Tamil University becomes a realized fact as early as possible and without any avoidable delay."

Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN :—"I must thank you for having allowed me an opportunity to take part in this important discussion. I feel that the establishment of a Tamil University is dear not only to my Tamil brethren, but it is dear to my Andhra brethren also who, I am sure, will not grudge the establishment of a Tamil University when they have had their own. I hope when the Tamil University Bill comes on the anvil of this Council, my Tamilian friends will not follow the unseemly procedure which was followed by my Andhra friends. My Andhra friends did not know what Act they wanted and I hope my Tamilian brethren, when such a Bill comes before the Council, will settle their differences outside the House and not bring all their quarrels inside.

"I am glad that the hon. the Minister for Education said that he would consider the matter sympathetically if a plan came from the Senate. I would like to point out to him that the gentleman who has been really interesting himself in founding a Tamil University is his hon. Colleague, the Minister for Development. I am sure all of us read with interest the great address which he delivered at the Tamil University Conference. That address is a well-thought out address and is well worth the perusal of all the Members of this House. In fact I was very much impressed when I read that address in Delhi—because I happened to be at Delhi at the time when the hon. the Minister for Development delivered his address in Trichinopoly—and the *Hindustan Times* devoted a whole column for this address and also wrote a leader commenting upon this very able address and also asking people in the Northern India to follow the great lead given by the hon. Minister. It is great honour and glory to the Tamilian Minister, as has been described by my hon. Friend Mr. Khalif-ul-lah, that he should have been able to deliver his masterful address. I claim it as a great credit to the Madras Presidency that people in the Northern India should have taken note of an address which was delivered at Trichinopoly by our hon. Minister. When such is the case, it is rather hard for the hon. the Minister for Education to take up an attitude of *non-possomus* and say that the Senate has not produced any resolution and that therefore he is not going to act on this matter. This is just like an ostrich putting its head into the sand thinking that the world is not going to do any harm to it. That is the attitude of the hon. the Minister for Education in the case of the Tamil University. If he really were serious and wanted a scheme, he ought to have acted as he had acted in the case of the Andhra University. I do not mean to say that he shows any bias or was in favour of the establishment of an Andhra University but is against the establishment of a Tamil University. I am far from having any idea of that sort because once he took charge as Minister of this Province I thought he ought to have the interests of the whole province at heart. If it is merely a question of finances that frightens

22nd March 1926]

[Dr. P. Subbarayan]

him from taking up the question in right earnest, I have nothing to say. But on other grounds I cannot accept his position and I would therefore appeal to him to follow the example which he followed in the case of the Andhra University and appoint a Committee for the promulgation of a scheme, for the Tamil University. If he were to appoint a Committee fully representative of the Tamilians of this Province and if that committee is not able to arrive at an agreement for the establishment of a Tamil University, then he can very well say frankly 'I gave you a committee and you are not able to come to an agreement. When such is the case how can I proceed further.' If the hon. the Minister were to appoint a committee and have the scheme drawn up, the establishment of a Tamil University will become an accomplished fact when finances are ready."

* The hon. Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. PATRO :—"I do not hesitate to appoint a committee when the hon. the Finance Member is able to provide the necessary funds."

Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN :—"I said that a committee ought to be appointed now, so that the scheme may be ready before the hon. the Finance Member is able to provide the funds necessary for this purpose."

* The hon. Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. PATRO :—"It is not possible for me to say when the hon. the Finance Member will be able to find funds, but for the appointment of a committee it is the co-operation of those that are interested in this question that is needed. If they indicate the lines on which they wish to proceed, we can select the members of the committee. But that, I think, will take time."

Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN :—"May I point out that we cannot give a scheme until he sets out to appoint a committee? No committee need be appointed if there was a cut and dry scheme."

* Rao Sahib P. V. GOPALAN :—"I just wish to know"

The hon. the DEPUTY PRESIDENT :—"Are you a Tamilian?"

* Diwan Bahadur M. KRISHNAN NAYAR :—"On a point of order, Sir. Are only Tamilian Members allowed to speak upon this motion regarding the establishment of a Tamil University?"

* Rao Sahib P. V. GOPALAN :—"With all good wishes for the Tamil University and for the existing Andhra University, I just wish to know from the hon. the Minister for Education by what name the Madras University will be known hereafter?"

* The hon. Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. PATRO :—"The Committee that will go into the formation of a Tamil University will also decide what name the Madras University will hereafter bear."

The hon. the DEPUTY PRESIDENT :—"Are you (turning to Mr. Ghouse Mian Sahib) pressing your motion?"

* Mr. MUHAMMAD GHOUSE MIAN SAHIB :—"I thank the hon. Minister for Education for the kind words he has spoken, namely, that he would soon appoint a committee. I would ask him to show special interest in the matter and take the initiative himself, just as he took in the case of the Andhra University, without waiting and seeing that it should emanate from the Senate. It is from the Government that such an initiative should emanate. However in view of the assurance given by the hon. the Minister for Education, I withdraw my motion."

[22nd March 1926]

* Mr. A. CHIDAMBARA NADAR :—"I object to the withdrawal."

The hon. the DEPUTY PRESIDENT :—"I shall put the main question."

* The hon. Mr. T. E. MOIR :—"Would not the correct and the best procedure be to ask the House whether it gives him permission to withdraw?"

The hon. the DEPUTY PRESIDENT :—"The Secretary ought to know something of it. He tells me that there is some ruling in the matter. It has been done so in this very House. I am shown an instance by the Secretary. In his 'Parliamentary Practice,' Mr. May says 'if no one dissents he (the President) says 'the motion is withdrawn'.' But if a dissenting voice is heard he proceeds to put the question."

* The hon. Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. PATRO :—"With due deference, I rise to a point of order. Your predecessor did not put the question."

The hon. the DEPUTY PRESIDENT :—"I am not here to follow my predecessors. I beg your pardon. I must take note of the circumstances which are prevailing at the moment. The Secretary tells me that it has been done likewise once or twice before by my predecessor."

* The hon. Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. PATRO :—"The Secretary has no place in the Council."

The hon. the DEPUTY PRESIDENT :—"I think he ought to have a better knowledge of these things."

* The hon. Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. PATRO :—"He may tell you privately. He is not an authority on the matter within the Council."

The hon. the DEPUTY PRESIDENT :—"He assures me that it is the correct procedure. If you think that it is wrong, I have nothing to say further. I am referring to May's 'Parliamentary Practice.' If the House as a whole holds that what May says will not hold good so far as the present question is concerned and that the question of withdrawal of a motion should be voted upon by the House, that is another matter."

* The hon. Mr. T. E. MOIR :—"I merely wish to say that the House will not question a ruling which the Chair has taken so much trouble to elucidate. As far as I am concerned, I have nothing to say in respect of the ruling that has been given and I am sure we all accept it."

The hon. the DEPUTY PRESIDENT :—"I will just put the question whether the allotment of Rs. 3,21,500 be reduced by Rs. 100."

The RAJA OF RAMNAD :—"He has withdrawn the motion, Sir."

The hon. the DEPUTY PRESIDENT :—"Somebody has objected to it."

The main motion was put to vote and declared lost.

The hon. the DEPUTY PRESIDENT :—"So far as I am concerned, I think this motion has elicited very much discussion and I hope it will give satisfaction to all Tamil people. I also think that the hon. the Minister for Education has shown his sympathy towards the establishment of a Tamil University. All this perhaps would have been lost if I had not allowed a discussion."

The House then adjourned to meet again at 11 a.m. the next day.

R. V. KRISHNA AYYAR,
Secretary to the Legislative Council.

APPENDIX

22nd March 1926]

APPENDIX I.

[Vide answer to question No. 1716 asked by Mr. C. V. Venkataraman Ayyangar at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on the 22nd March 1926, page 415 supra.]

*Extract from the letter from the Chief Conservator of Forests,
No. L. Dis. 2314/24, dated the 26th March 1924.*

(b) Very briefly the scheme is as follows :—

To exploit the timber forests for timber and firewood and the reed forests for paper pulp or matches. The area covered by timber is estimated at 35,200 acres, but of this only about 24,000 acres are workable. Of this workable area not more than at most 1/70th portion (i.e., about 343 acres) will be felled in any one year. Although the felling will be what is known as clear felling in reality all trees too small to be saleable will be left standing and immediate steps will also be taken to restock the cleared area with a new crop. The forest is evergreen and in all evergreen forests there is an abundant natural young crop of seedlings only awaiting the removal of the big trees to spring up and to take the place of the latter. This new crop is generally so dense that the ground will not be subject to erosion by rain and there is no possibility that the clearing of the forest will have any effect whatever on the run-off of the water.

APPENDIX II.

[Vide item II. "Communication to the Council" at page 422 supra.]

Proceedings of the eighteenth meeting of the Finance Committee for 1925-26 held on Tuesday the 2nd March 1926 at 1 p.m. at the Cabinet Chamber, Fort St. George.

PRESENT:

The hon. Mr. T. E. MOIR, C.S.I., C.I.E., I.C.S. (Chairman)

M.R.Ry. C. RAMALINGA REDDI Garu, M.L.C.

„ K. PRABHAKARAN TAMPAN Avarigal, M.L.C.

„ Diwan Bahadur K. SURYANARAYANAMURTI NAYUDU Garu, M.L.C.

Khan Bahadur P. KHALIF-UL-LAH SAHIB Bahadur, M.L.C.

G. T. BOAG, Esq., I.C.S., M.L.C.

[22nd March 1926]

I.—SCHEMES.**(1) Permanent retention of the Government Elementary schools at Chatti and Padarkur in the Godavari Agency.**

Abstract of the proposal.—In December 1922 sanction was accorded for the opening of a Government elementary school on a temporary basis in each of the villages of Chatti and Padarkur in the Bhadrachalam taluk in the Gōdāvari Agency. The schools in question are intended for the education of Koya pupils in the interior of the Gōdāvari Agency. Judged by the strength and the average attendance during the last three years, both the Government Agent, East Gōdāvari, and the Agency District Educational Officer, consider that there is a case for the permanent retention of the schools. The proposal has the support of the Director of Public Instruction. The extra cost involved in the proposal will be Rs. 746 a year against which there will be a saving of Rs. 480 under "Temporary establishment". Provision has been made for the schools in the budget estimate for 1926-27.

Recommendation of the Committee.—The proposal was recommended by the Committee for acceptance.

(2) Permanent retention of the Sub-Registry office at Adirampatnam.

Abstract of the proposal.—The Inspector-General of Registration recommends that the Sub-Registry office at Adirampatnam sanctioned as a temporary measure in April 1920 and continued from year to year for the last five years may be made permanent with effect from the 1st April 1926, the date on which the existing sanction expires. At the time when the opening of the office was first sanctioned, it was estimated that the figures under registration, collections and expenditure for a year would be 1,379, Rs. 2,063, and Rs. 1,416 respectively. The average registrations, collections and expenditure for the last five years have exceeded the estimates under these heads. The office is also self-supporting. Having regard to the convenience of the public, it is recommended that the office may be made permanent. The proposal involves an expenditure of Rs. 1,521 per annum and provision has been made for it in the budget estimates for 1926-27.

Recommendation of the Committee.—The scheme was recommended by the Committee for acceptance.

II.—SUPPLEMENTARY DEMANDS.**(1) Appropriation for refund to the Polavaram District Board of the contribution paid by it on account of the pay of medical officers for the years 1923-24 and 1924-25.**

Abstract of the proposal.—In February 1925 the Government waived the recovery of the contribution of Rs. 8,050 due to Government from the Polavaram District Board on account of the pay of medical officers employed at taluk headquarter stations for the years 1923-24 and 1924-25. But with reference to an earlier instruction issued in October 1924, the above sum had been paid to Government during the latter part of 1924-25. It is now proposed to repay the amount to the district board. As there are no savings in the allotment for Agency tracts, a supplementary demand will be moved

[22nd March 1926]

under Grant XXXII. Agency Tracts—Reserved, the amount being met from the savings of Rs. 83,000 under "6.e. Excise—Cost-Price of Opium supplied to the Excise Department."

Recommendation of the Committee.—The proposal to move a supplementary demand for Rs. 8,050 in the current year was recommended by the Committee.

(2) Appropriation on account of refund of centage charges paid by the Polavaram District Board.

Abstract of the proposal.—Under an order issued in 1921, the Polavaram District Board has to pay centage charges on works executed by the Public Works Department, but is entitled to a grant-in-aid to cover the cost of the special executive establishment which it may employ to carry out local fund works. For the year 1924-25, the cost of the special executive establishment employed by the District Board was Rs. 4,359, while it paid centage charges amounting to Rs. 6,441. The Polavaram District Board requests that the whole amount of Rs. 6,441 should be paid to it in view of its unsatisfactory financial position. A sum of Rs. 5,299 can be met from the reserve with Government under Grant XXXII. Agency Tracts—Reserved. It is proposed to move a supplementary demand for the balance required, viz., Rs. 1,142.

Recommendation of the Committee.—The proposal to move a supplementary demand for Rs. 1,142 in the current year was recommended by the Committee.

III.—SCHEMES FOR INTRODUCTION IN 1926-27.**(1) Establishment of additional stations and supply of rain gauges in the Chittoor and the Ceded districts.**

Abstract of the proposal.—A deputation of the ryots of the Pattikonda taluk, Kurnool district, that waited on His Excellency the Governor at Kurnool in July 1924 urged that rain gauges should be supplied to all villages for the purpose of recording rainfall figures accurately. The Government decided that it was unnecessary to supply rain gauges to all village officers in the Presidency and that in the case of the Chittoor district and the Ceded districts which are liable to scarcity and where the number of authorized rain-registering stations other than village gauges is not sufficient, suitable centres where responsible officers such as sub-registrars and sub-assistant surgeons reside should be selected and rain gauges supplied to these officers. It is accordingly proposed to establish in 1926-27 sixteen stations in the districts of Chittoor, Kurnool, Bellary, Anantapur and Cuddapah. The approximate cost of rain gauges together with the cost of fixing them amounts to Rs. 800 and the amount will be met by reappropriation from the provision of Rs. 53,100 included in the budget estimate for 1926-27 under "22-R.E.a.—General Administration—District Administration—General Establishments—Collectors and Magistrates—Supplies and Services—General—Miscellaneous."

Recommendation of the Committee.—The Committee desired to have a list of the stations in these districts at which rain gauges are already in existence and information whether there are no other places where there are officers competent to look after rain gauges.

[22nd March 1926]

(2) Additional police establishment for the extension of the Madras Hackney Carriage Act, 1911, to certain parts of the Tanjore district.

Abstract of the proposal.—The District Magistrate, Tanjore, recommends the extension of the provisions of the Madras Hackney Carriage Act, 1911, to certain parts of the Tanjore district. The number of vehicles that are likely to be registered under the Act is 705 and the probable income that may be derived from licensing fees is estimated at Rs. 1,245 a year.

In the police reallocation scheme for the Tanjore district provision has been made for a hackney carriage establishment of three head constables and two constables. The present proposal will necessitate an addition of two more head constables to the hackney carriage staff of the district. It is also necessary to provide each of the two head constables with a Government bicycle. The additional expenditure will be Rs. 806 per annum recurring and Rs. 260 non-recurring, and will be more than covered by receipts. The expenditure will be met from the provision under "26. c. Police—District executive force—District police" in the budget estimates for 1926-27.

Recommendation of the Committee.—The scheme was recommended by the Committee for acceptance.

(3) Appointment of a Special Executive Engineer for the supervision of the construction of the Coleroon Bridge at Trichinopoly.

Abstract of the proposal.—The Government have ordered that the supervision of the construction of the new bridge over the Coleroon at Trichinopoly in its initial stages should be looked after by the Executive Engineer in charge of the Kattalai division. A full-time Executive Engineer will be necessary when the bridge work is in full swing, as when well sinking is started, it will not be possible for the Executive Engineer, Kattalai division, to devote enough time to the supervision of the bridge works. It is therefore proposed to sanction the appointment of an Executive Engineer for a period of one year and nine months from the 1st April 1926. The extra cost on account of the proposal will be Rs. 224 per mensem as shown below :—

	RS.
(1) Officiating allowance to an Assistant Executive Engineer who will be posted for the charge of the works	100
(2) Officiating allowance to the Senior Supervisor (on Rs 250) who will be posted for the charge of a sub-division in place of item (1) above	20
(3) Pay of a temporary Supervisor who will be appointed in place of item (2) above	80
(4) Pay of two peons for the Executive Engineer at Rs. 12	24
Total ..	224

22nd March 1926]

The extra cost during 1926-27 will be met from the appropriation under "41-e.—Civil Works—Transferred—Establishment".

Recommendation of the Committee.—The proposal was recommended by the Committee for acceptance.

IV.—PAPERS PLACED ON THE TABLE.

- (1) Further note on Land Mortgage Banks. (The Committee does not sufficiently understand the necessity or the aims of this new movement nor does it feel justified in taking the responsibility of advising the financing of further schemes of this nature by State aid.)
- (2) Note regarding further information on the reduction of staff consequent on the introduction of electric lighting at the Olavakkode Saw Mill.
- (3) Further note regarding the purchase of six lino-type machines for the Government Press at Madras.

FORT ST. GEORGE,
4th March 1926.

T. E. MOIR.

[20th March 1926]

Mr. A. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—"I am aware of the fact that the salaries of the High Court Judges are not votable. But I could raise the question of the Judges only on a votable item. Though there may be a difficulty in reducing the staff, there will be no difficulty in asking for the reduction of six months' pay."

* The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR:—"When I say that we have no power to ask for these temporary Judges beyond two years from the 19th October, the fact that the item is entered in the budget and entered before the decision was arrived at does not mean that we ask for the vote of the House. We do not ask for the vote of the House on the matter."

Mr. A. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—"I must confess I do not understand the intricacies of the constitution. Here is a Government who had the power to appoint temporary Judges for two years. That is by the statutory power they have. Now 1½ years of that power has gone by the 1st April 1926. They have only got six months' power. They ought to have made provision only for six months if they have not prejudged the Secretary of State's sanction. They don't know what the decision of Lord Birkenhead will be on the matter. Yet they have anticipated the decision on the matter. If your power was only for appointing for two years I could not understand how you could have foreseen the decision of the Right Hon. the Secretary of State and entered a provision in the budget for the pay of these two Judges for the full year, and secondly, for an extra staff for the full year for these High Court Judges. I do not understand wherein your power comes in for the full year either for the Judges or for the staff. I realize that the salary of the Judges is non-votable and to that extent you are not subjecting it to the vote of the House. You are placing it only for the information of the House. I am perfectly aware and acknowledge rather all the constitutional limitations on myself and this House. But I think, Sir, Government ought to explain why in a matter in which they have not got power to place provision in the budget beyond a definite period they have gone out of the way to place an estimate for a longer period exceeding their powers and anticipating the decision of the Right Hon. the Secretary of State. I wish I could be assured by what the hon. the Law Member says about the intentions of the Government in this matter. It seems to me *prima facie* that they have exceeded their power and there must have been some very good reason for the exceeding of that power. I am told that they have not addressed the Secretary of State on the matter. I am told that they have not come to any conclusion in the matter. I am also told that the question will be examined at the time when the two years period expires. How comes it then that they have put in an allotment in the budget for a period exceeding two years. How is it they have anticipated the making up of their own minds and the making up of the mind of the Secretary of State in the second place. I fail to understand the logic of that particular item in the budget. As to the conditions under which it has been put I should be very glad if the hon. the Law Member or the Finance Department would enlighten me on the point. The Finance Department is a department that scrutinizes very very carefully indeed. I am personally conscious of the very many limitations that it places on the Members of the Treasury Bench. I want to know how this full provision is entered in the budget which is not justified by the constitutional powers which are inherent in the Local Government."

THE MADRAS LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

Tuesday, the 23rd March 1926.

The House met at 11 o'clock with Mr. President (the hon. Mr. M. RUTHNASWAMY, M.A., Bar-at-Law) in the chair.

PRESENT:

Ramaswami Ayyar, K.C.I.E., The hon. Sir C. P.	Marthandam Pillai, Mr. P. N.
Marjoribanks, C.S.I., C.I.E., The hon. Mr. N. E.	Muhammad Sahib, Mr. T. N.
Usman Sahib Bahadur, The hon. Khan Bahadur Muhammad.	Murugappa Chettiyar, Diwan Bahadur A. M.
Moir, C.S.I., C.I.E., The hon. Mr. T. E.	Muttayya Mudaliyar, Mr. C.
Raja of Panagal, The hon. the.	Narayanan Nambudiripad, Rao Bahadur O. M.
Patro, Kt., The hon. Rao Bahadur Sir A. P.	Natesa Mudaliyar, Rao Bahadur C.
Sivagiam Pillai, Kt., The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir T. N.	Noyce, C.S.I., C.B.E., I.C.S., Mr. F.
Abbas Ali Khan, Mr.	Obalesappa, Mr. B.
Abdulla Ghatala Sahib, Mr.	Pandrang Row, Mr. V.
Ankinedu Prasad Bahadur, Mr. S. R. Y.	Prabhakaran Tampam, Mr. K.
Ari Gowder, Mr. H. B.	Premayya, Mr. G.
Arpudaswami Udayar, Mr. S.	Raghuchandra Ballal, Mr. K.
Arumuga Nadar, Mr. P. K. S. A.	Raja, Rao Bahadur M. C.
Bhanoji Rao, Mr. A. V.	Raja of Ramnad.
Boag, Mr. G. T.	Rajan, Mr. P. T.
Chidambara Nadar, Mr. A.	Ramachandra Reddi, Mr. B.
Devendrude, Mr. N.	Raman, Rao Bahadur P.
Ghouse Mian Sahib, Mr. Muhammad.	Ramachari, Rao Sahib K. V.
Gopalan, Rao Sahib P. V.	Ramaswami Mudaliyar, Mr. A.
Guruswami, Mr. L. C.	Ranganatha Mudaliyar, Mr. A.
Haji Qasim Sahib Bahadur, Khan Bahadur Haji Abd-ul-lah.	Saldanha, Mr. J. A.
Heggade, Mr. D. Manjappa.	Samuel, Mr. J. D.
Kesava Pillai, C.I.M., Diwan Bahadur P.	Sarvarayudu, Mr. K.
Khadir Mohiddin Elyas Khan Sahib, Mr.	Sesha Reddi, Mr. B. P.
Khalif-ul-lah Sahib Bahadur, Khan Bahadur P.	Sitarama Reddi, Mr. K.
Krishnan Nayar, Diwan Bahadur M.	Srinivasan, Rao Sahib R.
Krishnaswami Nayudu, Rao Bahadur K.	Subramania Pillai, Mr. K. Chavadi.
MaoDougall, Kt., Sir Alexander.	Sundaramurti, Rao Sahib P. V. S.
Madanagopal Nayudu, Mr. B.	Suryanarayanamurti Nayudu, Diwan Bahadur K.
Madurai, Hony.-Lieut.	Tangavelu Pillai, Rao Sahib T. C.
Mallesappa, Mr. T.	Veerian, Mr. B.
Marakkayar Sahib Bahadur, Khan Bahadur Mr. V. Hamid Sultan.	Venkatchala Padayachi, Mr. K.
	Venkatarreddi Nayudu, Kt., Rai Bahadur Sir K.
	Windle, Capt. E. G.

[23rd March 1926]

I
QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

[Order made by the President of the Madras Legislative Council under Standing Order No. 15 on the 4th December 1924.]

1. Starred questions to be put at a meeting of the Council with their answers shall be printed and placed on the Council table an hour before the President takes his seat.

The Secretary shall call out the name of each interpellator in the order in which the names are printed, specify the serial number of his question and make a sufficient pause to give him or any other member a reasonable opportunity of rising in his place and putting a supplementary question. Supplementary questions must be put immediately after the principal questions to which they relate.

2. If a member responsible for a starred question happens to be absent when it is called, it will be open either to him or to any other member to put supplemental questions thereon after the other starred questions for the day have been answered, provided question-time is not thereby exceeded.

3. Questions, not starred, will not be called in Council, but they will be printed with their answers and placed on the table of the House along with the list of starred questions. Oral supplementary questions will not be allowed in regard to unstarred questions.]

STARRED QUESTIONS.

Factories.

Match factories in this Presidency.

* 1728 Q.—Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR: Will the hon. the Minister for Development be pleased to state—

(a) whether any match factories are now working in this presidency and, if so, what are their names and what quantities are produced by each factory in a year;

(b) whether it is a fact that it is found difficult at present to cut sticks from Indian timber as thin as imported sticks and, if so, the reason for the same;

(c) whether any experiments are being made now in the Forest department to find out more suitable timber;

(d) whether the Government are giving any help towards the development of the match industry and, if so, in what ways and to what extent; and

(e) whether any timbers have been recommended till now by the Forest department as most suited for making match sticks and boxes as the result of the experiments carried out till now?

A.—(a) There are very few match factories operating on a commercial scale actually working in the Presidency at present. The small scale concerns, such as there are, are scattered over the Presidency. The names of the more important of these are furnished below together with information regarding the output of each, wherever available—

(1) The Swadeshi Match Factory, No. 143, Tiruvottiyur High Road, Madras. Outturn—about 25 gross per day.

(2) The Malabar Match works, Olavakkote (formerly known as the Safety Match Manufacturing Company). This is understood to belong to the same organization as No. 1 and serves as a feeder of splints and veneers to the latter. Outturn—about 50 gross per day.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

[23rd March 1926]

(3) The New Madras Match Factory, Madras, No. 1/267, Tiruvottiyur High Road, Madras.

(4) The Swadeshi Match Factory, Nellikunnam—Maximum capacity of the factory from 7 to 8 gross per day, the average outturn as gathered in 1923-24 ranging from 3 to 4 gross.

(b) The Government have no definite information on the point, but they have no reason to think that Indian timber cannot be cut thin enough for splints.

(c) No: but in the past, over 62 species have been tested, some of which have proved fairly suitable although there are none of outstanding merit.

(d) The attention of the hon. Member is drawn to paragraph 33 of the administration report of the department of Industries for 1924-25 printed in G.O. No. 1500, dated 19th October 1925, which was placed on Editors' Table. Match manufacturers, actual and prospective, are supplied with information and advice in regard to supplies of raw materials required, such as wood and chemicals as well as machinery and in regard to suitable locations for plant and results of past experiments. The grant of financial or other assistance to the industry is governed by the provisions of the Madras State Aid to Industries Act and it is open to any match concern to apply for aid in conformity with the provisions of the Act and the rules framed thereunder.

(e) Advice has been given to several manufacturers as to which of the 62 species referred to in (c) above are the most suitable.

Fisheries.

Recognition of one Mr. Anasthasius Motha as Jathithalaivan.

* 1729 Q.—Rao Bahadur CRUZ FERNANDEZ: Will the hon. the Minister for Development be pleased to state—

(a) whether one Mr. Anasthasius Motha has approached Government or the Collector of Tinnevely for a Sanad recognizing him as the Jathithalaivan (headman) of the Bharatha community;

(b) if so, what orders have been passed on his application; and

(c) whether it is a fact that Government have on previous occasions declined to interfere in the succession of Mr. Anasthasius Motha?

A.—(a) Yes.

(b) The Government have directed that the Jathithalaivan should be allowed the concession which the previous jathithalaivans enjoyed, viz., the take of two boats of ten divers each every day of the fishery now being held off Tuticorin.

(c) Yes.

Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR:—“Sir, may I know whether this Jathithalaivan has got anything to do with religion?”

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir T. N. SIVAGNANAM PILLAI:—“No, Sir; it has nothing to do with religion.”

[23rd March 1926]

Alleged protest against the appointment of Mr. Anasthasius Motha as Jathithalaivan.

* 1730 Q.—Rao Bahadur CRUZ FERNANDEZ: Will the hon. the Minister for Development be pleased to state—

(a) whether Government have received any mahazar from the Bharatha people of Tuticorin protesting against the appointment of Mr. Anasthasius Motha as the Jathithalaivan of the entire Bharatha community and also objecting to the grant by Government of any Sanad to him in recognition whereof; and

(b) whether it is a fact that numerous protests in the shape of resolutions and telegrams are being received by Government from villages in the Coromandal Coast testifying to their disapproval of the appointment of Mr. Anasthasius Motha as Jathithalaivan?

A.—(a) Yes.

(b) The Government have received numerous communications on the subject, some in favour of and others against the individual mentioned.

Industries.

Spinning and weaving industries in South Kanara and Malabar.

* 1731 Q.—Mr. J. A. SALDANHA: Will the hon. the Minister for Development be pleased to furnish a statement so far as concerns each of the departments on the following points in regard to the hand-spinning and handloom weaving industry in the western districts of South Kanara and Malabar;

(a) the economic condition of the two industries in the year 1925 and at present; and

(b) what steps have been taken by Government, municipalities and local boards for technical training for the industries and aiding them by pecuniary help and expert advice?

A.—(a) No economic survey of the condition of the two industries has been made and therefore it is not possible to furnish the information required.

(b) A Government Textile Institute has been opened in Madras for the purpose of training students in handloom weaving and allied textile branches. A peripatetic weaving party was posted to the South Kanara and Malabar districts, with Cannanore as its headquarters. It visited 104 weaving centres and introduced various improved weaving appliances to the value of Rs. 2,648-14-3. Further a special grant was given to the Young Men's Christian Association for training Mappillas in rebel areas in cottage industries including weaving. Government have no information as to the steps taken by the municipalities and local boards concerned for technical training in the industries referred to.

[23rd March 1926]

Education.

Appointment of Mr. Kunhalan Kutti as Deputy Inspector of Schools.

* 1732 Q.—Mr. R. VEERIAN: Will the hon. the Minister for Education be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that one Mr. N. Kunhalan Kutti was appointed as Deputy Inspector of Schools during the last June;

(b) if so, what is his educational qualification and the number of years service he has put in, in the department;

(c) whether the claims of any depressed class member of the service have been considered as mentioned in the proceedings of the Director of Public Instruction, Dis. No. 2610/23, dated 23rd July 1923, for promotion to Deputy Inspector's cadre; and

(d) if not, why not?

A.—(a) Yes; Mr. N. Kunhalan Kutti is a Mappilla. He was appointed in the Mappilla Range.

(b) He holds a completed School-Leaving Certificate and a Trained Teacher's Certificate of the Secondary Grade. He has put in seven years' service.

(c) & (d) No vacancies have arisen except in Mappilla ranges for which Mappillas are preferred.

Mr. R. VEERIAN:—"Sir, with reference to the answer to clauses (c) and (d), I want to bring to the notice of the hon. Minister the fact that there was one vacancy in 1923 and another in 1925 to which two non-Mappilla candidates possessing the same qualifications as Mr. Velan referred to in the proceedings of the Director of Public Instruction, were appointed. I want to know the reason why the claims of this applicant from the depressed classes were not considered."

The hon. Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. PATRO:—"I do not know, Sir. The appointment is in the hands of the Director of Public Instruction. He may have very good reasons for his action. He has definitely stated that vacancies have not arisen in non-Mappilla ranges."

Mr. R. VEERIAN:—"May I know, Sir, whether these two gentlemen who were not Mappillas were appointed in Mappilla ranges or elsewhere?"

The hon. Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. PATRO:—"I am sorry I have no information."

Mr. R. VEERIAN:—"Will the hon. Minister be pleased to call for the information since I consider this an important matter? The Director himself said that he would consider the claims of this gentleman who has got the same qualifications as the other two."

The hon. Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. PATRO:—"Yes, Sir. The point will be noted."

Registration.

Diplot registers in the offices of District Registrars.

* 1733 Q.—Mr. K. RAGHUCHANDRA BALLAL: Will the hon. the Minister for Education be pleased to state—

(a) whether documents relating to property situated in any village are registered in the office of the District Registrar concerned on presentation with enhanced fees;

[23rd March 1926]

(b) whether the Government are aware that diglott registers of every village were maintained in the office of every District Registrar in order to verify the settlement description of the properties relating to such documents;

(c) whether it is a fact that such practice has been lately discontinued by an order of the Inspector-General of Registration; if so, what the reasons are for such an order;

(d) whether the discontinuance of such practice tends to the increase of rectification documents by reason of the fact that parties to documents are deprived of the opportunity to discover any errors in the description of the property;

(e) whether the Government are aware that by such deprivation the parties are put to unnecessary expense and trouble by having recourse to rectification deeds; and

(f) whether the Government have any objection to direct the renewal of such practice in view of saving the parties from such expense and trouble?

A.—(a) & (b) Yes.

(c) No.

(d), (e) & (f) The questions do not arise.

Local Boards and Municipal Councils.

Nominations to Municipal Councils.

* 1734 Q.—Mr. R. VEERIAN: Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state why in the case of nominations to municipal councils the Collector sends up recommendations (after consulting the Revenue Divisional officer), whereas in the case of district boards the president thereof makes the recommendation?

A.—Prior to 1894, recommendations for nomination both to municipal councils and district boards were submitted by the Collector. In that year, it was decided that, in order to simplify procedure and to reduce correspondence between the office of the Collector and that of the District Board which in this matter was purely formal as the Collector was ex officio President of the District Board, the recommendations for nomination to district boards should be submitted by the Presidents. The present practice therefore dates from 1894. Although Collectors are no longer Presidents of District Boards, it has not been considered desirable to alter it.

Mr. R. VEERIAN:—“Sir, may I point out that the presidents of district boards generally recommend their own adherents since they have got a direct interest?”

The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL:—“Sir, it is not question of interest. A convention was established in 1894 and has been observed ever since. Now the Collector is not the President of the District Board he is not asked to make recommendations for nomination of members of the board.”

Mr. R. VEERIAN:—“May I know, Sir, the reason for the difference between the methods of nomination in the municipal councils and in the district boards?”

[23rd March 1926]

The hon. the PRESIDENT:—“That is to be found in the Act, I suppose.”

The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL:—“Sir, it is a convention.”

Mr. R. VEERIAN:—“There is nothing in the Acts, Sir. I have digested both the Acts.” (Laughter.)

The hon. the PRESIDENT:—“I must congratulate the hon. Member then.”

The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL:—“The distinction was not for the first time observed now, but in 1894 and ever since that distinction has been observed.”

Mr. R. VEERIAN:—“May I ask the hon. Minister whether it is not advisable to change the practice also with the changed times?”

The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL:—“May I ask the hon. Member whether it is his desire that in the case of the municipal councils also the District Collector should not be allowed to send up recommendations?”

Mr. R. VEERIAN:—“It is not with that idea that I put that question. I suggested that the District Collectors might be vested with the power even in the case of the district boards instead of the presidents who might be interested in the matter and recommend their own adherents.”

The hon. the PRESIDENT:—“The hon. Member is making a speech.”

Mr. R. VEERIAN:—“I shall confine myself to the question, Sir, and ask whether the hon. Minister is not prepared to change the practice.”

The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL:—“If a change is to be effected, it must be in the forward direction and not otherwise. The officials used to send up nominations till now in the case of the municipal councils. If this system is to be changed, I think we should ask the chairmen to send up recommendations. But Government are not inclined to do so.”

Mr. R. VEERIAN:—“May I know what has become of the recommendations of the Advisory Committee which sat at Ootacamund on the 18th May 1925?”

The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL:—“Sir, they are under consideration. In fact, the Government wanted to issue rules, but it was found that the issuing of rules was not *intra vires* and they propose to introduce two changes in the law itself by amending the Act.”

Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR:—“Sir, may I know the reason why the Government are not prepared to make the system of nomination to the municipal councils coincide with the system of nomination to the district boards?”

The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL:—“One of my reasons is that there are members like our hon. Friend Mr. Veerian who object to that procedure being adopted.”

Mr. R. VEERIAN:—“May I know whether the Government have found out that no undesirable results would ensue if the power of making nominations to the district boards is vested in the Collector himself, instead of in the presidents of district boards?”

The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL:—“The power to nominate is vested in the Government even now.”

[23rd March 1926]

Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—" Sir, if hon. Friends like Mr. Veerian object to the power being transferred from the Collector to the chairmen of the municipal councils, I take it that they also equally object to the present power being vested in the presidents of the district boards."

11-15
a.m.

The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL :—" That question does not arise. The hon. Member Mr. Veerian wants is that there should be a change in the matter of nominating members to the municipal councils and district boards. The Government do not propose to effect any change now. I think it is better to leave things as they are."

Mr. R. VEERIAN :—" I do not want any change so far as the municipal councils are concerned. I only want to know whether there will be a change with reference to nominations so far as the district boards are concerned. The power of making recommendations is different from the power of making appointments. The power of making appointments is in the hands of the Government and the power of making recommendations is in the hands of the president of the district board. I want to know whether the power of making recommendations will be vested in the District Collectors."

The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL :—" I do not think, Sir, that we can do that."

Appointment of a Brahman to the Trichinopoly District Board.

* 1735 Q.—Mr. S. SATYAMURTI: Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that a Brahman member had sat on the Trichinopoly District Board for three terms and more;

(b) whether the Government received representations objecting to the appointment of Rao Sahib S. M. Rajarama Rao on grounds set forth therein;

(c) whether any investigation was made on the allegations contained therein, and if so, the nature and result of the investigation;

(d) whether it is true that some of the depressed classes, other minorities including Christians and missionaries, ladies, and the Railway department in respect of the appointment of which there are separate Government Orders, are yet unrepresented on the Board; and

(e) what conditions necessitated the overruling of all the statutes and rulings in this behalf in appointing the gentleman for the 4th or 5th term?

A.—(a) The hon. Member apparently refers to M.R.Ry. S. M. Rajaram Rao Avargal. Prior to his nomination to the District Board in October 1925, this gentleman had served as a nominated member from November 1916 to November 1919 and again from January 1920 to April 1921 and as an elected member from June 1921 to September 1922 and again from September 1922 to September 1925.

(b) Yes.

(c) No.

(d) There is at present no lady member on the Board, nor is there any representative of the Missionary, Indian Christian or Railway communities. The depressed classes are represented by one member who belongs to the Palla community.

23rd March 1926]

(e) M.R.Ry. Rajaram Rao was not nominated for a fourth or fifth term as assumed in the question. As stated in the reply to clause (a) of the question, he had served as a nominated member for less than two full terms. There was no breach of any provision of law involved in his nomination in October last.

Mr. MUHAMMAD GHOUSE MIAN SAHIB :—" Arising from the answer to clause (a), may I know the reasons why the member was renominated a third time? "

The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL :—" He was recommended strongly by the President of the District Board."

Mr. MUHAMMAD GHOUSE MIAN SAHIB :—" May I know for what reasons? "

The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL :—" I think the reasons are known to the President himself. But what I collected from his letter was that the member was particularly useful and that he was taking a great deal of interest in the administration."

Mr. MUHAMMAD GHOUSE MIAN SAHIB :—" Arising out of the answer to clause (b), may I know the sort of representation made objecting the nomination? "

The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL :—" I take it that the hon. Member wants to know on what grounds objection was taken. I should like to have notice of that question."

Mr. MUHAMMAD GHOUSE MIAN SAHIB :—" The answer to clause (b) is 'yes.' I want to know the sort of representation objecting to the nomination of that member."

Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—" With reference to the answer to clause (d), I want to know how does it arise that there is no member representing the Indian Christian community on the District Board. They are maintained in the two or three colleges. May I know why that community is not represented on the District Board? "

The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL :—" The President, District Board, asked to give the next chance to a Christian member."

Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—" I want to know why they should give only the next chance to a Christian member and why should not there be a permanent chance."

The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL :—" There was a Christian member and he ceased to be a member only recently after the nomination. The claims of Christians will be considered when the next vacancy arises."

Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—" May I know why, when the Christian member ceased to be a member, another Christian was not appointed in his place? "

The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL :—" He was not a nominated member; he was an elected member. There was a Christian on the Board when the nomination was made. The president has been asked to consider the claims of an Indian Christian for the next vacancy."

[23rd March 1926]

Mr. MUHAMMAD GHOUSE MIAN SAHIB :—" May I know whether Mr. Rajaram Rao was appointed to a Christian vacancy or to any other vacancy ? "

The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL :—" The vacancies of nominated members are not earmarked. The claims of communities are considered when there are vacancies. "

Mr. MUHAMMAD GHOUSE MIAN SAHIB :—" May I know why the Government did not deem it fit to appoint one Christian member out of five members nominated by the Government ? "

The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL :—" At the time of nomination there was a Christian member on the board and there was the District Collector who was also a Christian. Therefore it was thought unnecessary to nominate another Christian member. "

Mr. MUHAMMAD GHOUSE MIAN SAHIB :—" I understand that the District Collector has been transferred. "

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" The hon. Member will kindly frame the question straightaway. "

Mr. MUHAMMAD GHOUSE MIAN SAHIB :—" Having regard to the fact that the District Collector has been transferred and his seat has become vacant, will the Government give this chance at least to a Christian member ? "

The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL :—" I have already answered that question. The president will be asked to suggest the name of a Christian member to the vacancy which has occurred by the transfer of the Collector. "

Mr. R. VEERIAN :—" May I know whether it is not a fact that, while making nominations to the local bodies, due regard should be given to unrepresented minority communities? I want to know whether there are already members who came in through the door of election. "

The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL :—" I understand there are members who have come in through the door of election. "

Mr. MUHAMMAD GHOUSE MIAN SAHIB :—" May I know, Sir, the reason why in spite of the objections, the Government deemed it fit to nominate that individual ? "

The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL :—" The question has already been answered. The president recommended strongly the nomination and it was for that reason that he was given preference. "

Mr. MUHAMMAD GHOUSE MIAN SAHIB :—" Was not that recommendation against the spirit of the Government Order that has been issued by the Government ? "

The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL :—" No, Sir. "

Mr. F. NOYCE :—" May I read the recommendation of the president of the district board on this subject? He says: 'during my enforced absence for long periods in 1924 M.R.Ry. S. M. Rajaram Rao Gan exercised my delegated authority and after my return was elected vice-president of the district board. He discharged his delegated duties with conspicuous ability and has been of immense help to me throughout. I required his assistance

[23rd March 1926]

in the decision of questions raised and investigated in my absence and therefore I require his presence on the board again.' In these circumstances, the Government accepted the recommendation of the president. "

Mr. MUHAMMAD GHOUSE MIAN SAHIB :—" May I know if that recommendation is so strong as to overrule the principle laid down by law that due regard must be given to the representation of minority communities ? "

The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL :—" There is no question of overriding any principle because at the time of nomination the interests of all the communities were represented on the board. There was a vacancy and the person was considered to be particularly suitable for the appointment; the president wanted him to be nominated and the Government accepted his recommendation. "

Mr. MUHAMMAD GHOUSE MIAN SAHIB :—" My question is this. At the time when the vacancy arose this member was nominated. All the five nominated seats were filled in by the Government. No Indian Christian member was nominated. At the time when the vacancy arose it would have been proper for the Government

Rai Bahadur Sir K. VENKATAREDDI NAYUDU :—" On a point of order, Sir. The hon. Member is making a speech. "

Mr. MUHAMMAD GHOUSE MIAN SAHIB :—" It is a long question. "

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" The question must come earlier in the speech. "

Mr. MUHAMMAD GHOUSE MIAN SAHIB :—" Owing to the fact that no Christian was appointed to any one of the five nominated seats and that at the time of nomination, the particular seat that fell vacant was that of a Christian may I ask the Government why they did not give that vacancy to a Christian ? "

The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL :—" I have stated that the Collector who was on the Board was a Christian. Besides him, there was an Indian Christian who was returned by election. So, there were two Christians. That was the reason why the vacancy that occurred was given to a Brahman gentleman who, I may say, also belongs to a minority community and who was recommended by the President. "

Mr. R. VEERIAN :—" May I know whether the Government have perused the comment made in the sub-editorial column

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" To peruse sub-editorials is none of the business of the Government. "

Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—" There is distinction between European Christians and Indian Christians. We are speaking of the minority community of Indian Christians. I want to know whether the European Christian would represent the Indian Christians. "

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" They are still more a minority community. "

Mr. A. CHIDAMBARA NADAR :—" May I know whether there is an elected Brahman member on the Council ? "

The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL :—" I am not sure of that. Perhaps there might be one. "

[23rd March 1926]

Elected President for the East Godavari District Board.

* 1736 Q.—Sriman SASIBHUSHAN RATH Mahasayo: Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government are aware that the East Godavari District Board convened a special meeting in which a resolution demanding an elected President for the Board was passed by a large majority; and

(b) if so, what action they propose to take on the matter?

A.—(a) The answer is in the affirmative.

(b) The matter is under consideration.

Nominations to the Rasipuram Union Board.

* 1737 Q.—Mr. R. VEERIAN: Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) what steps the Government have taken in connexion with a representation made on 20th August 1925 by the Secretary, Adi-Dravida Association, Rasipuram, Namakkal taluk, Salem district, to the Secretary, Local Self-Government Department, the Commissioner of Labour, and the President, Namakkal Taluk Board, regarding the claims of the depressed classes for a nomination seat in the Rasipuram Union Board, Salem district;

(b) whether it is a fact that Mr. Bommana Chetti, Mr. Ramaswami Chettiyar and Mr. Naina Malai Kandappa Chettiyar were nominated on 31st July 1925 and 12th August 1925, respectively, by the President, Namakkal Taluk Board, Salem district, to the Rasipuram Union Board;

(c) what the necessity is to appoint three members belonging to Chetti community to the Rasipuram Union Board without giving due regard to the unrepresented depressed classes and other minority communities;

(d) whether the Government propose to take any steps to cancel the nominations made by the President, Namakkal Taluk Board, contrary to the spirit of the law;

(e) why one Mr. R. V. Nayagan, Secretary, Adi-Dravida Association, Rasipuram, was not appointed though he made several personal requests and representation also by means of writing to the President, Namakkal Taluk Board, to represent the depressed classes on Rasipuram Union Board; and

(f) how many Chetti community members got through the election to this board?

A.—(a) to (f) The attention of the hon. Member is invited to the answer given to question No. 1302 on the 9th February 1926 and the supplementary answers connected therewith. The Government are not aware of any representation made to the Commissioner of Labour and the President, Taluk Board, Namakkal, on the subject.

Public Health.*Grant to Tanjore District Board for village roads and water-supply.*

* 1738 Q.—Khan Bahadur V. HAMID SULTAN MARAKKAYAR: Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have sanctioned a grant of Rs. 90,000 to the Tanjore District Board for village roads and water-supply on the condition that the taluk and district boards contribute an equal sum;

[23rd March 1926]

(b) whether it is a fact that the grant is further subject to the condition that they should be spent before the 31st March 1926 and that no undertaking is given to pay next year any portion of the grants sanctioned, which could not be utilized before that date;

(c) whether it is a fact that several presidents of taluk boards and the president, district board, have expressed their difficulty in getting the grants utilized before 31st March 1926 in view of the peculiar nature of the district and the shortness of the period at their disposal and requested the Government to reconsider their orders to credit the entire grants sanctioned before 31st March 1926 and to extend the period of execution till 30th June 1926;

(d) whether it is a fact that Government have passed orders that they are unable to comply with their request and, if so, the reasons therefor; and

(e) whether Government are aware that the working season at any rate for the Tanjore district is the month of March and subsequent periods and the sinking of wells and tanks especially cannot be satisfactorily executed before 31st March 1926?

A.—(a) & (b) Yes.

(c) & (d) The President, District Board, Tanjore, did so; but the Government declined to comply with his request as the grant was sanctioned for expenditure in the current year only. The question of reallothing in 1926-27 the unspent balance of these grants is, however, under the consideration of the Government.

(e) The Government were so informed by the President, District Board.

The RAJA OF RAMNAD:—"May I ask the hon. the Minister whether it is a fact that large sums of money that were allotted to the portfolio of the hon. the Minister, for distribution among the local bodies are being returned to the Finance unallotted?"

The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL:—"That will be known very soon. I think a large amount of money distributed to the local bodies from the provincial funds and that amount is not spent by them."

The RAJA OF RAMNAD:—"Are not local bodies given extension of time? Local bodies which say that they will spend the money are not given any money. Local bodies which are given money are not able to spend it. May I know why the Government do not give money to the local bodies which are able to spend it?"

The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL:—"That question has not yet been decided. I have already informed the Council that funds would be allotted from the unspent balance."

The RAJA OF RAMNAD:—"May I know when the amount is to be allotted and when it is to be spent? It will have to be spent before 31st of this month and we are on the 23rd."

The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL:—"The allotment will be made on the 29th of this month when further demands will be moved in this Council."

[23rd March 1926]

System of purifying the water from the Red Hills.

* 1739 Q.—Mr. S. SATYAMURTI: Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) the reasons why the Government overruled the decision of the Corporation with regard to the system of purifying the water from the Red Hills;

(b) whether the Government have been advised by their experts as to the system of rapid filtration, and

(c) what extra cost is involved in carrying out this order of the Government and whether the Government propose to make any contribution thereto?

A.—(a) & (b) The attention of the hon. Member is invited to paragraphs 2 and 3 of G.O. No. 4345, L. & M., dated the 30th November 1925, which has been placed on the Editors' Table.

(c) No information is available in regard to the extra cost involved in the adoption of the system of rapid filtration. The question of a grant will be considered if and when the Corporation applies for it.

Religious and Charitable Endowments.*Definition of 'gross income' under the Hindu Religious Endowments Act.*

* 1740 Q.—Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR: Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether doubts have been raised as to what should be considered as gross income under the Hindu Religious Endowments Act, 1925;

(b) whether any rules have been framed to define the phrase 'gross income'; and

(c) whether attempts have been made to include the sums paid towards the expenses for uthsavams and for feeding people as gross income though the whole of the money so paid is spent in such uthsavams and feedings and whether there have been protests against such inclusion; what opinion, if any, has been given regarding such things by the Government or their legal advisers?

A.—(a) & (b) The attention of the hon. Member is invited to draft rule 108 contained in Notification No. 1160 of Part I-A of the *Fort St. George Gazette*, dated 20th October 1925, which lays down the method by which the income of a religious endowment should be calculated. Representations in regard to the necessity of a clearer definition of gross income than that contained in this rule have been received and are under consideration.

(c) The question of including income from kattalais, ubhyams or other specific endowments under the term 'gross income' has been raised; and a representation against such inclusion has been received.

The Government have so far not taken any legal opinion in the matter.

[23rd March 1926]

Mr. B. RAMACHANDRA REDDI:—"With reference to clause (c) of the question, may I know whether the income from the temple service inams will be included in the gross income?"

The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL:—"I think, Sir, that it will be included if the inams belong to the temple."

Audit and Appropriation Reports.*Transfer of control of the Local Fund Audit Department.*

* 1741 Q.—Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR: Will the hon. the Member for Finance be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Local Fund Audit Department was under the control of the Collector till 31st March 1924 and whether it was then transferred to the control of the Examiner of Local Fund Accounts;

(b) whether, as the result of this transfer, the audit clerks that were in the Collectorate became subject to the control of the Examiner of Local Fund Accounts;

(c) whether besides the clerks transferred under (b) a large number of audit clerks have been appointed to do the Local Fund Audit work;

(d) whether the clerks transferred from the Collectorates and those newly appointed are practically doing the same work;

(e) whether the pay for the audit clerks has been fixed as Rupees 40—4—120;

(f) whether it is a fact that the new clerks only are drawing the pay fixed as shown in clause (e) and that the clerks transferred from the Collectorates are still drawing their original pay which is less than the pay fixed under (e) and, if so, why this distinction is shown; and

(g) whether the Government have decided to give the pay as shown in clause (e) to the clerks transferred from the Collectorates and, if so, when it is to be given effect to?

A.—(a) & (b) The local fund audit staff working under Collectors was transferred to the control of the Examiner of Local Fund Accounts from the 1st December 1923.

(c) From the 1st April 1924, the Examiner had to provide each district board and certain of the taluk boards with an accountant. For this purpose a number of men were temporarily recruited and either sent as district or taluk board accountants or posted as audit clerks in the place of clerks transferred as accountants.

From 1st May 1925, a scheme was introduced by which the compilation of the taluk and district board accounts was centralised in the district board offices. This enabled a considerable reduction of establishment to be effected or a large number of the clerks who had been temporarily recruited were disbanded.

(d) Yes.

(e) The scales of pay for audit clerks are—

First grade 35—5—40—4—120—3—150.

Second grade 35—5—40—2½—80.

[23rd March 1926]

(f) & (g) The new temporary clerks who have been retained after 1st May 1925 as well as the clerks transferred from the Collectorates have recently been brought on to one or other of the two grades mentioned in the answer to clause (e). This change has been given effect to from the 1st May 1925.

Salt.

Output of saltpetre in the Presidency.

* 1742 Q.—Sriman SASIBHUSHAN RATH Mahasaya: Will the hon. the Member for Finance be pleased to state—

- (a) what is the quantity of saltpetre manufactured annually in the Presidency of Madras;
- (b) whether the output is enough to meet the demand of the province;
- (c) whether any saltpetre is imported into the province from any other province in India or outside; and
- (d) whether it is proposed to close the industry?

A.—(a) The average annual output of refined saltpetre is 3,830 maunds.

(b) No.

(c) Yes.

(d) Not so far as the Government are aware; the Salt Department is, however, now entirely controlled by the Government of India.

Jails.

Treatment of Mappilla prisoners in Palayamcottah Reformatory Jail.

* 1743 Q.—Mr. K. UPPU SAHIB: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that a number of Mappilla adolescent prisoners in Palayamcottah Reformatory Jail were whipped a month or two ago; if so, for what reason;

(b) whether it is a fact that the then Superintendent issued orders prohibiting the reading of religious books within the jail and that he caused a number of religious books, including Holy Koran, to be destroyed; and

(c) whether there is any provision made in that jail to give religious instructions to Muslim boy prisoners and whether there is any special accommodation for their religious observances?

A.—(a) No. Whipping was last awarded on the 5th August 1925 to certain Mappilla adolescents (ten in number) for mutinous conduct and for assaulting three warders.

(b) No. As a disciplinary measure, for a short period after the disturbance above referred to, all books were removed from the prisoners and placed in the school library. These books were given to them from Saturday to Monday as soon as their behaviour showed signs of improvement. No religious book was destroyed. All religious books are allowed to be kept by the prisoners.

[23rd March 1926]

(c) On account of the language difficulty the services of a local Moulvi have not yet been secured. The District Magistrate is endeavouring to secure one for giving religious instruction to the Mappilla adolescents. Ample accommodation is available for religious observances.

Labour.

The Commissioner of Labour.

* 1744 Q.—Mr. R. VEERIAN: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Commissioner of Labour has inspected the various tea, coffee, pepper, cinchona and other estates in the various districts and how many estates are yet to be visited by him with a view to find out the living and other conditions regarding accommodation, school, medical aid, wages and other facilities for the coolies and their children working on the estates;

(b) how many such estates exist in each district;

(c) the functions that are entrusted to the Commissioner of Labour;

(d) whether the Commissioner of Labour has visited several mills, factories and workshops in various districts;

(e) if so, how many such mills, factories and workshops exist in each district, how many he has visited and how many have yet to be visited; and

(f) what were the recommendations he made to the proprietors of such mills, factories, workshops, etc., on behalf of the labouring classes of people?

A.—(a) The Commissioner of Labour inspected a considerable number of estates in the Anamalais, Kodanad and Carzon estates in Kotagiri and the Naduvattam cinchona estates. The Government have no information as to the number of estates remaining to be visited by him.

(b) The Government have no information.

(c) The attention of the hon. Member is invited to G.O. No. 271, Revenue, dated the 2nd February 1920, which was placed on Editors' Table.

(d) & (e) The Commissioner of Labour as the controlling authority over the Factory Inspection staff inspects a few factories whenever necessary. But it is neither possible for him nor is it his duty to make a regular inspection of all the factories, mills and workshops in each district. During the year 1925 he inspected a few rice factories in Kistna district and some factories in planting districts. The regular inspection of factories is the function of the factory inspection staff. A report on the work done by them during the year 1924 will be found in G.O. No. 880, Development, dated the 17th June 1925, which was placed on the Editors' Table. Statement VIII attached to the report contains information as to the total number of factories in each district, number inspected and number not inspected.

(f) In the rice factories inspected, the Commissioner found that sanitary conditions were bad. Proposals for improving them are now under his consideration.

[23rd March 1926]

Mr. R. VEERIAN :—" With reference to the answer to clause (a) of the question, may I know, Sir, the nature of the inspections made by the Commissioner of Labour during his visit to several estates mentioned ? "

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" That is a question which the hon. Member can answer for himself—the kind of inspection which an official makes."

Mr. R. VEERIAN :—" There is something more involved in it. May I know whether he makes any inspection with reference to the accommodation of labourers and makes enquiries about medical aid, wages, etc. ? "

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" The hon. Member should put such specific questions."

Mr. R. VEERIAN :—" There are a lot of things involved in it. When the Commissioner of Labour makes his inspections, naturally he would submit a report to the Government and the hon. the Home Member can get the information . . . ? "

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" What is the information that the hon. Member wants ? "

Mr. R. VEERIAN :—" I want to know whether the Commissioner of Labour sees whether there are school facilities, medical relief, accommodation, sufficient wages, etc. ? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—" I think he sees to all these things."

Mr. R. VEERIAN :—" May I ask whether he submits a report to that effect ? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—" He need not submit a report to Government."

11-30 a.m. Mr. R. VEERIAN :—" What I want to know is whether he sees to the wages of the coolies also."

The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—" I suppose he does."

Employment of children in beedi shops.

* 1745 Q.—Mr. S. SATYAMURTI : Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state the number of children employed in beedi shops for making beedis, and their hours of work ?

A.—The Government have no information.

Agency.

Transfer of Sundernarayan Deo and others from Vizagapatam to Berhampur.

* 1746 Q.—Sriman SASIBHUSHAN RATH Mahasayo : Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) the reason or reasons for transferring Messrs. Sundernarayan Deo and Krishnachandra Deo of Kalyansinghur (Vizagapatam Agency) who were detained under Regulation II, 1819, at Vizagapatam, from Vizagapatam to Berhampur ;

[23rd March 1926]

(b) whether the detenus have complained before the authorities that the climate of Berhampur does not suit them and that they constantly fall ill there ;

(c) the amount of allowances that is given them and the restrictions placed on their freedom ; and

(d) whether the detenus have to launch some civil litigation in Vizagapatam courts and that the order fixing Berhampur as their place of detention seriously hampers their interests ?

A.—(a) The transfer to Berhampur was made in the interests of the public peace.

(b) They sent a petition to the Agent to the Governor, Vizagapatam, containing *inter alia* the complaint that the health of Sundernarayan Deo was affected by the change of climate. It appears that he had some throat trouble for which he was treated by the District Medical and Sanitary Officer, Ganjam.

(c) A maintenance allowance of Rs. 50 each per mensem and a joint house rent allowance of Rs. 30 per mensem. They are not allowed to leave Berhampur.

(d) The Government are not aware of such litigation.

General.

Alleged criticism of Government's policy by the Collector of Ramnad.

* 1747 Q.—The RAJA OF RAMNAD : Will the hon. the Member for Revenue, the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government and the hon. the Minister for Education be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is open under rules, if any, to permanent officials of Government such as the Collector, etc., to criticise the Government's policy in matters educational, local self-government and alike ; and

(b) what action the Government propose to take against an attack made by the Collector of Ramnad district, against the Local Self-Government administration, while presiding over the Kamma Conference at Sattur, and his condemnation of the educational policy in a speech that he recently delivered at Madura ?

A.—(a) The rules on the subject are contained in rule 20^a of the Government Servants' Conduct Rules.

(b) The Government have read the reports of the speeches in the public newspapers and do not consider that the speeches condemn the particular policy of the Madras Government, and therefore do not think that any action is necessary.

The RAJA OF RAMNAD :—" Sir, may I ask the hon. the Revenue Member whether the statement—I only speak from memory and subject to correction—that for lack of spirit of discipline, one finds the Co-operative movement and the Local Self-Government Department in a muddle, is not a condemnation of the policy of the Transferred departments ? "

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" What is in a muddle."

[23rd March 1926]

The RAJA OF RAMNAD:—"The Co-operative movement and the Local Self-Government Department. I venture to think, Sir, that they fall under the prohibition of clause (a)."

The hon. the PRESIDENT:—"Did the Officer say that?"

The RAJA OF RAMNAD:—"Yes."

The hon. Mr. N. E. MARJORIBANKS:—"I have nothing to add, Sir, to the answer on the paper."

The RAJA OF RAMNAD:—"Not having given the particular passage in the speeches in question, may I know, Sir, whether the hon. Member thinks that those statements do not offend the rule. It may be that he merely made a general study of those speeches and came to the conclusion on a general impression that they did not offend?"

The hon. Mr. N. E. MARJORIBANKS:—"The answer is itself based on the report which the Government perused."

The RAJA OF RAMNAD:—"I ask about those passages—whether he considers them unobjectionable?"

The hon. Mr. N. E. MARJORIBANKS:—"As I said, I have nothing more to add to the answer on the paper."

Indian Civil Service.

Alleged distinction between Indian Civil Service divisional officers and Madras Civil Service officers.

* 1748 Q.—Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) the action taken on the representation of the Indian Officers' Association that the distinction made between the Indian Civil Service Divisional officers and officers of the Madras Civil Service in the matter of their appointments, postings and transfers be abolished and the orders passed, if any; and

(b) when the above distinction was introduced for the first time by Government?

A.—(a) The only representation made by the Association on this subject was regarding the appointment of a local officer to act as Collector in a short vacancy. The Association was informed that the Government considered that there was no sufficient reason to alter the existing practice.

(b) No distinction has been introduced by the Government. The status and conditions of the two Services have always been different.

Land Revenue.

Remission of suspended revenue in Bellary taluk.

* 1749 Q.—Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state the outturn in the current year of cotton, chulam and korra in villages of the Bellary taluk like Yettina Budihal, Nalludi, etc., where old land revenue assessment is yet to be collected, having

[23rd March 1926]

been suspended in the previous years, and ryots have applied for a remission of the suspended revenue and postponement of the collection of current loans arrears and the orders of the Government thereon?

A.—The outturn in Bellary taluk of white chulam and cotton in the current fasli was estimated at not less than 12 annas.

Particulars of outturn of these crops in individual villages and of korra are not available.

The Government have on the recommendation of the Collector and the Board of Revenue ordered the collection of the arrears in the current fasli.

No petition has been received by Government requesting remission of the suspended revenue. Some ryots of a village in Bellary taluk have sent a petition praying for the postponement to next year of the collection of the suspended revenue and of current loan arrears. It is under consideration.

Public Service.

Refund of increments drawn by unpassed clerks.

* 1750 Q.—Mr. J. A. SALDANHA: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether orders have been passed in regard to the refund of the increments drawn by and recovered from unpassed clerks, and if so, what orders;

(b) in the case of the unpassed clerks who had been confirmed in their posts prior to the introduction of the time-scale and have been exempted from the operation of article 1 of the Public Service Notification after the issue of G.O. No. 164, Law (Education), dated 4th February 1925, from what date they are allowed to draw their increments, whether retrospectively from 1st March 1923, taking into account their previous services or prospectively;

(c) if the latter, on what grounds;

(d) what course the Revenue Board has taken in this respect;

(e) whether the Accountant-General referred the matter to Government or was consulted by Government and if so with what effect;

(f) what the orders of Government or Accountant-General are;

(g) what action has been taken as to unpassed clerks in the Registration and Forest departments in South Kanara and other districts as to sanctioning increments retrospectively or prospectively;

(h) whether it is a fact that in their case exemptions have been given with retrospective effect from 1st March 1923; and

(i) what action has been taken in this respect as to clerks in the Civil Courts?

A.—(a) No.

(b) & (c) The question of allowing retrospective effect to orders sanctioning exemptions from examination rules is under consideration.

(d), (e) & (f) The Board of Revenue allowed unpassed clerks exempted by it after the issue of G.O. No. 164, Law (Education), dated the 4th February 1925, to draw increments from 1st March 1925. But the Accountant-General having held that

[23rd March 1926]

the service for increments of these men counts only from the date of exemption, the Board has referred the question to Government and pending the receipt of the orders of Government it has directed Collectors to keep its orders in abeyance.

- (g), (h) & (i) The Chief Conservator of Forests, the Inspector-General of Registration and the High Court have all addressed Government on the question of the grant of exemption from examination rules with retrospective effect. No final orders have yet been issued.

Appointment of clerks by the Collector of Malabar.

* 1751 Q.—Mr. R. VEERIAN: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue and the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that the two ex-military Adi-Dravidas named Navutty and Keerutty who were employed as warders in the Huzur Sub-Jail, Calicut, submitted a memorial to the then hon. Home Member when the sub-jail was closed, that they might be given the next chances when menials were appointed under the Collector of Malabar and, if so, what was done with that memorial;

(b) how many menials, permanent or temporary, were appointed subsequently by the Collector of Malabar in various capacities;

(c) whether any of the Adi-Dravidas were appointed, if not, why they were not appointed; and

(d) whether the Government will be pleased to lay on the table a statement showing the number of clerks appointed and confirmed by the Collector of Malabar since 1st July 1922 till 10th November 1925 and the communities to which they belong?

A.—(a) No such memorial has been received by Government.

(b) & (c) The Government have no information.

(d) The Government have no information as to the number of clerks appointed by the Collector of Malabar during the period referred to. From the establishment list of the district corrected up to 1st April 1925 (latest list available), it is gathered that 31 clerks were confirmed between 1st July 1922 and 1st April 1925. The Government have no information as to the communities to which they belong.

Srirangam Temple.

Repairs to Srirangam temple.

* 1752 Q.—Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether the question of repairing the Sri Ranganathaswami temple at Srirangam has been finally disposed of and, if so, in what manner;

(b) whether it is a fact that some villages were first given as inam to the temple and that at the time of the Karnatic Nawabs, the villages were taken over and a fixed sum of Rs. 50,000 a year was given to the temples and whether this fact is supported by the evidence of an ancient document which has recently been discovered; and

[23rd March 1926]

(a) whether the income from the villages referred to in the document mentioned in (a) was reduced after they came into the hands of the British Government and, if so, to what extent?

A.—(a) If the hon. Member refers to the Committee appointed to report what repairs are necessary, he is referred to the answer given to question No. 1433 on the 13th February 1926.

(b) & (c) In pre-British days the revenue from certain villages appears to have been at one time allotted to the temple. The Nawab Wallajah substituted a money allowance. The allowance was not a fixed one during the Muhammadan rule, but varied from year to year. The Government are not aware that any ancient document on the subject has recently been discovered.

UNSTARRED QUESTIONS.

Education.

Special teaching grant to aided secondary schools.

1753 Q.—Mr. P. K. S. A. ARUMUGA NADAR: With reference to the special teaching grant to aided secondary schools, will the hon. the Minister for Education be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a condition for a school to participate in the aforesaid grant that the management should contribute a substantial sum or a sum equal to the Government grant;

(b) whether it is a fact that in past years several schools shared in this grant though their management made no contribution as stipulated in the terms of the grant;

(c) whether it is a fact that the Sivakasi Hindu Nadars Victoria High School participated in the special teaching grant in 1920-21 and 1921-22 with the management contribution and in 1922-23 even without it;

(d) why in the years 1923-24 and 1924-25 it was not given any special teaching grant even though it applied for it under the conditions in which the special teaching grant was sanctioned during 1922-23; and

(e) what consideration was shown on the representation of the Member (Mr. Arumuga Nadar) last year on behalf of the aforesaid school?

A.—(a) A substantial contribution from the management is insisted upon in all cases.

(b) There have been cases in which managements of schools at first promised to abide by the conditions and were awarded grants, but subsequently failed to do so. In such cases the managements were warned that they should continue their contribution if the grant was to be continued. If they specifically refused to continue their contribution, the grant was stopped.

(c) Yes.

(d) No grant was sanctioned for the school in 1923-24 and 1924-25 as the management failed to satisfy the conditions laid down by Government for the distribution of the special teaching grant.

[23rd March 1926]

- (e) Since the management was not prepared to abide by the conditions laid down by the Government, no special grant could be paid to the school.

Pay of the permanent teachers of Government elementary schools for girls transferred to local bodies.

1754 Q.—Mr. P. PEDDIRAJU: Will the hon. the Minister for Education be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government have received a memorial from the permanent teachers of the Government elementary schools for girls now transferred to local bodies, regarding the grant of time scale of pay to them, and, if so, what action has been taken by the Government;

(b) whether the Government have granted time scale of pay to the teachers in Government elementary schools for girls and, if so, from which date;

(c) whether the Government have considered the advisability of extending the benefit of time scale of pay to teachers of Government girls' schools transferred to local bodies;

(d) what is the number of permanent teachers of the Government elementary schools for girls transferred to local bodies in 1922 and 1924, respectively; and

(e) whether it is a fact that some teachers who were previously getting a higher salary in the schools under the management of Government are now getting lower salaries after the transfer of schools to local bodies?

A.—(a) & (e) Yes. The local bodies concerned were informed that it was open to them to revise the pay of the teachers in question, if the additional cost involved can be met from their own funds.

(b) Yes, from 1st March 1922. The number of such schools excluding those in the Agency tracts is three.

(d) & (e) Particulars have been called for from the Director of Public Instruction.

Government grants to schools.

1755 Q.—Rao Bahadur C. NATESA MUDALIYAR: Will the hon. the Minister for Education be pleased to state—

(a) what is the policy of the Government in allowing grants:

(i) to ordinary elementary schools;

(ii) to special schools for defective children;

(iii) to commercial schools such as short-hand and type-writing; and

(b) how the net cost of a special school which levies no fees for the pupils is to be arrived at?

A.—(a) (i) Grants to aided elementary schools are governed by the rules framed under the Madras Elementary Education Act, 1920, which have been published in the *Fort St. George Gazette*.

(a) (ii), (iii) & (b) The hon. Member is referred to rules 44 and 45 of the Grant-in-Aid Code.

23rd March 1926]

Criminal Tribes.

Panchayats in charge of the criminal tribes.

1756 Q.—Mr. G. RAMESWARA RAO: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether there are any panchayats in charge of the criminal tribes;

(b) if so, how they are constituted and whether they are informal or statutory;

(c) the details of the functions of the said panchayats including their rights, duties, and the sanction attached to their opinions or orders and how far they can be enforced or are enforced in practice;

(d) what the localities are, in which the panchayats are working; and

(e) whether it is proposed to extend the panchayat system throughout the Presidency and if not, why not?

A.—(a), (b) & (d) Panchayats are now working in connexion with criminal tribes in the Kallar villages of the Madura and Ramnad districts, in the Tanjore and Pattukkottai taluks of the Tanjore district and in the localities of the Ganjam district in which the Dandasis live.

The panchayats—which are informal and not statutory—are constituted by the appointment of the leading members of the tribes as panchayatdars; occasionally others are also appointed panchayatdars to collaborate with those belonging to the tribe.

(c) The duties of the panchayats are to watch and report the movements of criminals belonging to their tribe, to report crimes in which members of their tribe are concerned, to surrender persons against whom there are warrants, to assist the police generally in the detection of crime committed by members of the tribe under their control and generally to endeavour to reform the latter and to look after their progress. So long as the panchayat carries out its duties satisfactorily the panchayatdars and the members of the tribe whom they control are exempted from the provisions of section 10 (a), Criminal Tribes Act, under which registered members have to report themselves at fixed intervals.

The panchayats have no legal sanction. In practice, it has been found, that the orders of a panchayat can be enforced only to a limited extent.

(e) No. The system is only applicable to certain conditions, and requires additional staff to secure its satisfactory working.

Civil Justice.

Applications from Muslims for district munsifs' posts.

1757 Q.—Mr. MUHAMMAD MOOSA SAIT: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state the number of applications from Muslims now registered by the High Court for selection of district munsifs?

A.—The Government have no information. The appointment of district munsifs is a matter solely vested in the hon. the Judges of the High Court.

[28rd March 1926]

[Note.—An asterisk (*) at the commencement of a speech indicates revision by the Member.]

II

WITHDRAWAL OF CERTAIN WORDS USED DURING DEBATE.

* The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—“ Mr. President, I desire to say, a word, Sir. It has been brought to my notice that in the course of some remarks I made yesterday, I used an expression, the word ‘poisonous’, with reference to a doctrine held by a particular political party. I wholly differ from that doctrine, but as I hold that expressions used in this House should comply with the rules of substantial as well as of verbal decorum, I should like to change it into ‘wholly misconceived’.”

III

COMMUNICATIONS TO THE COUNCIL.

The Secretary laid on the table copies of the following Government Orders :—

(1) G.O. No. 165 ^a, Development, dated 2nd February 1926, recording the accounts of the Kerala Soap Institute for the quarter ending 30th June 1925.

(2) G.O. No. 215 ^b, Development, dated 15th February 1926, recording the audit report of the Russellkonda Saw Mill for the quarter ending 30th September 1925.

IV

MOTIONS ON THE BUDGET FOR 1926-27.

DEMAND XIX—EDUCATION (TRANSFERRED)—cont.

* Khan Bahadur P. KHALIF-UL-LAH SAHIB Bahadur :—“ Sir, I move
‘that the allotment of Rs. 2,98,400 for pay of permanent establishment be reduced by Rs. 100.’

“ My only object is, as is stated there, to draw the attention of the Government to the present low and unsatisfactory scale of pay of the assistant professors. Sir, I think they are started on a scale of about Rs. 125 and go up to Rs. 250 and they are expected to reach the maximum in about 20 years’ time. I should think that it is very hard on the professorial staff to give them such a low scale of pay without any great scope for promotion. Their lot was much better in the past than it is now, and this is due to more causes than one. There is now-a-days every resort made to direct recruitment to the Indian Educational Service and, as such, the scope of promotion of these assistant professors has been very much limited. Again, as regards the scale which these professors are given, they also lack every convenience which other officers of the same department are getting. Some officers are given a Presidency allowance, whereas these assistant professors are denied that. Again, Sir, there is this distinction that has to be noted, namely, so far as the Indian Educational Service is concerned, the overseas allowance alone comes to more than the actual pay which these poor staff are given. Their case, therefore, Sir, is a very pitiable one and deserves the immediate attention of Government. It is on a contented staff that the progress of our rising generation lies and as such, Sir, I appeal to the hon. the Education Minister to pay his immediate attention to the improvement of the scale of pay of these professors as early as possible.

^a Printed as Appendix II on pages 560-571 infra.

^b Printed as Appendix III on pages 571-573 infra.

23rd March 1926] [Mr. P. Khalif-ul-lah Sahib]

“ In this connexion, Sir, I may also draw the attention of this House to the fact that they waited in deputation on His Excellency the Governor of Madras. I hope the hon. the Education Minister will take up their cause and place them on a much better footing than they are at present.”

* The hon. Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. PATRO :—“ Sir, I entirely agree with the hon. Member that in the case of the assistant professors in colleges who are doing work in the Honours classes their scale of pay is not adequate and requires improvement. It was realized three years ago that that scale required revision and this was pressed on the attention of the hon. the Finance Member; but owing to financial difficulties, we were not able to effect any revision. Secondly, Sir, the scales of pay for these assistants as well as for all other subordinate services were fixed only a few years back on the scales corresponding to this service in other branches of the administration. The scales for the whole of the Government departments were then fixed and if one department’s scale is to be revised now, then all the other departments of the Government also will require revision and there will be a very heavy bill to be met. That is how the Finance Department answer our request from time to time. However, in the case of the particular class of professors, namely, the assistant professors in colleges, their case is entirely different from the other classes of subordinate service, and we pressed this fact on the attention of the Government. Their case is now under consideration and if the Finance Committee accepts the proposal, it is very likely that there will be some improvement, in the case of the college assistants’ cadre.”

* Khan Bahadur P. KHALIF-UL-LAH SAHIB Bahadur :—“ Sir, in view of the assurance given, I do not press my motion.”

The motion was, by leave of the House, withdrawn.

* Mr. K. PRABHAKARAN TAMPAN :—“ Sir, I beg to move

‘that the allotment of Rs. 6,76,400 for Arts College—Men be reduced by Rs. 1,000.’

“ Sir, my object in moving this token motion is to suggest to the Government the desirability of opening the Mathematics Group in the Government College at Palghat. Sir, I must, at the very outset, express our feelings of gratitude and thankfulness to the hon. the Education Minister for raising the College at Palghat to the first grade. Therefore I should not be presumed to be ungrateful or hasty in pressing the Government to incur further responsibilities, but I may say that at the time when Sir A. P. Patro promised to raise the Victoria College to the first grade, it was said that all those subjects which did not require large capital outlay such as Mathematics, History and Philosophy would be opened. Now, Sir, students who have taken the first or second group for the Intermediate examination have necessarily to take up Philosophy or History now and they are thus very much handicapped. It is only fair to those boys that facilities should be given to continue their studies in the same subject in the B.A. classes also. I know that an elementary course of Physics is also necessary for Mathematics for the B.A., but there are already the Physics and Chemistry laboratories of the Intermediate, and with slight improvement or modification, it should be possible to give facilities for the B.A. students also in them. It was said in the Government Order

[Mr. K. Prabhakaran Tampan] [23rd March 1926]

sanctioning the raising of the college to the first grade that want of accommodation and other things should be attended to by the Public Works Department at once; and if pressure was brought to bear upon them, the buildings would have been already finished by this time. The Education Minister happens to be in charge of the Public Works Department also, and if he only cares, it would be possible to have at least two rooms before the college re-opens in July and the fourth class is opened. Anticipating the buildings and other things, instructions may be issued even now to do the needful. If, however, there is a will, I am sure it will be possible for the hon. the Minister to find away and comply with our request. With these few words, Sir, I commend this suggestion for the acceptance of the Government."

* Diwan Bahadur M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—"Sir, I wish to associate myself with my Friend, Mr. Prabhakaran Tampan, in all that he has stated with reference to this particular motion. As a matter of fact, I believe—I speak from memory—that in the Government Order under which the college was raised from a second grade one to a first grade one, it was said that the college would be affiliated in Mathematics in the ensuing academical year. As a matter of fact, the only groups that are now taught in the B.A. class in the Palghat College are History, Philosophy and languages. There were and there are a large number of students who have taken up Mathematics in the Junior and Senior Intermediate classes, and even last year when the college was raised to the first grade, many of these students who had taken up Mathematics as their group for the Intermediate examination had to leave the Palghat College for other colleges for want of the Mathematics group in that college, and such of those as did not leave Palghat to join other colleges for taking up Mathematics and such of those as really stuck to the Palghat College, had to change their subject, i.e., Mathematics, for History or Philosophy. They naturally felt it as a hardship. Then, Palghat is a particularly intellectual centre where there are a large number of students taking up Mathematics. The only possible objection that could be thought of against this college being affiliated in Mathematics immediately is this: it may be said that there is want of accommodation. With reference to that, several professors who are engaged in the college as teachers had conversations with me on the subject, and all of them have assured me that it is possible to introduce Mathematics at once. It is a matter of internal arrangement. I do not like to go into the details of that arrangement. They have assured me, and I feel convinced that they were right, that it is possible, if there is some alteration in the time-table, to have accommodation for the teaching of Mathematics even in the accommodation that exists there.

11-45
a.m.

"And as has been stated it is possible to put up structural alterations, a small building for instance for the purpose of finding accommodation if necessary. The college will be re-opened only in July and there is yet ample time for putting up a building. Even before the building is ready, as I stated, it is possible to introduce this group by slight alterations in the time table. Of course we thank the hon. Sir Patro for having raised the institution to the first grade, but the full benefit of it can be had only if Mathematics is also introduced in the ensuing academic year. Of course in the year next to that, the idea is to construct a new building and to introduce all the science groups which require greater laboratory arrangements. I hope

23rd March 1926] [Mr. M. Krishnan Nayar]

my hon. Friend will take immediate steps to affiliate the institution in the Mathematics group as soon as the college re-opens."

* The hon. Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. PATRO:—"Sir, there is a will and a wholehearted desire to carry out the wishes of the hon. Members who have just spoken. But there are certain difficulties in the way of carrying out the scheme immediately. The buildings require to be strengthened and improved. And the monsoon is about to begin; it begins in May and continues till September. According to the Public Works Department, therefore, nothing can be done for five months to come. It will not therefore be possible for us to do anything in 1926-27. We have in fact prepared proposals for the introduction of Mathematics and Science classes during 1926-27. The scheme was placed before the Finance Committee. They have considered it and suggested that it will not be practicable to carry out the structural alterations and the additional buildings in the course of the year. The scheme was sent to the Finance Department even before it went to the Finance Committee and that department pointed out that May, June and July were monsoon months in Malabar and the construction of a laboratory which would be a necessary preliminary to the opening of the classes could be completed only after the term was over. It is thus found difficult to introduce these subjects in 1926-27. As Physics is to be taught, an extension to the laboratory is necessary for the introduction of the Mathematics branch. It cannot be done therefore in the ensuing year. As desired by the hon. Members, we are already committed to this scheme of opening the group in that college and we shall try to do it as early as possible, as soon as the structural alterations are finished."

* Mr. K. PRABHAKARAN TAMPAN:—"Sir, I know that the Public Works Department would have pointed out this difficulty. After all it is a difficulty more fancied than real. If they want only to make structural alterations, it is perfectly possible to do so because we have yet got three more months before the monsoons by which time the alterations could be effected. As a private member I undertake to the hon. Minister to finish the work, if it be found difficult for the Public Works Department to do it. I am glad to hear that the scheme sanctioned by the Government includes the provision for these groups. Under the circumstances explained by the hon. Minister I request that the hon. Minister may be pleased to give effect to it at least in the financial year 1927-28."

The motion was by leave withdrawn.

* Diwan Bahadur M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—"Sir, I move

'that the allotment of Rs. 60,200 for Queen Mary's College be reduced by Rs. 100.'

"It has been stated on the floor of this House in answer to a question that the system of promotion that obtains in the Queen Mary's College is at present this: so far as the girls who are studying in the Junior Intermediate class are concerned, if they fail consecutively for two years, they are of course not promoted; that, one can understand. They are not also allowed to continue even in the same class unless they change their group. I submit this is very hard. So far as I am aware, this system of denying to the pupils the privilege of continuing even in the Junior Intermediate class without changing the group does not exist even in boys' colleges; and so long as these girl students are prepared to pay their fees and study in the class it

[Mr. M. Krishnan Nayar] [23rd March 1926]

seems to me that there is no reason why they should be compelled to change their groups. And that the girls should be compelled to change their groups I submit is very hard. I therefore submit that the Government or the college authorities may very well allow the girls to continue in the same class without being compelled to change their group. It seems to me that there is nothing reasonable that can be said in favour of the practice that obtains in the Queen Mary's College."

* The hon. Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. PATRO :—"Sir, I am afraid I do not see the force of the argument in support of the motion. If a student fails once in the first year class and fails a second time as well and does not get qualified for promotion, and if that student is to be allowed to continue in the school, it would mean the blocking up of many other girls, more intelligent girls to be admitted into the college. That is one aspect of it which I would request hon. Members to remember. Failing once, a second chance is given and if even that is not availed of and the girl does not show any improvement, it would seem fair for the authorities of the college to presume that the candidate could not cope with the subject and therefore they give her an option to change the subject. It is only an option and it is not obligatory. If the student changes and shows some improvement, she will have a fair chance. If she cannot, it does not seem to be worth while continuing her education. It is from this standard that we have to judge the matter. The point of view of the student, of the parent, has also to be taken into consideration. The parents should not waste their money on a student who is not able to equip herself properly in the course of two years in the Junior class. Though it would seem theoretically hard that such students should not be allowed to continue in the same groove in practice, and in the interests of educational efficiency it seems desirable that such slackers or dullards may take to some other pursuit of life than the education in the Arts colleges. It is that reason that prompted the Principal and the staff to make such a rule in the Government of the college. Therefore hon. Members will see that there is no hardship at all. If, on the other hand, a large number of girl students in the college were kept out under this rule, I would certainly consider that there was something wrong with regard to the quality of the students that are admitted to the college. If a large percentage is not promoted because they are not up to the standard, it requires to be examined why a college admitted such students without a preliminary examination. But, in all cases we have got other students waiting for admission and these students who have not taken advantage of their opportunities for study in the college will be blocking better students seeking admission into it. It was therefore that the college authorities thought it advisable to ask them to change the subject and afford them another chance to show some improvement. Instead of working the other alternative of altogether excluding from the college such students, the college authorities have considered it fit to give them another opportunity and it seems to me therefore that there is no hardship. If there are any particular cases where the rule is worked in such a way as to create a hardship, I am prepared to examine such cases; but as a general rule it is not fair that we should interfere with the college discipline and the college management."

* Diwan Bahadur M. KRISHNAN NAYAR :—"I am very much disappointed at the answer given by the hon. the Minister for Education. What the hon. Minister says is this: seeing that these girls failed twice in the Junior Intermediate class, if they are allowed in the same group, that will result in

[23rd March 1926] [Mr. M. Krishnan Nayar]

the exclusion of other girls brighter and more intelligent being admitted into the class. Does not the same principle apply to boys and should it not be extended to them also?"

* The hon. Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. PATRO :—"May I explain, Sir? In the case of boys, there are several institutions and there is a large room for admission; but in the case of girls, there is but limited space in the Women's College, and we would be obliged to keep out really deserving and efficient students."

* Diwan Bahadur M. KRISHNAN NAYAR :—"I should correct my hon. Friend. I know from personal experience as a Member of the Committee for admission into the Palghat College that we are obliged, much against our will, to refuse admission to more than 50 per cent of the boys who after passing the School Final examination seek admission into the Junior Intermediate class in that college. My hon. Friend is not correct in stating that there is room for boys and that there is no room for girls. It seems to me if the principle seems to be so sound in the opinion of my hon. Friend, it should really be extended in the case of boys as well. But my hon. Friend, the Minister, is not prepared to concede that."

* The hon. Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. PATRO :—"If it is urged that it is necessary, we are prepared to examine that also."

* Diwan Bahadur M. KRISHNAN NAYAR :—"I do not urge that it is necessary, Sir. But I will leave it to my hon. Friend to extend it. My point is that such a restriction is very hard even in the case of girls. The reason namely that brighter girls or more intelligent girls will be excluded is not a sound one, and if it were so, the educational authorities and my hon. Friend the Minister would have thought it fit to extend it to the boys as well. Then, is it possible, Sir, that if, as my hon. Friend says, girls fail twice in the same group, there is a chance of their succeeding in another group? That seems to be altogether incomprehensible. A girl who has failed twice in a subject which she has studied in the Junior Intermediate and which she must necessarily have been studying in the sixth form for her School Final examination . . ."

* The hon. Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. PATRO :—"I should make a personal explanation, Sir. Instead of dismissing the student altogether from the college which the college has a right to by virtue of its powers for the internal discipline of the college, a student is given another opportunity of studying and an option to exercise."

* Diwan Bahadur M. KRISHNAN NAYAR :—"The student is given an option; yes, I understand it. I do not know what personal explanation there was in this statement. But I don't quarrel with my hon. Friend for interrupting me. What I still say is this. If a girl fails twice in the same subject in the first year class in a subject which she has been studying for two years in that class and which she must have certainly studied in the School Final class and in the Fifth Form as well, I ask, what chance is there for such a girl to succeed in another group if she is compelled to change the subject? It seems to me, Sir that the reason is all on my side, and there is absolutely no reason on my hon. Friend's side. (Laughter.) However, I do not like to press the motion and embarrass the hon. the Minister."

The motion was by leave withdrawn.

[23rd March 1926]

Mr. P. T. RAJAN :—" Mr. President, I formally move the cut that stands in my name, that is,

'to reduce the allotment of Rs. 60,200 for Queen Mary's College by Rs. 100.'

(to consider the advisability of shifting the women's schools and colleges in Madras from the Marina to Nungambakam.)

"I will not detain the House long but will only say this: I think the locality in which these schools and colleges are situated is on the main thoroughfares. Privacy which ought to be the main feature of a girls' school or college is lacking in the present institutions. So I suggest that the schools and colleges should be shifted to a place like the Director of Public Instruction's office in Nungambakam. Sir, there are two distinct advantages in shifting these institutions to that place. Firstly, there is already a college there, the Women's Christian College, and if these colleges are shifted there inter-collegiate lectures may be arranged and other social relationship may be made easier. Secondly, subject to correction I say that a sum of Rs. 5 lakhs has been given to the Women's Christian College for scientific research and laboratory, and in that way science can be specialized in one college, arts can be specialized in another, and there will be no necessity for the hon. the Minister to give any contribution to the Women's College. Under these circumstances, from an economic point of view the Government will save money, and from the point of view of education certainly there is every chance of greater inter-collegiate lectures and social relationship, and so on. For these reasons I commend this motion to the acceptance of the House."

* The hon. Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. PATRO :—" Sir, there is indeed a good deal to be said in favour of the resolution which the hon. Member has moved. (Laughter.) He says that there is the Women's Christian College and Women's Training College in Nungambakam, and he thinks that, if the Queen Mary's College is also located there, there will be inter-collegiate work and the possibility of economizing professorial work and that students from one college may be enabled to attend lectures in another college, thereby promoting real University life. To that extent I am sure the House will agree with me in saying that the proposal is very sound. But it seems to me in proposing that we are to shift the Queen Mary's College from its present very healthy surrounding to Nungambakam, the hon. Mover has not properly appreciated the conditions of the Queen Mary's College. I am sure he is not so selfish in the matter as to suggest that men's colleges and public offices should be on the beach and enjoy all amenities of life, whereas the women's colleges should be deprived of that advantage and benefit of free and pure air. I am sure it is not the case, because we know how chivalrous he is. But the point seems to be that the balance of advantage is in favour of the present situation. There is at present no need to shift the college from the Marina to Nungambakam. That is all I can say at present."

* Khan Bahadur P. KHALIF-UL-LAH SAHIB Bahadur :—" I would put in a suggestion, Sir, in this connexion that the other two colleges may be shifted to the Marina in order that all may be located together, instead of shifting the Queen Mary's College from a healthy locality to a less healthy place."

[23rd March 1926]

Mr. A. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—" Mr. President, I should like to endorse the suggestion that has been just put forward by the hon. Member for Trichinopoly. I remember, Sir, when the amendment of the Madras University Act was under consideration, the hon. the Minister consulted the Principals of the City colleges with a view to bring all the colleges together into one locality; the idea of developing corporate university life by arranging inter-collegiate lectures and at least getting the Honours and B.A. classes together in one locality so that they may all have common lecture classes from professors was very much in his mind. I should like to know from the hon. the Minister in what stage that proposal is. For the last two or three years, owing to some reason or other, there has not been that anxiety to bring all the colleges together to one common place as there was at the time. I remember quite distinctly the authorities of the Christian College having been consulted and my revered master, Dr. Meston, suggesting that it was possible for the teachers' mission to so arrange their accommodation in the present buildings as to shift the B.A. class at least to the Marina. It was also suggested to those in charge of the local institution over which you so ably presided till recently to remove some of the higher classes of that institution to the Marina. And Sir Charles Todhunter, the then Finance Member, was very much in sympathy with that point, and I think has also promised in a certain way to give as much facility as possible to all these institutions for coming to one central locality so that corporate university life may be developed and that the principle of concentration, which has been so much emphasized during the latter days, may be better exercised. I am thankful therefore for the opportunity that the hon. Member for Madura has unwittingly given of pressing this aspect of the question before the hon. the Minister, and I freely echo the wish expressed by the hon. Member for Trichinopoly that the other women's colleges may be brought to the Marina quarters and that the educational institutions may have that free, uncontaminated—uncontaminated in more senses than one—atmosphere which they very much need. I do not care very much where the public offices now on the Marina are going to be located. They can very well be in the squalid surroundings which they are eminently fit for. But educational institutions which constitute a desideratum ought to be in such surroundings, as in the case of the Queen Mary's College, and our resolve should be not to shift them to neglected nooks and corners of the City and unhealthy localities but to bring others to the same happy and healthy locality which this institution fortunately possesses. I have great pleasure therefore in opposing the motion of my hon. Friend from Madura."

Rai Bahadur Sir K. VENKATAREDDI NAYUDU :—" I do not think, Mr. President, that there would be any necessity for supporting or opposing the motion of my hon. Friend from Madura, for I am sure he will withdraw it. But, as my hon. Friend from Chingleput has said, this is an opportunity when certain state of affairs could very well be brought to the notice of the hon. the Minister for Education. Much has been said already on the motion, but I have only one other matter to touch upon, which has not hitherto been referred to, and to which I hope the hon. the Minister and the Government as a whole will pay some attention. It is this, Sir. When I was a student in Madras years ago, I used to find all the carriages—I won't say motor-cars because there were not many at that time (A voice :—" Were there any at all ?")—at that time used to be parked opposite to the Senate House, and the utmost limit they could reach was the Presidency College. For some reason

[Sir K. Venkatarreddi Nayudu] [23rd March 1926]

unknown to me and probably not known to many other Members of this House this scene has shifted, though the band still plays opposite the Senate House and there is plenty of room between the Presidency College and the Senate House which is as good a ground for stopping these cars and carriages if only the owners care. I mean no reflection upon the car owners, but at the same time I cannot help thinking that the freedom of the girls, some of whom might be willing to go to the beach and come back to their quarters which are exactly opposite the beach or even to spend their time in the grounds of the school buildings, is very much denied to them now on account of the parking of these cars opposite the college, with the result that I am afraid at least some of the girls are obliged to spend their time on the other side of the buildings—the western side of the buildings. I am quite sure that the men passing in the carriages and cars can easily see what the girls are doing in their rooms, whether they are reading or standing there—not that there is real objection to it, but I would prefer that this parking of these cars straight opposite to this college is an objectionable thing which ought to have suggested itself long ago to the good sense of those that are stopping there. I do not know whether I can seriously suggest the blocking up of the road at that place and taking the road round the college so that people can go the other way to the southern side of the City like Mylapore. If that is impossible, I would certainly suggest both to the hon. the Minister for Education as well as the Minister for Local Self-Government to exercise their influence with the Corporation and Police authorities to see that these motor-cars are not parked in a regular line from one end of the college to the other straight down even to the Police Inspector-General's office. If at least that reform is effected it would go some way, and I would make this suggestion entirely in the interests of the girls.

"There are girls whose parents are not residing here, and though I am perfectly certain that there is excellent supervision, I would not allow their freedom to be restricted by this nuisance of cars. I hope that this would satisfy the hon. Member from Madura."

* The hon. Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. PATRO :—"Sir, some time ago a proposal was considered that the whole of the Marina from the Napier's bridge to San Thome should be devoted to University purposes, that all first grade colleges should be located there and they should be given facilities, as far as possible, to come over from Georgetown to the Marina so that we may have a whole block of University buildings and that should form the centre for educational purposes. This scheme was drawn up by me in consultation with the then Finance Member Sir Charles Toddhunter. We worked the scheme half-way, but then came the difficulty in regard to the location of the Victory Memorial and the Prince of Wales Children's Hospital. These memorials have come in the way. Once they were prepared to locate the memorial at a particular place, and the foundation stone was laid; that was shifted and the second foundation stone was laid as you all know and again a third one. These schemes have obstructed the further progress of the proposal which we made. Now, this Victory Memorial and the Children's Hospital are to be removed from that locality to another place which my hon. Colleague the Chief Minister has already indicated to you yesterday. Therefore the question will again be taken up and the authorities of the colleges in Georgetown will be asked to see if it would be possible for them to shift their college departments to this place. It is not

23rd March 1926]

[Sir A. P. Patro]

an easy matter, because the colleges—both the Pachaiyappa's College and the Christian College—are having classes from the school courses to college courses. The shifting would mean expenditure of large sums of money for them and rebuilding the institutions. How far Government will be able to give them financial help is a matter which has to be considered first. Some time ago the Madras Christian College authorities wanted to come in there and they have been in search of a site. At present, I understand, they have resolved upon some site in Nungambakam, but if that is not available, and as the scheme of the Victory Memorial and the hospital has been dropped, it is possible that the college authorities may revise their proposals. I cannot at present say what will be the final result of the scheme. But this is certain, namely, that now that these memorials are out of the way, it is quite possible that the scheme that was in progress to some extent will be taken up again in order to see whether we cannot give effect to it in full if it would be possible and practicable.

"I also emphasized this aspect of it recently at the Loyala College and said that while the Loyala College buildings are located at Nungambakam it would be possible that other colleges in the town would be willing to come to one place so that there may be concentration and co-ordination of the work. In the interests of the University and in the interest of college education it is necessary that all the colleges should be located quite near each other. The principles underlying the Act was that this residential system and the teaching system could only be carried out in its essentials when these colleges are all together in a particular area. It was with a view to bring the colleges together to one area that the scheme was prepared and I hope it will be possible again to continue this scheme from where it has stopped owing to certain other intervening circumstances. In regard to the proposal of the hon. Member Sir Reddi Nayudu Garu it is suggested that some steps should be taken to shut out the vulgar gaze." (Laughter.)

Rai Bahadur Sir K. VENKATAREDDI NAYUDU :—"I did not use that expression."

* The hon. Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. PATRO :—"I am using it on my own responsibility. The hon. Member wanted steps should be taken to shut out the vulgar gaze of the people passing in the street. We have anticipated the difficulties in the matter. We wanted first to put up a compound wall and the science blocks for the college along the Marina Road. But the staff and the Advisory Council of the college suggested that it would be spoiling the beauty of the Queen Mary's College, that it would be interfering with the free passing of air into the premises and that it would be inadvisable therefore to put up a block of buildings in the east. Hence we shifted the locality to the western side of the building, passing the Lloyd's Road where the foundation will be laid very soon in order that the science buildings may be completed for the Queen Mary's College. We have asked the Public Works Department to take early steps to grow four or five rows of casurina trees so that the gaze of those that pass along the Marina may be as dim as possible. (Laughter). It is as I said left to the good sense of the people themselves. The public will have to co-operate with the department in trying to avoid the place as a place of resort. As he pointed out at one time the carriages and carts were not concentrated there. But recently no doubt there have been very big congregations there. It is possible when the public read the proceedings of the House and the opinion expressed on all sides the

[Sir A. P. Patro]

[23rd March 1926]

will realize that it is their duty to see that they do not congregate there, as much as they do and that they would like to avoid that place and go further south or north in order that they may have amenities of sea breeze, and that this particular place may be avoided. No rule can be imposed on the people. It is left to the good sense and judgment of the public, and I am sure that this discussion will have its effect in that direction. I therefore, Sir, think that there is no room at present to consider the proposal of the hon. Member for Madura."

Mr. P. T. RAJAN :—"Sir, on the assurance given by the hon. the Minister I withdraw my motion. What I wanted was privacy as elaborated by Sir K. V. Reddi Nayudu. I have no objection whether the Queen Mary's College is located there or any where provided all these institutions get the privacy essential for them. I have no objection if all the colleges are shifted to Marina provided we don't make it a thoroughfare. That is the only objection on my part. I hope the hon. the Minister will consider the feasibility of making the necessary arrangements."

The motion was by leave withdrawn.

* Mr. K. PRABHAKARAN TAMPAN :—"I beg to move

'that the allotment of Rs. 7,36,600 for Government Arts Colleges be reduced by Rs. 1,000.'

"My object in moving this token motion is to suggest the desirability of beginning to concentrate in certain subjects in few selected colleges in the Presidency. Time was when there were very few colleges in the Presidency and they were located in distant parts of the Presidency also. In those circumstances it was desirable to equip all these colleges in an efficient state. Now we have a first-grade college practically in every other district, at any rate one for two or three districts. As for the Presidency town we have got four first-grade colleges. What I suggest is that the money which the Government could afford to spend on the equipment of laboratory, for instance, is spent on one institution with a view to make that institution very efficient and sufficiently fit to give advanced course of studies in that subject. Instead of frittering the resources of the Government by giving grants to large number of colleges, it is highly desirable to spend the money on one and the same institution and make it thoroughly efficient. For instance, in the Presidency College, facilities may be given to take advanced courses and make researches in Physics and Chemistry. In the Kumbakonam College which is also a Government College the subject of History may be given particular attention. Similarly in the Christian College, Mathematics may be specialized in. I have heard that Cambridge is the centre for the study of Mathematics, Oxford for History. I think it is time Government revises its policy which has been hitherto adopted and helps to create local Oxford and Cambridge. I commend this proposal to the consideration of the House and the hon. the Minister in charge."

* The hon. Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. PATRO :—"It is not a question of revising the policy of the Government. Our policy has been to concentrate in one place all these colleges so far as the Madras University is concerned. The essential principle of the Madras University Act is that there should be more inter-collegiate work, that the University should co-ordinate in the work of the colleges, that there should be a particular course of study in every college, and that one college student should be able to attend the lectures of other colleges. It is on these lines that University organization has

[23rd March 1926].

[Sir A. P. Patro]

been made. How far any progress has been made in that direction may be read from reports. There has been some collegiate work between the Presidency College and the Christian College, and I understand that the Syndicate is taking steps to bring about the principle into operation. In regard to the Andhra University also, I have to repeat the same thing. One has to restrict Science in one place, Philosophy in another and so on. I have already communicated the lines on which educational development is sought to be made under the Andhra University Act, viz., by the principle of concentration. Anantapur will develop in certain branches of study, Rajahmundry will develop certain others, and Waltair will develop something different. So under the Andhra University scheme concentration is to be the underlying principle. Similarly in regard to any other University the one underlying principle will be that all the colleges in Southern India will not repeat the same thing, but as far as possible a college will take up a particular subject for development so that there may not be waste of finance and waste of educational energy. We have been pursuing this policy as far as possible but as more universities are started and more educational development takes place in these centres, it would be quite possible to have this principle of concentration in a more effective form and in a more definite manner than at present."

* Diwan Bahadur M. KRISHNAN NAYAR :—"It seems to me, Sir, that there is some difficulty in accepting the suggestion of my hon. Friend at the present stage of University education in this Presidency. The existing University is undergoing a process of disintegration. The Madras University is being split up. The Andhra University Act has already become law and is to come into operation immediately. As my hon. Friend the Minister stated, the Andhra University Act has actually been brought into operation. So far as that particular University is concerned, within the limits of that University there will be places of concentration on different subjects. For instance, technological subjects will be dealt with at Vizagapatam, for other subjects at Rajahmundry and others again at Anantapur and so on. So that, within the area served by that particular University there will be places of concentration and it will be unnecessary to have the same subjects repeated in more than one place. Yesterday we had a pretty long discussion about the founding of the Tamil University and within the area served by that University there may be concentration. The same will be the case with reference to the other universities. If at the present stage Government is going to concentrate at particular places with reference to particular subjects the result will be that when these new universities come into existence difficulties will be felt. For instance within a particular area served by a particular university it will be found that there will be only one subject in which advanced teaching is given so that the result of introducing this policy advocated by my friend will be to introduce disadvantages in these university areas when new universities come into existence. So that it seems to me that the present time is inopportune to introduce and adopt the policy advocated. When these universities come to be established, then is the time to introduce the principle of concentration."

Mr. P. N. MARTHANDAM PILLAI :—"I wish to associate myself with what Mr. Tampam said as regards this motion. I only wish to point out that large sums of money are being wasted as grants to these various schools because they attempt to establish in their particular colleges all the

[Mr. P. N. Marthandam Pillai] [23rd March

branches of a particular course of studies. We, as Members of the Finance Committee, have been met with the difficulty of allotting these grants to the various schools and there we were acquainted with the necessity of making these grants which automatically come into existence whether the educational authorities like it or not. I wish to emphasize the position that under the Grant-in-Aid Code if a particular school wants to attempt a particular course of study and if it finds half the money under the Code, without the authorities having a voice in it, automatically Government gets itself committed to the other half. We found difficulties in allotting these grants to the various schools and if it is possible for Government to initiate the policy of concentration of particular course of studies in a particular area it would aid to a greater extent than the distribution of grants to the various schools. I wanted to bring to the notice of the Government the difficulty in making grants to the various schools without having an efficient voice on the schemes themselves. I therefore support the motion made by Mr. Tampan."

12-30
P.M.

* Mr. K. PRABHAKARAN TAMPAN :—"The hon. the Minister for Education has practically accepted the principle underlying my proposal. I am certain that in the Madras University Act also the idea is that only few colleges should be allowed to specialize in one and the same subject. But I found in the Finance Committee, as was referred to by my hon. Friend from Tinnevely, proposals for giving large grants for some of the colleges are put up for consideration. For instance, the Sri Minakshi College, Chidambaram, applied for Rs. 96,000 for fitting up a science laboratory. If the principle, as accepted by the hon. the Minister for Education, is to be adopted, there is no need to sanction any grant for that college, because the colleges in Madras are provided with efficient laboratories, and there is absolutely no need for another one at Chidambaram. There were one or two other instances also like that. I am one of those who believe that by fitting up all first-grade colleges with large and efficient and costly laboratories the Government are only incurring unnecessary expenditure. I only want to bring this aspect of the question to the notice of the hon. Member in charge of Education, and he is welcome to do what he chooses."

* The hon. Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. PATRO :—"I am afraid the hon. Members have not properly appraised the need of the Presidency in the matter of laboratories, etc. If as they suggest it is possible to have one college for the whole of the Northern Circars and one college for the whole of the Tamil districts for teaching one subject, the principle can be followed. But you find that there is such a large demand on the part of the people for the kind of study. If you have only one college situated in one district, you can imagine the difficulty of students who have to go from other districts to that district, or to go all the way from Tinnevely to Madras. There must therefore be some relief given to the students and for meeting the public demand in the matter. You cannot therefore say that, at present, as Mr. Krishnan Nayar pointed out very rightly, there are facilities to see that such a principle is put into practice. But it is admitted that what we are working at in regard to university education is to have concentration, so as not to fritter away money on several colleges teaching the same subjects. On the other hand, for instance, there is Madanapalle also to be developed in the Ceded districts which have no other college except Anantapur. If one

23rd March 1926] [Sir A. P. Patro]

college is developed in the north, another college has to be developed in the south, you find great difficulties felt by the people, and it is necessary that some provision must be made to meet that difficulty. If only we have got the other universities, then there can be concentration and co-ordination among the colleges in one university area like that of the Andhra University. Under the Madras University Act, we are at present making such a concentration in the City of Madras."

* Mr. K. PRABHAKARAN TAMPAN :—"Though I do not believe there can be any difficulty in putting it into practice, I am prepared to withdraw the motion."

The motion was by leave withdrawn.

* Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—"I move

'that the allotment of Rs. 15,000 for Law College—Honoraria for special lecturers be reduced by Rs. 100.'"

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—"The hon. Member wants to draw attention to the need of research into Comparative, Historical and Ethnical Jurisprudence'. Does he mean that Government should provide facilities?"

* Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—"This is a subject of highest importance to legislators as well as lawyers, as sooner or later we shall have to face at least one piece of legislation as the law of succession of Jains and others on which this subject of Ethnical Jurisprudence has a large bearing. At the same time, I may also point out that this subject is connected with many others. For instance, we have the grants to be made by the Government to the University in connexion with Oriental languages research, botany research, etc. I am not sure whether Government have sanctioned the grant only so far as the study of Dravidian languages is concerned and not for the Sanskrit language. What I would urge is that we should not take a narrow point of view of studies of languages. I will deal only with this point of Comparative, Historical and Ethnical Jurisprudence, which is more important to us, the lawyers, than as a matter of study of languages in general. In the study of Jurisprudence, we have what we call the Maine's Historical Society, and Maine specially dealt with what is called Historical Jurisprudence. What I want to draw attention to is the necessity for the study of Jurisprudence from a further point of view, that is of Ethnology and Philology. In the matter of the study of Philology we cannot confine our attention here only to Dravidian languages, and I do not think that there will be a sufficient and comprehensive research with such an on-look of the subject as it could have by a study of languages, not one language but in fact Sanskrit and all the other languages in the Presidency."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—"Does the hon. Member want to introduce the study of languages in the Law College? It is under that item that he is moving his motion."

* Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—"I have overlooked the point of Law College I think I should not move it here." (Laughter)

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—"The hon. Member has already moved it. Has the hon. Member the leave of the House to withdraw the motion?"

The motion was by leave withdrawn.

[23rd March 1926]

* Mr. K. PRABHAKARAN TAMPAN :—" I beg to move

'that the allotment of Rs. 59,900 for Law College be reduced by Rs. 100.'

"Sir, there are two points which I want to suggest for the consideration of the hon. the Minister in charge of Education. One is for enforcing better discipline than is obtaining now in the Law College. We find, Sir, in the Law College more than two hundred to three hundred students in each class. As a matter of fact, I know that some students while remaining at home in their districts are marked regularly as present in the Law College. (The hon. Sir A. P. Patro: Not now.) Even this year, I have known instances of the kind. From what I understand the discipline that is enforced in the Law College is at a very low ebb. I would like the Government to pay some attention to it, and see that these scandalous incidents are stopped and put an end to.

"The other suggestion is that the admission into the Law College should be restricted. I am one of those who believe that we have too many lawyers in this country and that efforts should be made to see that their number does not increase in the same proportion as now. Admission to the Law College may be restricted. But my hon. Friend who is sitting beside me (Mr. Krishnan Nayar) wants me not to press this suggestion of mine which he thinks is full of danger and calamity to the country. I do not therefore press that point. With regard to the first point, I am anxious that the Government will give some consideration."

Mr. P. N. MARTHANDAM PILLAI :—" I must oppose the motion moved by my hon. Friend Mr. Prabhakaran Tampam. As regards the first point, viz., the one of discipline in the Law College, I do not think it is in any way worse than the other colleges. (Laughter.) When there are large numbers of students and if a particular student is absent, and somebody else answers 'Here' when his name is called, and if the teacher or monitor marks him present, I do not think it is right to attribute want of discipline in the particular college

"As regards the other point, namely, the restriction of admission into the Law College, it touches upon a very serious and important question which affects the lawyers as a class. I do not know whether it will be conducive to the well-being of the country if you are going to restrict the admission of students and the production of lawyers. Our wants in the struggle for existence will find their level. Why should you place an arbitrary restriction on admissions in particular years or in particular sets of students? Well, law is a study in this country which may be pursued for the benefit of the study alone, though not for the practice of it. I know as a matter of fact a number of people who have passed their B.L. and who are not practising as lawyers. Should the study of law be denied to men who do not want to practise it? If you want to restrict the practice of it to a smaller number, are there not other means of doing it than of restricting the admissions into the college? And there are several avenues in the struggle for existence, and these things are safely settled when they are left to themselves. I think my hon. Friend can leave this question alone, and it is a serious matter on which the opinions of lawyers and other eminent men should be obtained."

[23rd March 1926]

* Diwan Bahadur M. KRISHNAN NAYAR :—" I wish to say one word with reference to the latter part of this motion."

* Mr. K. PRABHAKARAN TAMPAN :—" May I say that I did not press that point?"

Diwan Bahadur M. KRISHNAN NAYAR :—" As a matter of fact, my Friend referred to the views I gave him and said that I advised him not to move it. But he did not actually take my advice. If he had taken my advice, he would not have taken that position. Therefore, I am going to oppose it. In addition to what was suggested by my learned Friend, Mr. Marthandam Pillai, I wish to say this, namely, the problem of unemployment exists to a very large extent in this country. Sir, the problem of unemployment among educated men is also increasing to a very large extent, and if it goes on increasing at the present rate, I do not know whether it will not become a serious political problem to be solved, and by restricting the admission into the Law College we are taking away from these graduates or those who have passed the B.A. examination one avenue for the outlet of their energies, and thereby we shall be adding to the discontent of these graduates who are now wandering about the country in search of employment, which they are not able to find. They cannot be blamed; those who cannot give them employment cannot be blamed; and those who have power and patronage in their hands absolutely find it impossible to give appointments to those that seek appointment, and those that seek employment find it very difficult to maintain their body and soul together. Now, if the suggestion of my hon. Friend, viz., that those who have passed the B.A. examination should be prevented from seeking admission into the Law College and thereby into the profession of law, be adopted, the number of people seeking employment will become so large that it will lead to a very serious state of affairs. There is, I submit, no right on the part of anybody to say 'thou shalt not enter the Law College'. That will be an interference not compatible with the freedom and liberty of individuals. I am therefore absolutely and wholly against that suggestion."

* Mr. K. PRABHAKARAN TAMPAN :—" May I ask my hon. Friend who spoke last whether those who pass out of the Law College and enrol themselves as lawyers do not generally apply for appointments?" 12-45 p.m.

* The hon. Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. PATRO :—" Sir, with regard to the suggestion of the hon. the Mover that there is slackness of discipline in the Law College, I must enter my strong protest, because the Law College is managed by an able Principal and there are now 12 assistant lecturers and other special lecturers and attendance is strictly enforced. I should therefore think that the hon. the Mover should have thought twice before he cast any reflections on the discipline of the college. The students of the Law College are all graduates and grown up young men with large promises of their future, and with a sense of responsibility. And it seems, Sir, very unfair to cast any slur on their discipline or conduct. Certainly I have not come across any such indiscipline in the Law College. The students of the Law College have shown themselves to be foremost in the games. If the other day my hon. Friend was present when the prize distribution was held he would have seen how they had carried away the cups in the various games, and the way in which they conducted the meetings of the Law College Societies there is very little ground for saying that there is any

[Sir A. P. Patro]

[23rd March 1926]

kind of indiscipline or want of discipline in the Law College. The discipline is as good as that in any other college. Therefore my hon. Friend is not at all justified in insinuating that there is any lack of discipline in the Law College."

* Mr. K. PRABHAKARAN TAMPAN :—"Sir, I envy the hon. Minister's frame of mind. He is taking for granted that since he has appointed an efficient and able Principal and a set of good assistants and a council, everything is going on very well. I know that the attendance and the discipline enforced in the College is very questionable, and it is almost a scandal. I am afraid not only the students are culpable in that respect but also the staff who are conniving and abetting it. I am making the statement with a full sense of responsibility. I have brought it to the notice of the Government and I leave it there."

* Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—"Sir, may I raise my voice of protest against anything that is said not only against the Members of the House but also against institutions on very ill-founded information? My hon. Friend from Malabar has never been within the precincts of the Law College. If he expects in the Law College the discipline and methods which are observed, for instance, in a high school, he is quite mistaken. For aught I know—I have got friends in that College—the students in that College—they are not boys but men who have graduated—observe discipline compatible with the institution, young men who can be relied upon to show good manners and on behalf of those certain freedom should be allowed. (The hon. Sir A. P. Patro: Hear, hear.) Surely you cannot expect the methods and discipline enforced in a small primary school or high school. This is an institution where students come after graduating. If my hon. Friend has heard some impressions of some persons, this is not the place where information based on impressions of some other persons should be brought to cast reflections on the institution. Therefore I think my hon. Friend ought to withdraw his statement as befitting the dignity and decorum of this House."

* Mr. K. PRABHAKARAN TAMPAN :—"I am not satisfied with the Minister's attitude in the matter. However, I withdraw the motion."

The motion was by leave withdrawn.

* Mr. R. VEERIAN :—"I move

'that the allotment of Rs. 1,06,000 for Government Secondary schools for boys be reduced by Rs. 100.'

(I move this to discuss the policy of not giving concession to depressed classes in the matter of school fees.)

"Sir, I understand the difficulties of the hon. the Minister for Education and I therefore wish to put myself in the position of the hon. the Minister for Education before I make my remarks in connexion with the subject. I say it in this realising manner as I think that only then it will appeal to him. I am grateful to the Government for providing rule 92 in the Madras Educational Rules with a view to give half-fee concession to pupils belonging to the backward and depressed classes. But I should like to point out, Sir, that it is not obligatory on the part of the correspondent, headmaster or superintendent of the school to admit pupils even on production of poverty certificate on this half-fee concession. This concession, Sir, as far as I understand the rule, is extended and made obligatory only in the case of

23rd March 1926]

[Mr. R. Veerian]

Muhammadans and Oriya girls. I do not know, Sir, what sin the members of the depressed classes have committed for not getting this concession whether they produce poverty certificates or not. I quite realize, Sir, that poverty is not the sole monopoly of one class of people, and I should like to point out pertinently to the Minister in charge of Education that rich people will never come forward, to whatever class they may belong, to ask for this small concession. I am sure, Sir, that rich classes of persons belonging to the depressed classes will never come forward and ask for this concession. After all, are there many rich people among the depressed classes? No, certainly not. If there are any rich people they may be able enough to have private tutors in their houses and they may not even show themselves as belonging to the depressed classes. It may be quite different in the experience of other members, but my experience is that when they become rich they do not like to show themselves as belonging to the depressed classes. Therefore, Sir, I say that there is no use of saying that poverty is not the sole monopoly of one class of people.

"Then, Sir, I should like to suggest that there is some difficulty in the case of mission and non-mission secondary schools, because in the case of mission and non-mission secondary schools, they get only teaching grant. In the teaching grant, they are not able to understand whether compensation of school fees also is included.

"But the position of Government is quite different; indeed, it is entirely different. Therefore I should like to go a step further and suggest to the hon. the Minister to allow all the members of the depressed classes freely in all the schools, I mean in Government schools, and if I may be permitted to say in other mission and non-mission schools at fees not more than one-fourth of the standard rate. I am sure that if the hon. the Minister for Education will make up his mind with the other responsible officers, viz., the hon. the Finance Member, the Director of Public Instruction, and the Secretary, Law (Education) Department, I do not think there will be much difficulty in doing all the needful for the members of the depressed classes. There is nothing impossible with the hon. the Minister because he is a mighty and bold Minister. (Hear, hear.) If I fail to get this concession during the regime of the mighty and bold Minister, I do not think I shall be ever able to get this during any other's regime. I give this credit to him, he deserves it, and I hope he will do his very best. I only wanted to lay this foundation, and to lay it well because I hope that this appeal will touch his heart though not now, at least in the long run."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—"The hon. Member may also speak on the next motion of which he has given notice."

* Mr. R. VEERIAN :—"I move

'that the allotment of Rs. 1,15,700 for Government Secondary Schools for Girls be reduced by Rs. 100.'

"I want to raise the question in the matter of giving full remission of school fees owing to poverty in the case of girls belonging to depressed classes.

"Sir, there is a girl in the Government Secondary School at Coimbatore, and that girl belongs to the Arundatya community. (My hon. Friend Mr. Guruswami is not here.) That is the only girl belonging to the depressed community receiving instruction in that school. There are about

[Mr. R. Veerian]

[23rd March 1926]

600 girls belonging to the non-depressed classes. When I made representation to make full remission of fees on behalf of that only one poor girl referred to, the Director of Public Instruction sent me the following letter which I shall read out in this hon. House:—

‘With reference to your letter of 6th February 1926 regarding full remission to Nagam-mal, V Standard, Government Training School, Coimbatore, I am to inform you that full remission of fees is inadmissible.’

“I made a representation also to the hon. the Minister for Education, some time ago at Ootacamund, and he was kind enough to send a cheque to the poor girl amounting to Rs. 15, because he realized the difficulty, but that amount was handed over to the girl by monthly instalments instead of in a lump sum. (A voice: Out of his own pocket?) Yes. Out of his own pocket; for, a lot of sanction is necessary to get money from the public funds. I really thank him on behalf of the community.”

* The hon. the PRESIDENT:—“Will the hon. Member refer to the acts of the Minister as Minister?”

* Mr. R. VEERIAN:—“I mentioned so. Because some members asked about it. What I want to point out is that though the girl is reading in the secondary school, still she is reading in the lower standard, the V standard. There is a rule in the Madras Educational Rules, Rule 73 (1) and that applies only to the case of elementary schools, whether higher elementary or lower elementary, whether higher standard or lower standard to give full remission of fees. I do not know why the same rule should not be applied in the case of this girl who is receiving instruction only in the lower standard attached to the secondary school. I hope, Sir, that the hon. the Minister will kindly consider this question and the remarks made by me.”

(At this stage, Khan Bahadur Haji Abd-ul-lah Haji Qasim Sahib took the chair.)

* The hon. Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. PATRO:—“Sir, I am sure the House is well impressed with the persistent fighting which the hon. the Mover has been putting forward on behalf of the depressed classes, and if after these two and a half years of persistent fighting and insistence on the legitimate rights being granted to that community the House does not feel sympathetic towards him, it would be vain hope for the community to expect any good to be done to them. The hon. the Mover, however, realizes that the House and the Minister in charge of Education are very sympathetic toward the claims of those depressed classes which the hon. the Mover has been putting forward.

1 p.m.

“The House has listened with great interest to the appeal made by my hon. Friend Mr. Veerian, but his real point I am not yet able to understand. I do not know whether he wants that concession should be made applicable to the boys or girls, or to both. That is one difficulty which I feel. He began by saying that in the matter of concessions there were some difficulties and he developed the case and ended by saying that girls should be given full concession. If it is intended that rule 92 of the Educational Rules is not properly administered or given effect to by the school management I can understand him. To that end I have already issued instructions to the managements of schools that in interpreting rule 92 of the Educational Rules, they should be very liberal to all the communities stated therein, and for the information of the House I will read the rule.

[23rd March 1926]

[Sir A. P. Patro]

While the Educational Rule fixes a standard of fees to be levied in schools, exception is made in the case of certain communities on account of backwardness of education among them. Rule 92 reads thus:

‘In institutions of professional or special character fees shall be levied at such rates as may from time to time be sanctioned by the Director or as may be prescribed by any rules sanctioned for them. Fees in all institutions shall be levied at half the standard rates from Muhammadans, Oriyas, and members of backward classes and castes whose parents or guardians are poor or a concession is necessary to enable them to continue their studies. The production of a certificate to that effect from an honorary magistrate, president of a local board, or of a district secondary education board, or of a district educational council, or the chairman of the municipal council or a sub-magistrate or an officer of the Revenue department not lower than a deputy tahsildar should be required in case of doubt.’

“The important point that I would like to bring forward here is that an application for concession should be accepted by the management and concession should be given at once. The rule is obligatory on the management and it leaves them no option. When an application is made to the headmaster, the correspondent of a school, it will be accepted unless the management or any other authority concerned has doubt in the matter, a reasonable doubt to show that a particular application or that the application made for the concession is not bona fide. The rule is there framed by the Government and as a matter of fact obligation is cast on the part of the correspondent or headmaster of the institution to make half fee concession to certain communities. My Friend has drawn the attention of the Government to some specific cases where the rules were not properly worked. At once the management was communicated with and a memorandum was issued to all institutions explaining the way in which the rules should be interpreted. Presuming that a wrong interpretation of the rules might be due to the ignorance of the obligatory nature of rule 92, Government asked the Director of Public Instruction to issue circulars to all managers of institutions inviting their attention to the above interpretation of the rule. Therefore excepting there have been some specific instances in which mistakes were made by the authorities concerned and which were brought to the notice of the Government by my hon. Friend, Mr. Veerian, there does not seem to be any necessity for taking any further action in the matter at present. There is the policy and procedure outlined in rule 92 and it has been made obligatory for the management to grant half fee concession unless there is some doubt. Thus it will be clear to the House that the procedure which is already in the rules has been enforced as far as it could be done.

“Then the hon. Member has stated that in the case of girls it is necessary that full concession should be given. That is a matter which requires a very careful consideration of the Government. But if any schools were to decline the grant of half fee concession to the pupils of the depressed classes then they will be taken to task and their subsidies will be stopped, if they belong to local bodies, or grants if they belong to aided agencies. All agencies have been required to follow this rule and if it has not been done so, and if the attention of the Government is drawn to specific cases, necessary steps will be taken to enforce the rule.

“Further, the hon. Member suggests that even on production of a certificate the concession is denied. It will be entirely wrong on the part of the management if they do so. I am sure that there is no such unreasonable management where the rule has not been carried into effect. But if there has been any violation of the rule, I am prepared to inquire into it and will see that justice is done.

[Sir A. P. Patro]

[23rd March 1926]

"The hon. Mover has pointed out that the rule for levying half the standard rate of fees might be applied to institutions other than elementary schools for boys and girls belonging to communities provided therein, provided such pupils are certified to be poor. This question is engaging the attention of Government. Whether pupils belonging to the depressed classes will be able to get poverty certificates as easily as other classes of pupils is a matter which has to be considered. There are difficulties in the way of poor people belonging to the depressed classes approaching the authorities in order to obtain poverty certificates under rule 92. They may not approach the authorities or the authorities may not be accessible. Therefore this question as also the question whether pupils belonging to the depressed classes should be given half fee concession or full remission of fees are specially engaging the attention of the Government.

"Mr. Veerian recommends that poor girls belonging to the depressed classes, who really deserve such help, may be given some scholarships. Besides the concession referred to above, special scholarships are awarded by the Education department and the Labour department. In granting general scholarships, the claims of the various communities who are mostly in need of such scholarships are considered and the rule lays down that pupils who apply for these concessions should belong to Adi-Dravidas, Adi-Andhras or Muhammadans or Oriyas or backward communities. Therefore the kind of supplementary help that is demanded by Mr. Veerian is given by way of scholarships both in the Education department and the Labour department. Thus it will be seen that rule 92 is not an inflexible rule. If outside these rules there are cases which deserve help, provision can be made for them by means of remissions and scholarships. I know that particular community deserves encouragement and we are taking every possible step to help them in their wants in the progress of education."

Rao Bahadur M. C. RAJA:—"I want to be very brief in my remarks. I am glad to learn from the hon. the Minister for Education that Government are very anxious to do all that they can for helping the depressed classes. In the Government Order issued in 1925 by the Education Ministry, I see it is stated that it is difficult for the depressed classes parents to send their children to school, for they are poor and they are anxious to send their children for wage-earning occupations. That is not my view, but that is the view taken by the Government. This the Government themselves clearly indicate in their order. If that is the case, how can you expect the pupils of the depressed classes to pay half fees according to your rule? That is the very point which the hon. Mover of this motion wanted to impress on this hon. House. (Hear, hear.) The point is this: the depressed classes are clubbed along with other backward communities under rule 92. As I have very often said, the depressed classes are economically poor and the backward classes are well-to-do classes and the Government cannot place the depressed classes on the same level with the other flourishing and well-to-do classes of people. We have come here to respectfully urge before this House to consider the claims of the depressed classes who have been all along kept low and who have been all along kept economically in a backward condition so that the Government may render all possible assistance to those pupils who seek education. We would be thankful to the hon. Minister for Education who has been characterized as a bold and mighty Minister and subsequently as a sympathetic Minister and who has been in office for the last five years—I hope he will be our future Minister also—if he will make a standing record

[23rd March 1926]

[Mr. M. C. Raja]

of his Ministry by giving as much concession as possible which we well deserve. It is all very well for every one of you to say 'that we are all very anxious to elevate the depressed classes'. It is all very well for you to say 'that we sympathize with your aspirations'. Sir, I would only request you to translate your sympathy into action by immediately changing this rule 92 by granting full fee concession to the pupils of the depressed classes. Certainly, Sir, I am not objecting to the system of asking for poverty certificates. I am not going to take advantage of the grant of the concession in the case of my children although I am not rich. Other members of the community who are able to pay will surely pay the fees, even the full fees. I am not saying that every boy and girl belonging to the depressed classes will take advantage of this hospitality of the Government and avail themselves of the full concession. As regards the girls, however, the hon. Minister himself knows that it is very difficult to get these girls educated and if at a time like this you are going to impose fees also on them, it will be very difficult for them to go to school. Once more, on behalf of the depressed classes, I appeal to my old friend, Sir Patro, who is now a valiant knight, to amend the rule and do this humanitarian piece of work for the benefit of the depressed classes, so that the members of the depressed classes might get full concession in the schools." 1-15 p.m.

Mr. P. N. MARTHANDAM PILLAI:—"Sir, I rise to say a few words in support of the motion in order to show that it is not the depressed classes alone that are asking for these measures, but that we also are anxious that we should do our best to remove their grievances in the matter. I appeal to the hon. Minister to give the members of the depressed classes full concession in schools if possible and help them in their struggle to make their condition much better than what it is to-day."

Mr. R. VEERIAN:—"Sir, I think there is some misapprehension as to the remarks I made with reference to the half concession fees for the members of the depressed classes. What I wanted was a concession of full fees in the case of girls at least, if it is not possible in the case of boys also owing to financial difficulties. The hon. Minister referred to scholarships awarded by the Educational department. They are awarded to Mappillas and caste Hindu widows who are reading above the fifth standard, but not to the pupils belonging to the depressed classes. I saw the answer of the Government to my interpellation only the other day. There are some difficulties in getting these scholarships; the pupils must pass the examinations regularly. If the pupil fails in one year or if he is not considered a bright pupil they discontinue the scholarship. Reference was made to the Labour department which also gives scholarships. But those scholarships are only for pupils reading in the fifth standard upwards. The age restriction is observed there and that works hard against the depressed classes. The depressed class boys are not admitted in many schools and therefore they are obliged to keep from school till they grow old. If the age restriction is observed in their case it will create a great difficulty and real hardship. Therefore we never get any advantage either here or there. There will be one or two girls in all the Government schools. Therefore there will be no difficulty in giving full concession in the case of girls if it is not possible to give the same concession in the case of boys."

Mr. J. A. SALDANHA:—"Sir, I associate myself with the request of the hon. Member that the depressed classes should not be bracketed with the

[Mr. J. A. Saldanha]

[23rd March 1926]

backward classes. I was till now under the impression that the depressed classes pupils were getting full concession. The depressed classes have been for the past so many centuries deprived of the elementary rights of humanity and citizenship on account of the arrogance of the higher castes including mine own. It is therefore our duty to give them full concession in regard to fees at least in the case of the girls if not also in the case of boys. This must be done in all Government schools. Scholarships and other facilities should be provided liberally. The converts to Christianity from the depressed classes should also be treated in the same category as the depressed classes. There is another ruling of the hon. Minister recently that converts from the depressed classes to Christianity should be treated as depressed classes, whereas converts from the backward classes to Christianity should be treated as elevated classes. I must point out that this is not true as a matter of fact. By conversion to Christianity the backward classes are not elevated at all economically; they may be elevated educationally, but economically they are backward still. I therefore urge upon the hon. Minister to make these concessions to the members of the depressed classes and the backward classes."

* Rao Sahib R. SRINIVASAN :—" Sir, I do not agree with my hon. Friend, Mr. Saldanha, when he says that the converts from the depressed classes should also be treated as members belonging to the depressed classes, or say Adi-Dravidas. When the missionaries converted the Adi-Dravidas they were assured that they would not be treated as heathens or untouchables. The converts were considered as belonging to a different and superior community. Some of them despised the Adi-Dravidas. Sir, I ask Mr. Saldanha whether any head of the Christian denomination or the Holy See would accept that these converts might be called Adi-Dravidas or untouchables? No! Now, when some special advantage is given to the Adi-Dravidas, by the Government, these converts and their ministers saw that they were not getting the concessions granted to Adi-Dravidas, they have come back to claim themselves as Adi-Dravidas and to share the advantages that are given to the Adi-Dravidas. These concessions were granted to Adi-Dravidas owing to the special difficulties they suffer from as untouchability and oppression. It was only the other day that Mr. Saldanha said that the Christians were a highly educated community next to the Brahmans in intellect. They would not agree to say that they are untouchables."

* Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—" On a matter of personal explanation, Sir. I said that the Christians sacrificed on the altar of education many men, women, and money, but at the same time we are economically backward. That is a fact which I think must be recognized. At least, so far as the Catholics are concerned, it is true. We are economically backward and mere conversion to Christianity does not elevate the economic condition of the backward classes. I may also point out that we have got our own schools for our converts. I want that there should be no misunderstanding between economic advancement and educational advancement."

* Rao Sahib R. SRINIVASAN :—" Sir, the same thing is seen in the Christian boarding schools also. The converts there are not treated as untouchables. Why do the converts want to share that concession with the Adi-Dravidas? They have deserted the Adi-Dravidas before and now because there are some concessions offered to the Adi-Dravidas, Christian converts wanted to take

23rd March 1926]

[Mr. R. Srinivasan]

advantage of them. Where then is the line of demarcation? If the hon. Minister wants, let him give special grants to the Christian converts; Adi-Dravidas do not grudge it. Let them not come and share what little the Adi-Dravidas have got. Of course I realize that they are our brethren. But I do not want that the converts should come and join us so long as this benefit is derived by them and then leave our fold."

The Chairman (Khan Bahadur HAJI ABD-UL-LAH HAJI QASIM SAHIB) :—" Does the hon. Member withdraw his motion?"

* Mr. R. VEERIAN :—" I want to know what the hon. Minister has to say . . ."

* The hon. Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. PATRO :—" I have already said enough and I have also added that all the suggestions would be considered."

* Mr. R. VEERIAN :—" I asked for a remission of full fees at least in the case of the girls who will only be very few in number."

* The hon. Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. PATRO :—" I already said that the question of full concession for girls in the primary schools is under the consideration of the Government."

The motions were by leave withdrawn.

The House then adjourned for lunch.

After Lunch (2-30 p.m.).

* Diwan Bahadur M. KRISHNAN NAYAR :—" Mr. President, Sir, I move the motion that stands in my name. It is this :

that the allotment of Rs. 1,15,700 for Government Secondary Schools for Girls be reduced by Rs. 100.

" My object in moving this motion is this: Till very recently the fees from girls studying in girls' schools were being collected at a particular rate. For instance, the rates that were being collected from girls studying in Forms IV, V and VI were, I think, Rs. 2-10-0 per month. Recently this amount has been doubled. The girls in these forms who were paying Rs. 2-10-0 are now compelled to pay twice the amount, i.e., at the rate of Rs. 5-4-0 per mensem. This acts as a real hardship on the girls. Female education in our country has not advanced to such an extent as to make all the parents and guardians sending their children and wards to schools, pay whatever fees levied. Female education—especially English education—is still in an infant stage and it is necessary that the full rates which are being levied on boys should not be levied on girls. This was brought to my notice very recently about a month ago in Palghat; parents of several girls who are studying in the high school there, came to me and complained that they were compelled to pay this higher rate from December. That, I submit, is a real hardship. My hon. Friend may tell me that the rule has been in existence for some time. If so, that rule has not been enforced. Then I find from the rules in the Grant-in-Aid Code—Rule 92—that fees in all instances shall be levied on half the standard rates from Muhammadans, Oriyas and members of backward classes whose parents or guardians are so poor that the grant of this concession is necessary to enable them to continue their studies. That is to say, a parent or guardian who wants to pay only half the rate should declare himself to be so poor as to be unable to pay the double rate or the usual rate by whatever name it may be called. Respectable

[Mr. M. Krishnan Nayar] [23rd March 1926]

people though they are poor, are usually unwilling to go to the various persons who are authorised to give poverty certificates. Even if they go to them, where is the guarantee that they will get the certificates. It should be the rule that the double rate should not be collected from girls. Till now, as I submitted, only half the rate levied from boys was levied from girls. That should be the practice hereafter also. Otherwise, I am afraid that female education will suffer very much. I would ask my hon. Friend—apart from the condition of producing poverty certificates and apart from other hindrances—to make this the ordinary rule that the rate to be collected from girls should be only half the rate for boys."

* Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—"I associate myself with my hon. Friend from Malabar in the appeal he has made to the hon. the Minister on this point. I have received protests from different quarters not only from South Kanara and Malabar but also from Ootacamund and from other districts which are outside my own electorate, such as Tinnevely and Tuticorin. They have appealed to me as they have appealed to their own representatives to remove the hardship which entails upon all classes of people and especially Indian Christians by enforcing this new rule. Really I do not know what occurred to the mind of the hon. the Minister for Education suddenly as to make this plunge from a highly generous treatment of female education and to say that the fees that will be collected hereafter will be double the original rate and only in cases where poverty certificates are produced, they will be exempted. Whenever there is a doubt or when a headmistress newly joins a school, certificates of poverty are required to be produced by every girl. What is the definition of poverty? That is another difficulty. I wish the hon. the Minister or any other hon. Member to tell us what constitutes poverty. Inspectors come and want to know why so many girls are admitted on poverty certificates. I remember that a large number of applicants came rushing to me the other day before I came here. I asked them what was the matter. They said that the Inspector of the girls' schools wanted them to produce poverty certificates. Even in the case of aided institutions, the girls have to go and get certificates from different persons. The number of persons from whom they can get such certificates is very limited. The names of M.L.Cs. are excluded from the list of such persons. M.L.Cs.' certificates would be treated with contempt."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—"Why does the hon. Member assume that names M.L.Cs.' certificates will be treated with contempt?"

* Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—"I do not know whether their are included in the list of persons who can give poverty certificates."

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—"That is a different matter."

* Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—"We must also bear in mind the unwillingness of many parents to go and ask for certificates. They feel it inconvenient to go to the Magistrate especially in the case of those whose position is considered to be high in the eyes of the public. If the people in India increase in anything at all, it is in having a large number of children. If a parent has two or three girls or half a dozen girls it will be so difficult for him to go and approach a Magistrate for certificates. Look at humiliation he is put to to get certificates. Would it not be humiliating, Sir, unless there is a near relation? Even if there is a near relation, would he like to give a poverty certificate? A man of his position may not be willing to do so. I think

2-45
p.m.

23rd March 1926]

[Mr. J. A. Saldanha]

that every hon. Member will agree with me when I say that this method is not fair and that the rule works a great hardship on people who hold a somewhat high position in society. Yet, the hon. the Minister himself knows how people suffer on account of the enforcement of this rule and my hon. Friend from Trichinopoly will endorse this opinion. I have got a bundle of papers with me and my friends will ask me 'what is all this'. They all relate to this matter. This is a very important question and I hope the hon. the Minister will revert to the old generous policy and that the somersault that he has performed will be followed by another somersault very soon."

* The hon. Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. PATRO :—"Sir, the somersault, I am afraid, is more on the part of the hon. Member from South Kanara representing the Christian Constituency of South Kanara; because if he had taken care to observe steadily without making a somersault, he would have seen that the rule has been in existence since 1920. It is no new rule framed by the Ministry. The practice was a little different in different places, but the rule was the same and it was in existence before. Therefore it is not a new creation, nor is it a somersault as the hon. Member would like to make it appear. It is true, as stated by the hon. Members from Malabar and South Kanara, looking at it from the point of view of the girls, that it is a little hard that parents in order to obtain a concession for their girls, have to get a certificate from one of those officers mentioned in the list. But on the other hand we have to take this in its practical aspect, in its businesslike aspect. Is it wise on the part of an administration to allow free licence to everyone to say that he is poor and thereby obtain the concession? In order to obtain such concession, the tendency will be to say 'we are poor' and when it is represented to the management that the parents are not able to meet the fees of the girl, the management is bound to give them the concession unless there is a reasonable doubt as to the particular individual. The rule is very clear and it must be understood properly. If there was any misunderstanding or misinterpretation of it, we would set it right, and we have done so by a fresh memorandum in connexion with this matter. The rule reads:

"In institutions of a professional or special character fees shall be levied at such rates as may from time to time be sanctioned by the Director or may be prescribed by any rules sanctioned by Government. Fees in all institutions shall be levied at half the standard rates for girls and members of the backward communities, etc. . . and an officer of the Revenue Department, not less than a Deputy Tahsildar shall certify in cases of doubt."

"The poverty certificate is required only in cases where there is a doubt in the mind of the headmaster or the manager. Otherwise, in all cases, it is obligatory on the part of the correspondent or the manager to give half-fees to girls. If the rule has been wrongly understood and if it has not been properly interpreted by any management or correspondent, certainly it is not the fault of the rule, but it is the fault of the management. If the management is at fault and its attention is drawn to it, certainly the manager will be asked to see that it is set right. So, I am sure, hon. Members will realize that there is no hardship in the rule itself but in putting the rule into practice some managements may not be able to interpret it correctly; and that can be easily rectified. We felt this difficulty soon after the publication of the rules in a consolidated form recently when representations were made in the press and protests were received; and we have issued a press communiqué explaining the situation. The proposal was also placed before the Finance Committee at its meeting held on the 5th February 1926

[Sir A. P. Patro]

[23rd March 1926]

in order to place the matter beyond all doubt, and the Committee recommended as follows:—“The Committee were of opinion that the present rules place an unfair burden both on the parents and on the authorities who are, under the existing rules, empowered to grant certificates. Before any retrograde measure is adopted, the question should be considered whether the responsibility for giving the certificates could not be transferred to the headmasters or the management of the schools concerned.” The Finance Committee’s resolution, it will thus be seen, misses the main issue whether all girls irrespective of the financial condition of their parents should be given the half-fee concession. That is not directly dealt with by the Finance Committee, and therefore the matter will again be placed before the Finance Committee in order to get its advice on the direct issue in question. It is due more to the misunderstanding of the rule; but after we saw the opinion that has been repeatedly expressed in the press and the representations made to us through memorials, we referred it to the Finance Committee and asked them whether irrespective of the poverty of the pupils the half-fee concession might generally be adopted. That matter is therefore under consideration, and the advice of the Finance Committee will be taken.”

* Mr. K. PRABHAKARAN TAMPAN :—“Sir, as a Member of the Finance Committee, I may say here that the chief question raised before the Committee was not whether girls irrespective of their poverty or otherwise ought to be given any concession. We thought that asking the parents to go to a Sub-Magistrate or any other officer like that was putting an undue burden on them. The other question, if my memory is right, was never raised at all.”

* Diwan Bahadur M. KRISHNAN NAYAR :—“My Friend, the hon. Sir A. P. Patro, stated that the rule that is now in existence is not a new one and that it has been in existence for the past five years or so, since 1920 or 1921. It may be so, Sir, I do not contradict it, but my point is this: Whatever the rule was, personally I know that till December 1925, i.e., till two months ago, the fee that was being collected in the girls’ school in Palghat was only half the rate for boys; and for the first time in the history of that institution, the headmistress who is a graduate and an L.T. was compelled, by the authorities, i.e., the District Board who have the control of the school, to collect the same rate from these girls as that which is being levied from boys, that is, double the rate. As I stated, the fee that was being collected in Forms IV, V and VI was only Rs. 2-10-0 and that was raised to Rs. 5-4-0 per mensem. I do not contradict my friend by saying that the rule has not been in existence already but I only say that the collection was at half the rates. Then my friend referred to the resolution recently passed by the Finance Committee and said that it does not touch the point. I fully agree with my friend there and also with my Friend Mr. Prabhakaran Tampan. I do not know, whether the resolution passed by the Finance Committee was due to any misunderstanding on the part of the Finance Committee or due to any mistake in the reference made to the Finance Committee. That resolution refers only to the authority to grant the certificate. What has that got to do with the point now raised? Even now the authority to grant the certificate is a particular class of officers mentioned in the rule. Hereafter, the authority will be the managers or the headmasters or headmistresses of the institutions. That has nothing to

23rd March 1926]

[Mr. M. Krishnan Nayar]

do with the point now raised, as my friend correctly pointed out. My point is this: that the rule must be made absolute, and irrespective of considerations of poverty, fees should be levied from girls only at half the rates. I hope my friend will see to it that the consideration of this point is expedited and that the result of the consideration ends in favour of this motion. Seeing that my friend says it is under consideration, I request him to expedite, to speed up, the consideration.”

The motion was by leave of the House withdrawn.

* Diwan Bahadur K. SURYANABAYANAMURTI NAYUDU :—“Sir, I beg to move

‘that the allotment of Rs. 2,21,700 for Government Secondary Schools be reduced by Rs. 100.’

“Sir, my object in moving this token motion is to ascertain from the Government what steps they are taking in the matter of opening a High school for girls in Cocanada. A representation was made by the citizens of Cocanada to the Government and I believe the hon. the Minister for Education has realized the necessity for such an institution in the City of Cocanada. There are already two high schools for boys, one attached to the second-grade college maintained by the Maharaja of Pithapuram and another high school maintained by the Canadian Baptist Mission. The second-grade college is being raised to first grade. You will thus find that while there is so much provision for the education of boys, no provision at all is made for the higher education of girls. There is a lower secondary school originally maintained by Government, but now maintained by the municipality while the cost is borne by Government. The municipality is not in a position to maintain a high school for girls at its own cost, and therefore the citizens of Cocanada held a public meeting and sent a requisition to the Government for opening a high school for girls in that place. I know instances, Sir, where girls, after leaving the lower secondary school, had to give up higher education as there was no high school for girls. Sir, most of the girls that go in for high school education are grown up girls and as such they find it very inconvenient to attend schools intended for boys. Therefore I appeal to the hon. Minister to consider the matter favourably and open a high school at least in July next. I assure him there are facilities for opening such a school at Cocanada and that there will be a sufficient number of girl students.”

* The hon. Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. PATRO :—“Sir, it is true that the municipal council and the hon. the Mover have made representations that there is an urgent need for raising the girls’ school into a high school at Cocanada. Not only that, the hon. Mover has also interviewed me and the Director of Public Instruction and impressed upon us the necessity of having a High school at Cocanada. No doubt, Cocanada is one of the foremost cities in the Northern Circars and is of great commercial importance. When we were discussing the matter, I hoped that it might be possible to have some private agency or some philanthropist who would be able to come to the relief of the State and find the necessary funds. With a view to ascertain the public feeling in the matter and whether there will be such a private agency available to undertake the responsibility we have referred to the District Educational Officer. And we find that there is no such source available at present. We have therefore asked the Inspector of Schools

[Sir A. P. Patro]

[23rd March 1926]

to propose a scheme for raising it into a high school. The difficulty is whether the school is to be under the not cost system or whether the municipality should be prepared to pay a portion of the cost. I see the hon. Mover is shaking his head and says that the municipality will not be able to bear a portion of the cost. As soon as the scheme report of the Inspector of Schools is received we shall place it before the Finance Department and best consideration will be given to the matter and I hope it will be possible, if not this year, at least the next year to raise the school to a High school."

The motion was by leave withdrawn.

Mr. B. OBALESAPPA :—" Sir, I move

'to reduce the allotment of Rs. 2,25,000 for buildings by Rs. 100.'

"Sir, it is a token motion not intended to be pressed. But I would like to bring to the notice of the Government for favourable consideration the necessity for sanctioning a fresh building for the use of the Municipal High school at Anantapur. The school at present is located in the Munro's Old Taluk outcherry which, I think, was constructed nearly a century ago. This building is most ill-suited for school purposes. The surroundings are quite insanitary. The building stands in the middle of a busy, congested and dirty part of the old town. All sorts of things contribute to disturb the work of the school such as the rattle of carts, noisy altercations, marriage processions, the din and roar due to the market and the main bazaar. The atmosphere in and around the present building is always contaminated with foul gases exhaled from gutters, cesspools, latrines and cattle-sheds, inseparable from dwelling houses. Whenever epidemics break out, the surroundings of the school are the first to be affected. The accommodation capacity of the present building is quite inadequate to the average strength of the school. The present strength of the school is about 550. Some of the classes are conducted in the jail cells where some 12 years back prisoners used to be kept. I assure you, Sir, neither students nor teachers of the school are non-co-operators. Some classes are held in rented buildings which are too old and are in a dangerous state. The building is ill-lighted and ill-ventilated. Some of the rooms are so dark that they have long been the haunts of innumerable bats which commit nuisance on both the teacher and the taught. The school hall is also no better. A cloudy day makes it quite unfit for a class room or an examination hall. Some of the rooms such as science class room is so dark that even when the sun is shining brightly outside it is almost impossible for the students to see what they are doing in the chemistry class or seeing the physics apparatus. The building is also getting more and more dilapidated and the roof of some of the rooms have got so bad that sometimes tiles come down upon the heads of the students or teachers. There are several other things to mention, regarding the inadequacy of the accommodation or the unsuitability for school purposes of the present building, namely, Munro's Old Taluk outcherry. But I do not propose to dilate on the matter lest I should waste the precious time of the House. So I request the hon. the Minister for Education to provide a supplementary grant in the current budget for a new building for the use of the Municipal High school at Anantapur, so that the great hardships, especially the one affecting the eye-sight of the poor and young students may be redressed. If the hon. Minister for Education will kindly give an assurance that he will be taking immediate and necessary steps for the need

[23rd March 1926]

[Mr. B. Obalesappa]

and construction of a new building for the Municipal High school, Anantapur, I will be withdrawing the motion."

* The hon. Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. PATRO :—"Sir I am sure the House is very much impressed with the doleful tale of the conditions of the High school at Anantapur. At the same time, I must warn the House that it is an overdrawn picture. The school is now situated in a tolerably good building and it is not true that the roof is likely to fall on the heads of students nor is the statement true that the street dust is getting into the school room. But the question is this school is under the management of the municipality and so the municipality is to contribute a portion of the cost of the building. The municipal chairman has been asked to consult the Public Works authorities and get plans and estimates prepared for the consideration of the Government, and told that the municipality will have to bear a portion of the cost. The estimates and plans seem to have reached the Director of Public Instruction. They will have to be scrutinised and the municipality will have to make its own contribution to the cost of the construction. As soon as possible when the plans and estimates are approved as being of the required standard, and the municipality resolves on its portion of the cost, the question of a new building for the school will be considered."

The motion was by leave withdrawn.

* Mr. K. PRABHAKARAN TAMPAN :—"Sir, I move

'that the allotment of Rs. 11,13,000 for direct grants to non-Government secondary schools be reduced by Rs. 1,000'

"Sir, I want to suggest by means of this token motion to the Government that it should be made obligatory on the part of the high school authorities to send up all boys who have studied for one year in the sixth form to the school final public examination. In many institutions the custom is to detain several such boys in the sixth form to show a better percentage of success in the examination. I am one of those who believe that it ought not to be done. According to the present practice there are only 40 boys in a class and if a teacher who is entrusted with the coaching up of that number, is not found capable of teaching efficiently this small number during the course of one year, he is not fit to be placed there. Instead of detaining a boy at that stage, it would be better if he is not promoted from the fifth form. It is indeed very hard to detain him at this fag end of the school final career. Strict rules ought to be enforced in promoting a boy from the fifth form to the sixth. It is very hard upon the boys to be told at the time when applications for the public examination are sent, that they would not be sent up. In a district like Malabar where we have the adjoining State of Cochin where the rules are not so strict, what happens is that the boys so detained go there and appear for the examination. I may say that my school also occasionally sins in this respect. We detained two or three boys last year but they went to the Cochin examination with the result that this year we have sent up all the boys. I should suggest that in ordinary circumstances no boy should be detained in the sixth form having put in the full one year's course in that class."

* The hon. Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. PATRO :—"I am very sorry that my hon. Friend has brought this motion. It is educationally very unsound that the Government or the Legislative Council should interfere with the educational standards of schools. It is a matter entirely for the headmaster and

[Sir A. P. Patro]

[23rd March 1926]

the staff to decide whether a student is fit to appear for the examination or not. We cannot lay down the test, for it is they that are in close contact with the work and study of the student and in a position to judge as to the capacity of the student. Under the existing rules the headmaster of a school has to intimate to the Secondary School-Leaving Certificate Board the number of students that are qualified for appearing from his school for the public examination. He judges the students by their marks, by the class examinations which the headmaster and the teachers hold, by the general conduct, and by the general level of intelligence of the candidate. I should appeal to the House that in a matter like this it should be left purely to the discretion of the headmaster. My hon. Friend has pointed out that in some cases the headmaster and the staff may not be able to judge and that the record of work maintained in the school in the Secondary School-Leaving Certificate book may not be accurate. These are no doubt some of the drawbacks of the present Secondary School-Leaving Certificate system. They are all now being revised and considered by the Committee that is now sitting and going into the details of it. Because there has been an abuse in some places or because one headmaster of an institution has not been discharging his responsibility properly I should not certainly suggest that there should be a wholesale revision of the existing system. How best the system could be rectified must be considered. I am sure hon. Members realize that there are defects in the working of the Secondary School-Leaving Certificate system. There has been public agitation in the matter and we have realized that there are some defects. We have, therefore, appointed a committee to go into the scheme and revise the course, and in doing so, to see how best we can adjust it between the old Matriculation and the present Secondary School-Leaving Certificate and effect a compromise between the two. And it is utterly inadvisable for us to take upon ourselves to dictate to the Educational authorities that this should be the standard or that should be the standard, and that all boys of the VI form irrespective of their qualifications and equipment, irrespective of their study or anything, irrespective of the fact whether the boys are fit to be sent up for the examination, should be sent up to the Secondary School-Leaving Certificate examination. That is educationally unsound, and I may say from the point of view of the students, it would be disastrous. Far from rectifying the defects in the system, it will be enhancing the present difficulties. It is suggested that the headmasters sometimes take advantage of the position or the power vested in them and they abuse it in some cases. Very rarely no doubt such abuses are brought to notice. The remedy that is now suggested is that all boys of the VI form should be sent up for the examination, which means that you leave the headmasters and other teachers so as not to be strict in their work and not to enforce the standard that is necessary for the purpose of the examinations. All this will become lax and the educational standard will be very much lowered. Therefore the remedy that is suggested is not a proper one. If there is any other remedy that the hon. Member may suggest we will consider it, but this is not at all a proper one. It will enhance the present difficulty of selection, and does not enable them to take into account the record of the students in the IV, V and VI forms, and also the preliminary examination that is held. In every school what is generally known as the preliminary examination is held a few months before the Secondary School-Leaving Certificate examination, and boys are sent up to that examination from the results of this preliminary examination; and

3-15
p.m.

[23rd March 1926]

[Sir A. P. Patro]

in the Secondary School-Leaving Certificate book they also state whether the boy is properly qualified to sit at the public examination. Hence I should think that this suggestion is not at all a proper one as by adopting it we will be interfering in the matter of purely educational management of schools."

* Diwan Bahadur M. KRISHNAN NAYAR :—" I am prepared to admit, Sir, that there is some force in what my Friend, the Minister for Education, has stated, but we have advantages and disadvantages on both sides and I am inclined on the whole to agree with my Friend Mr. Prabhakaran Tampam. ('Hear, hear'.) I know, Sir, it is the instinct of schoolmasters to send up only those boys who in their opinion will certainly pass in the examination, and that instinct of schoolmasters is based upon this circumstance, namely, that they want always to have a high percentage of passes so far as their schools are concerned. But there is the other aspect also, namely, the aspect of the students themselves and the aspect of the parents. The parents who spend money for these boys and the students who study are desirous of the boys passing the examination, and I can see no reason why a boy who is studying in the sixth form, who is prepared to spend the necessary amount of fees for the examination and who has been paying the fee to the institution itself should not be allowed to go up for the examination. My Friend, the hon. Sir A. P. Patro, says it is a matter that should be left entirely to the discretion of the headmasters and the staff. As a matter of fact, very often the headmasters and the members of their staff differ as to whether a particular boy should be sent up for the examination or not, and in the result what happens is this, that the will and opinion of the headmaster prevail, and not the opinion or will of the members of his staff. Sometimes it also happens that those students who in the deliberate opinion of the headmaster or of the staff, or of the headmaster and staff combined will pass, do not pass. We come across such instances very often and then what becomes of the infallible test which is based on the opinion of the headmaster? And then my Friend says to allow all the boys to appear for the examination is disastrous from an educational point of view. I cannot understand how it would be disastrous from an educational point of view. The boys go up for the examination, and they fail or succeed and take the consequences. And if this fetish of the schools caring only for the high percentage of successes from their institutions disappears, I submit no evil consequences will result, and there will be no disastrous consequences at all from an educational point of view."

* Mr. K. PRABHAKARAN TAMPAN :—" I believe, Sir, that, if the headmasters exercise that amount of care in promoting boys from the fifth form which they exercise in detaining the boys of the sixth form, I do not think this necessity will arise at all. If a boy who is promoted up to the sixth form and has studied for one year in the sixth form cannot be found fit for being sent up for the examination if he was given the ordinary tuition that is given in the schools, the inference is that the teachers are more anxious to get boys into the sixth form than to coach and send them up for the examination, and towards the end of the year they take it into their head to show efficiency by detaining the boys in the sixth form, and send up only the picked or selected few because it is upon the results of the School Final Examination that the efficiency of the school is judged by the authorities. After having received the tuition fee which in itself is very large and presses

[Mr. K. Prabhakaran Tampan] [23rd March 1926]

hard on the poor parents, a student ought not to be detained, and I think it is highly necessary that an order to that effect is issued. If my hon. Friend the Minister cannot accept the proposition, I have nothing more to say."

The motion was by leave withdrawn.

* Mr. R. VEERIAN :—" Sir, I beg to move

"that the allotment of Rs. 11,13,000 for direct grants to non-Government secondary schools be reduced by Rs. 100."

"The point I want to raise is quite a different matter. When I met some of the missionaries and non-missionaries some time back and when I asked them as to why a large number of depressed classes pupils were not admitted into their schools, they said that it would not be possible for them to admit those pupils unless the Government paid them compensation for granting remission of fees or granting a concession regarding the payment of fees. They generally admit pupils belonging to the forward classes because they are able to pay the school fees. Owing to poverty, the depressed classes are not able to pay the school fees in full. We see that very many Government secondary schools are being established in rural parts, and therefore the education of the depressed classes suffers very much, and unless the Government pay compensation to these bodies, I am sure they will not admit the depressed classes pupils at the half-fee concession rate at least. What I should like to suggest is that the Government should ask the management of the schools to submit a bill for the remission of school fees, and I submit it would be advisable for the hon. the Minister for Education to meet that bill. If such bills are met, I am sure that there will be no difficulty in these schools admitting many members of the depressed classes. What takes place at present is that Government, as I said before, gives only teaching grants. But we cannot say if that compensation is included in the teaching grant or not. Therefore, Sir, in order to make matters clear it would be advisable that the Government should accept such bills claiming the amount of the remission of full fees or half fees in the case of the depressed classes."

* Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—" Sir, I should like to remove some sort of misapprehension that seems to exist in the mind of my hon. Friend Mr. Veerian. We happened both of us, when I was once at Salem, to visit a Christian school, and Mr. Veerian who has been doing so much to improve the lot of the depressed classes inquired how many depressed class boys were studying in the school. It was found there were none in that school. As a matter of fact from what the teachers told us, it appears that that school is practically what is called a caste school. That school is held in the midst of a class of people who may practically be called 'caste Christians', and for the benefit of the depressed classes the missionaries have established a school near the railway station where most of them generally reside. So that, so far as the depressed classes are concerned, they have got a school there into which their boys are admitted practically without any fees. I do not think the missionaries would refuse to admit depressed class pupils without any fees, because their object is to give education at some sacrifice of money. But we must bear in mind an important point which my hon. Friend Mr. Veerian overlooks, that in Southern India, especially on the East

23rd March 1926]

[Mr. J. A. Saldanha]

Coast, caste distinctions are still observed among Christians. There are depressed classes among them and there are churches where these depressed classes are not admitted."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" Are there churches where they are not admitted at all?"

* Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—" There are churches from which non-caste Christians are excluded practically, at least some of them, I mean the depressed class people. I know of a place at Palghat where I was told low-caste Christians are not admitted into the church or school. Now I shall confine myself only to schools. So far as this school is concerned, it is impossible to get non-caste children admitted; it is confined to the caste Christians. Be that as it may, there is a difficulty always that in the schools at any rate apart from the churches the depressed classes even among Christians are not admitted. So, the difficulty might be not on account of the need of compensation for lower rates of fees which are to be received from the depressed classes but on account of caste objection. In this matter some of us sympathize with the missionaries who at much sacrifice opened schools for the benefit of the depressed classes, while the caste Christians are rather particular that their school which is more or less maintained by them to a great extent should be more or less confined to the caste Christians."

* Rao Sahib R. SRINIVASAN :—" Is it not a fact that missionaries spend all the money on educating the higher class pupils and get all conversions from the lower class people?"

* Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—" There might be some explanation for it. I shall take only one instance illustrative of what takes place. Here the missionary has got a school for the depressed classes and into that school the depressed classes are admitted. We visited both the schools, and this was a school particularly kept for the depressed classes, and in point of position it is at a convenient distance from their residences. And it is not that these missionaries devote all their time and money and energy only for the benefit of the caste people. I find the general tendency is to devote a good portion of the missionary money which they get from Europe for the benefit of the depressed classes, who may be Christians and also those who are not within the fold of Christianity."

* Mr. S. ARPUDASWAMI UDAYAR :—" Mr. President, Sir, there is some confusion in the House with reference to the treatment accorded to those who have been converted from the depressed classes. Mr. R. Srinivasan wanted to know whether these depressed classes were treated as untouchables: Speaking for the community which I represent, especially the Roman Catholic portion of it, which is 60 per cent of the Indian Christian community in the Madras Presidency, I have to say that I am ashamed to own it that the treatment accorded to the depressed classes by the caste Catholics is certainly very bad. (Hear, hear.) They are not allowed to mix with other people in their churches. A certain portion of the church is set apart for them, generally railed and marked from other portions. The difficulties raised by my friend from South Kanara with regard to the admission of the children of the depressed classes into the schools frequented by the children of caste Catholics is a real difficulty. The mission is very often forced to tolerate these things for the simple reason that if any rule is introduced there is sure to be an agitation. The persistence of this policy is due to

[Mr. S. Arpudaswami Udayar] [23rd March

the fact that the caste Catholics are very particular to maintain restriction on social grounds. They think that any relaxation may result their forfeiting the esteem of caste Hindus. So, on the one hand you have pleasant and agreeable spectacle of a caste Hindu coming out as a reformer and even orthodox Brahmans trying to elevate the depressed class while on the other you have the spectacle of people who believe in the teaching of the Fatherhood of God and the brotherhood of man keeping nearly 50 per cent of their congregation in that miserable condition. In the discussion affecting the depressed classes who happen to be Indian Christians, especially Roman Catholics, I hope my hon. Friend will remember this fact that, especially in Southern India and the East Coast as the hon. Member from South Kanara pointed out, their condition is far worse than that of an Adi-Dravida and that they should be allowed to share in the fee concessions extended to Adi-Dravida boys and girls."

* The hon. Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. PATRO :—“ Apparently there seems to be some misapprehension in the mind of the hon. Mover of this motion that compensation is not given by the Government for the half fee given by the schools. In calculating the grant-in-aid, the concession that is given to the depressed classes is calculated at the full standard rate and the grant-in-aid is fixed. The rule says that in every case where the school admits depressed classes and concession is given to the depressed classes, in estimating the grant-in-aid the Director of Public Instruction has to take into consideration the bill that is prepared by the school management for having given the fee remission. The fee income that is lost to the management on account of the depressed classes under the concessional rules is taken into consideration. Therefore, there is no difficulty or disadvantage in the matter of the education of the depressed classes.”

The motion was by leave withdrawn.

* Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—“ I beg to move .

'that the allotment of Rs. 11,13,000 for grants to non-Government secondary schools be reduced by Rs. 100.'

" This is to urge the recognition of Indian Christian clergy and pastors as secondary school teachers (if not professors in colleges) according to their education and training. I have to bring to the notice of this House that a large number of Indian Christian clergy, both Catholic and Protestant, are now entrusted not only with parochial work but with education. In South Kanara every pastor and every Catholic clergyman is bound to be a teacher as well as a pastor. We find from experience that they are fully equipped for this purpose. I shall show how the training received by the secular clergy fits them up for such work. No person is admitted into a seminary unless he is a Matriculate or a S.S.L.C. holder. After passing the Matriculation or S.S.L.C., he has to undergo a long training before he is sent out. The first two years are given to the study of Latin, if he is not already a Latin scholar. Next comes rhetoric. Lord Curzon's book on elocution deals exhaustively with rhetoric. Rhetoric is a subject that covers a wide field. It deals not only with composition but with oratory and also teaching. It appeals not only to masses but to children. So, the whole course of rhetoric is a training course very useful in teaching. Then the other courses have no bearing on education dealing as they do with philosophy, science, theology, etc. During all this time the seminaries have to do what is called preaching and teaching

Copy
depth March 1926]

[Mr. J. A. Saldanha]

As to the question of the week after week. As to Protestant pastors, I can say that they are
 are not only in theology but also in teaching and preaching. A good
 of their time is spent in teaching. So they are eminently fitted to be
 of the Government have very kindly granted some very important conces-
 sions to the Jesuit fathers who are well known and famous in the world as
 of the Society. I hope the concession given to the Jesuit fathers will be given
 to the Indian Christian clergymen and pastors. The concession made to
 the European members of the Society is this:

of the / All European members of the Society of Jesus, Indian members who are graduates and are
then / by the Superior-General of the Mission to have completed their novitiate and juniorate,
and / Indian members who are undergraduates and are likewise certified to have completed the
* / full course of study and preparation prescribed by the Society (namely, two years novitiate, two
years juniorate, and three years philosophy and science) may be ranked as if they held collegiate
Time / defined teachers' certificates.

cessio " Now, Sir, exactly corresponding courses are adopted in seminaries. I as they have got no novitiate which is asceticism ; but have got something very co like the juniorate for two years. The course of training in philosophy is two years instead of three years. So they have to undergo more or less similar courses. What I now seek is this. The Indian clergy and pastors who are being appointed to look after parishes and congregations, have to attend to education and are in charge of elementary schools. We do not claim that they should be recognized as professors. That question will arise if they are to teach in colleges. What I ask and press for is that they should be treated as secondary trained teachers' certificate holders. This request has been pressed in the local papers, but I do not know if the cuttings are sent to the hon. Minister. I believe both the associations, the S.K. Catholic Association and the Indian Christian Association, the Civil League with Protestant and Catholic members at Mangalore, made this representation to the hon. Minister when he came there. What was the reply ? The reply was that they must conform to the rules and the necessary investigation would be made. I am afraid no investigation has been made. The present district medical officer knows little of what is going on in the seminaries."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—“ What has the district medical officer to do with this question ? ”

* **MR. J. A. SALDANHA** :—"I mean the district educational officer. Most people could hardly know what takes place in the seminaries. If one undergoes training for ten years, it is a course which is longer than the course for LL.B. or M.A. Such courses are given at Mangalore, Pondicherry and Trichinopoly. Recently two Indian Christian priests who had studied in these seminaries after a short stay at Rome obtained the degree of Doctor of Divinity and another priest from Kottayam got the degree of Doctor of Philosophy. They are eminent degrees qualifying them to be professors in the colleges. Considering the high degree of culture these priests and pastors are required to attain to, I request the hon. Minister to recognize them as fit to be teachers, at least as secondary grade teachers. Then that will enable them to get the grants which they will not otherwise be entitled to."

* The hon. Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. PATRO :—“ Sir, I am very glad that the hon. Member has given so much information to this House as to the training given in the seminary at Mangalore (Mr. J. A. Saldanha: ‘also Pondicherry and Trichinopoly’) and in Pondicherry, Trichinopoly and elsewhere. No doubt, hon. Members are very much interested to know how well these brethren in charge of those institutions are doing. But we are now

[Sir A. P. Patro]

[23rd March, 1926]

concerned not so much with their courses of study in religion, philosophy and theology, but with the particular standard of education necessary, that they may be recognized as certificated teachers. The rule of the Presidency is that grants are given to institutions employing teachers who are recognized as trained teachers under certain conditions. We have a course of training to qualify themselves as teachers. Certificates are issued to them, that they are eligible to be teachers of the secondary grade, or teachers in colleges and licentiates in teaching. Therefore, if we apply the rule as they are now in force, and if we are bound to carry out these rules, then as brethren to whom reference was made so eloquently by the hon. Member from South Kanara would not come under the category of the rule, ruled out by him, and that rule will show that they have to pass an examination corresponding to our examination here, and if it is certified by the head of their order that they have undergone the necessary two years' course, then they are recognized as teachers. Even the brethren who have qualified themselves in the seminaries, if they will satisfy the rules, will be entitled to an approved teacher's certificate. The rule is:

"All European members of the Society of Jesus, Indian members who are graduates and are certified by the Superior-General of the Mission to have completed their novitiate and juniorate, and Indian members who are undergraduates and are likewise certified to have completed the full course of study and preparation prescribed by the society (namely, two years' novitiate, two years' juniorate and three years' Philosophy and Science) may be ranked as if they held collegiate trained teachers' certificates. Indian members, who are undergraduates and who are similarly certified to have completed only their novitiate and juniorate, may be ranked as if they held secondary trained teachers' certificates."

"The concession is given in favour of those members of the Society of Jesus and to the brethren who are also trained by these people. If they are graduate Indian members, they are recognized under certain conditions as having had training equivalent to the college training, and undergraduates who undergo certain courses of training are also recognized as being equivalent to secondary grade certificated teachers. Therefore, exemption is given to that particular class of people under those conditions. Otherwise, exemption cannot be given. The same view expressed by the hon. Member was pressed upon me when I was in Mangalore, and we discussed the matter thoroughly, and I had to tell the deputation that it is not possible to relax the rule and allow other people to be recognized as trained teachers. They are indeed very useful people; selfless work is done by them; service in all directions is rendered to the people: they set a noble example of work and sacrifice. But so far as educational work is concerned, we cannot recognize them as trained teachers or to be eligible for any grant under the Educational Rules, nor are the institutions in their charge entitled to any grants. Therefore, I am sure, the hon. Member will agree that if the brethren qualify themselves to come under rule 14, the Government will be prepared to give them the necessary concession of exemption, and give them approved certificates, so that when they are in charge of institutions they will become eligible for grants."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT:—"What about the people who do not belong to the Society of Jesus? Mr. Saldanha's contention was that this concession which applied only to members of the Society of Jesus should be extended to the Indian clergy."

* The hon. Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. PATRO:—"It applies only to the members of the Society of Jesus. The rule itself says: 'Indian members,

23rd March 1926]

[Sir A. P. Patro]

who are graduates and are certified by the Superior-General of the Mission to have their novitiate and juniorate, and Indian members, who are undergraduates and are likewise certified to have completed the full course of study and preparation prescribed by the society, may be ranked as if they held collegiate trained teachers' certificates. The rule with regard to the second class of men who are eligible for secondary grade teachers' certificates is: 'Indian members, who are undergraduates and who are similarly certified to have completed their novitiate and juniorate, may be ranked as if they held secondary trained teachers' certificates.' So under this rule, it is absolutely necessary that in order to get the exemption which is given to the members of the Society of Jesus they should qualify themselves for the certificate and then they will be entitled to ask for grants-in-aid."

* Mr. J. A. SALDANHA:—"These rules apply only to European and Indian members of the Society of Jesus. I want to know whether a similar concession can be given to Indian clergy who are not members of the society. I ask for a similar concession to be given to the secular clergy where they can get a certificate of that sort."

* The hon. Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. PATRO:—"It is apparent, Sir, that there is a difference between the two classes of people. In the first class they belong to the Society of Jesus; it is an order the members of which are trained under certain conditions where there is strict discipline, and educational instruction. In the case of the secular members, there is not that discipline and culture necessary to qualify themselves to come under this rule. Therefore the secular members cannot claim to be so well qualified as the brethren in the Society of Jesus, and they are therefore not entitled to be recognized as teachers."

* Mr. J. A. SALDANHA:—"Still I have to make one request to the hon. the Minister. Of course, what is called the religious order of the Society of Jesus is bound by certain vows such as poverty and obedience, by which the secular clergy are not bound. So far as the necessary culture that is required to qualify them to be teachers is concerned, they are fit to be recognized and I have no doubt the Indian clergy receive practically the same amount of culture. This is a point which requires further investigation, though we can talk for hours together here about it. What I request is that the hon. the Minister should order an investigation into the matter and see whether the secular clergy who have received practically the same amount of education and training as the members of the Society of Jesus should not be entitled to the very limited concession which I claim for them."

* The hon. Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. PATRO:—"With regard to the last point suggested by the hon. the Mover, we have investigated the whole thing . . ."

* Mr. J. A. SALDANHA:—"The hon. Member did not take that into consideration then."

* The hon. Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. PATRO:—"We have revised the rules and published them in the *Fort St. George Gazette*, as hon. Members will see from G.O. No. 1212, dated 24th July 1924. These rules were revised by a special officer, and they have also been brought up to date. The rules and the appendices were published in the *Fort St. George Gazette*, and received

[Sir A. P. Patro]

[23rd March 1926]

the approval of Government on the 24th July 1924. These rules were discussed before final orders were passed. I am afraid that nothing more could be done."

* Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—"This question was never raised before. I feel that the hon. Member is not very much inclined to consider it. I am sorry however to have to withdraw the motion."

The motion was by leave withdrawn.

* Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—"I beg leave to move the motion standing against my name, viz.,

'that the allotment of Rs. 9,17,400 for grants to local bodies for secondary education be reduced by Rs. 101.'

"The object, as stated on the agenda paper, is to ask the Government to provincialize at least the cadre of the headmasters of the schools whose net cost is guaranteed by the Government in whole or in part and standardize the scale of pay of teachers in the schools in districts where conditions are more or less similar. Sir, in August last, I asked the hon. the Minister to furnish a statement showing the high schools in the Presidency whose net cost was being borne by the Government either in whole or in part, and the scale of pay of the headmasters concerned, and he furnished to this House a list containing the names of 62 such high schools whose net cost was borne by the Government either wholly or in part. If you refer to that statement, Sir, you will find that except for one or two schools all of them are either municipal schools or board schools. The scale of pay varies considerably from school to school. The minimum in some schools is Rs. 125, then for other schools Rs. 150, and as regards the maximum that again varies in several cases. In some schools whose headmaster's pay stands at Rs. 125, there is no scale to rise to; in other schools the maximum is prescribed at Rs. 150, and in some other schools at Rs. 175, yet in other schools at Rs. 200. The increment also varies; in some schools the pay rises by an increment of Rs. 5 every year, and in other schools by an increment of Rs. 10 every year. Now, Sir, I want that all these anomalies should be removed. These schools may legitimately be considered to be Government schools. Because the Government have made themselves responsible to defray the deficits of those schools. Now, Sir, there is no principle, so far as I can see, in the difference between the different scales of pay obtaining in the schools. Taking, for example, districts which are more or less similarly constituted in all respects, I find the headmaster of a municipal school at Anantapur starts with Rs. 125 and ends with Rs. 150. Anantapur, Sir, is the headquarters of a district, and naturally living is more costly there than that in the mufassal. Now, Nandalur is a small place in the Cuddapah district, and there the headmaster has also the higher scale of pay rising up to Rs. 175. Why should headmasters of schools like those at Bellary and Anantapur stop with Rs. 150, while headmasters of comparatively less costly and less important places are allowed to draw Rs. 175 as in the case of Nandalur, Rs. 200 in the case of Penukonda, Kurnool and Cuddapah? These anomalies, Sir, I should like to remove.

4 p.m. "I think also that this provincialization would be in the interests of the boys, and of the headmasters, at any rate, of the schools of the municipalities. I say advisedly boys, because the prospects as they are now are not very reassuring. Provincialization adds to the security of the appointments and

[23rd March 1926] [Mr. A. Ranganatha Mudaliyar]

to the dignity of the office. A better class of headmasters are sure to be recruited and the schools I have no doubt will be more popular than they are at present. I say obviously in the interests of headmasters, because they would prefer to hold an office in the cadre which is provincial. Their office at any rate would be more secure than it is at present, and the municipalities also if they consider the aspect correctly need take no exception to my proposal. They may think that in so far as their powers of appointment are taken away, it is an intrusion on their powers, but what happens now in the case of those schools whose headmasters are under the influence of the municipal chairman is not satisfactory. The chairman cannot transfer the headmaster to any other place, because he has got only one school, in most cases. If, on the other hand, the headmasters are given a provincial status, it would be possible to get the headmaster transferred from one place to another, so that he may be tried elsewhere before he is finally dismissed or severely dealt with.

"So, Sir, considered from any aspect of view, I think the provincialization at least of the headmasters seems to be a desirable step and a step in the right direction. I move therefore the motion standing in my name."

* The hon. Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. PATRO :—"Sir, in regard to the net cost system of schools, there seems to be a mistaken idea. The net cost system was based on a calculation of revenue and expenditure of the school at the time when it was proposed to be taken up under the net cost system. If a municipality or local board was not able to maintain an institution either on account of the fall in the revenue or on account of rise in expenditure, it approaches the Government and says: This high school serves a real purpose in the locality but the municipal or local finance is not able to maintain it and we are about to close it; therefore the Government should come to the relief of the local area. When Government is thus approached, the question as to the necessity of the school is first considered and if the District Educational Officer or the Director is satisfied that the school serves a real purpose in that locality, the Government then takes up the question whether net cost of the school should be paid. In other words, the existing scale of salaries and the existing scale of expenditure is accepted as the criterion and as the standard. We cannot therefore now say: Because there are differences in various schools in regard to school fees and salaries paid to their teachers, therefore equalize it, provincialize them. Are Government to undertake the heavier liability in addition to the net cost of the school? It will be throwing an additional burden, and, saying that, even when we increase the salaries of the teachers, we should meet the expenditure; that is not what the net cost system implies. At the time when a local body employed an headmaster or an assistant master they entered into an agreement or contract with him. In every institution managed or maintained by a local body, there is an agreement or arrangement entered into between the local body and the teacher. Therefore the inequalities must exist according to the condition of the locality or a particular district. Where the supply is more than the demand, necessarily the local body fixes a salary much lower than is fixed by another local body where the supply is not able to meet the demand. Therefore the hon. the Mover's suggestion that there are inequalities in this way and the remedy is to increase the salaries in every area, to equalize them and provincialize them, so that the inequalities may be removed, is not at all a fair

[Sir A. P. Patro]

[23rd March 1926]

proposition. There is an understanding or arrangement entered into by these local bodies with the teachers. After all the responsibility will be on the local body; if they want to increase the salaries they must find out the money from their revenues, and the net cost system will entirely be frustrated if the principle advocated by the hon. Member is adopted.

"Then, Sir, with regard to the provincialization of the headmasters, in the way suggested, I would refer him to the condition of things in net cost schools. There are Ceded districts which are backward in the matter of education and where the scale of salaries offered by the local bodies is different from the scale of salaries either in Madura, or in Tanjore or in Godavari. And if those headmasters are to be provincialized, you are encouraging inequality in the areas where the supply is adequate to the demand and fixing a standard which it will be difficult for other institutions, and aided agencies to carry on. In the different schools, mission and non-mission, a certain scale of salary is fixed. If you provincialize the salary."

* Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR:—"I have said definitely standardize the scale of pay of teachers in the schools in districts where conditions are more or less similar."

* The hon. Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. PATRO:—"That makes the position worse. More or less similar; how are you going to decide it unless you have an educational survey made. The educational survey will have to fix it not with reference to the district only but with reference to every single institution that exists. The circumstances relating to these institutions differ. At the time of the adoption of the net cost system in regard to each individual institution, we took the facts and circumstances of the case and adopted the scale. Now to go back upon it and to provincialize the institutions will really be placing a handicap on the aided agency who cannot afford to pay the same standard rate. In regard to secondary education, Government depends largely on the co-operation of the aided agencies and it would be discouraging aided agencies if we are to provincialize them; because a certain school has been taken simply out of necessity under the net cost system, the next door aided agency will suffer. Provincialization in certain schools is not at all a practical problem."

"The proposal to provincialize the headmasters in board and municipal high schools was suggested first by the Local and Municipal Conference of 1920; the suggestion was 'that a provincial service be constituted for headmasters of high schools subject to the same conditions as regards postings and transfers as in the case of medical officers'. That was the recommendation of the municipal conference held in 1920. In discussing that problem, there was great difference of opinion. Some of us thought that it was not practicable to place the headmasters on the same basis as the medical officers in a district are placed. Even subordinate medical officers are not provincialized, and you find in the subordinate educational service the scales of pay are very different. If provincialization of headmasters is sought to be made, we have four classes in the Educational department, and in what class are we to place them? A new scale will have to be invented for the benefit of these headmasters who come under this net cost system. That is to say, because the Government consider that a particular school is to be helped or a particular local area is to be helped educationally, you want to place further

[23rd March 1926]

[Sir A. P. Patro]

liability on the Government. You say 'you have accepted the net cost system, therefore you pay them and provincialize the headmasters', which will be at the cost of the aided agencies whose income must be reduced in order to supplement the income of the local bodies. I am not in favour of encouraging higher education through the local bodies. I want aided agencies to be more and more helped, and more liberally helped. Aided agency is a great force in the Madras Presidency. It has been doing great service and we have not been able to pay as much as we ought to for the encouragement of aided agencies. If local boards and municipalities are to be aided in this manner you are placing a handicap on the expansion of education through aided agencies, which as I said is a better agency and is less costly to the provincial revenues. The tax-payer need not pay so much to the aided agency as he is now paying to the local bodies. We have had an investigation made recently by a special officer appointed to take a survey of secondary education, and the report has just reached the Government. We are to see whether there is any need for any high school in a particular locality. We have seen in certain districts, high schools which are struggling for existence; after working for two or three years under local bodies they say they are not able to meet the expenditure on the school, and so Government have to take them over and place them under the net cost system. There are five or six districts in which the system prevails and we are not able to distribute the grants liberally to the aided agencies. We have placed a special officer to systematize the thing and eliminate such institutions which are not necessary and are struggling for existence. Take Kistna, Madura, Trichinopoly and Godavari. The reports show that there are high schools started by local bodies which are in a very miserable condition. In some instances there are no play-grounds, no equipment of any kind worth the name and it hardly fits that such institutions should be called high schools and money expended on them. The local bodies come and say, 'Well, these are the high schools; the headmasters and assistants want certain scales of pay, we are not able to give them for the revenue is not sufficient, therefore take them over under the net cost system.' We find it very difficult to cope with such demands. Therefore a thorough review has been made recently and as soon as the report is received we are going to take action, and such of them as are not needed, such of them as are ill-equipped will be altogether removed and their grant given to the aided agencies for development of education in that area. This being our procedure and our policy, it seems impossible that I can accept the resolution of the hon. the Mover."

"The hon. Member suggests that at least the cadre of the headmasters of the schools whose net cost is guaranteed by the Government in whole or in part should be provincialized. Of the 211 local board and municipal secondary schools, the Government contribute towards the net cost, in whole or in part, of 183 schools."

* Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR:—"The list furnished to me only mentions 63 schools."

* The hon. Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. PATRO:—"That is an old list probably. Here you find complete statistics. If the headmasters of these 183 schools are to be provincialized, the headmasters of the remaining schools and the headmasters of aided schools will have to suffer. This is a proposition which the House will see cannot be accepted."

[Sir A. P. Patro]

[23rd March 1926]

4-15
p.m.

"The hon. Member has also stated that the scale of pay of teachers in the schools in districts where conditions are more or less similar may be standardized at the expense of the Government, and that the extra cost on this account would have to be met from provincial funds. The limitations on our educational fund I was explaining to this hon. House at the time of the general discussion of the budget. We have got a limited fund and we have to make the best use of this fund. Therefore we cannot take up such fanciful things as provincialization and so on, and spend our resources on schemes which do not go to expand education on proper lines. In one and the same district there may be schools financed by the Government and financed also by the local bodies. If the pay of the latter is raised the pay of the former will have to be raised. At present the pay in each school is fixed with reference to the condition of each school and the locality in which it is situated and it is open to the local bodies to make such alterations in the scale of pay and other items of expenditure connected with their schools as are necessary to keep them within the limits sanctioned by the Government. Any reasonable additional expenditure will be taken into account only at the end of three years. Therefore it seems to me that the standardization of scales is not a primary consideration of educational development.

"I beg leave to explain the fixed subsidy system further so as to avoid any future misapprehension on the question. Hitherto each management has been applying for grants very often and under the net cost system even the expenditure of a rupee will have to receive the sanction of the Government. There is no freedom for the local bodies or for the management in the matter of expenditure. Previously frequent complaints were made that local bodies had to wait for the sanction of the Government for months together for making even the necessary expenditure. It was thought therefore that local bodies should be given greater freedom, at the same time placing certain limitations on their expenditure. Formerly they used to incur expenditure without any reference to Government and afterwards approach the Government often and often for subsidies. It was found very difficult to help the local bodies very often and hence it was thought that the system would be better placed by taking the average revenue and expenditure for past years and then fixing a standard of expenditure which the local bodies were asked to adopt and beyond which they could not go. Supposing they incurred a reasonable additional expenditure during a certain period, they would have to apply to the Government at the end of that period for funds. In the meantime, they will have to meet their expenditure from other sources. Thus they are enabled to know within a period of three years where they are so far as their finances are concerned. The fixed subsidy system while placing them at a greater disadvantage assured to them the amount of subsidy they would be able to get thus giving them a guide as to where they are in regard to their finances and whether they can approach the Government at the end of a certain period for any more grant.

"I may assure the hon. Member from Bellary that all the observations made by him will be carefully considered by the Government. But I may say it is not possible to provincialize the posts of headmasters in areas which are similar in conditions. We are examining the question with regard to the educational aspect by a committee known as the Secondary Education Committee. A special officer has been appointed for the purpose of reviewing the situation and making a survey of the conditions of secondary education in this Presidency. When these matters are considered finally by

23rd March 1926]

[Sir A. P. Patro]

the Government we hope that the system of secondary education will be placed on a very sound basis."

* Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR:—"The hon. the Minister for Education in the course of his remarks admitted that the reason for having undertaken to meet the net cost of these schools was the inability of the local bodies to maintain them. When an application was made to the hon. the Minister he went into the whole question and thoroughly examined whether or not there was any need for these schools in the places where they were required to be set up, and whether, in some places where there were aided institutions, they fulfilled the purpose for which new schools were sought to be established and found that in the case of new schools which were proposed to be established or the old schools which approached the Government for help, there was absolute necessity to help them and therefore undertook to pay the net cost thereof. Now, Sir, my point is this: having so far gone into the question and satisfied himself as to the absolute necessity of defraying the net cost thereof it is up to him to see that the staff gets a reasonable pay and the boys are assured a satisfactory course of instruction. That is my complaint in the matter. There is no dispute about the fact that schools are needed in these places, and if schools are allowed to continue, I think it is up to the Government to see that the teachers of these schools receive an adequate pay so that proper teachers may be recruited and satisfactory instruction given to the boys. Sir, you may say, why not local bodies provide money? If they were in a position to provide the necessary funds they would not have approached the Government for the same.

"Sir, the hon. the Minister said that the conditions of each district varied and that he would have to undertake a very elaborate survey and find out the scale of pay suited to each district. I am surprised at that argument. In other departments of Government, for instance in the Collectorates of all mufassal districts, the same scale of pay is prevailing, and this scale will have to be revised, because, according to the Minister, the conditions in no two districts resemble and the members of the staff in one district should be on a scale of Rs. 30-40 and in another place from Rs. 25-30 and so on. Surely that argument can be stretched too far. I ask whether by any conceivable standard it can be said that the conditions in the Ceded districts differ much? I have given the example of Kurnool, Cuddapah, Bellary and Anantapur. Here there are four schools in the headquarters of the districts. How can you justify that the headmaster in one school can be kept on a scale of Rs. 125-150, in another on a scale of Rs. 150-175 and in the third on Rs. 150-200? The conditions are similar and I do not think the hon. the Minister can seriously say that the conditions are not what they are described to be. The other day when it was complained that the scale of pay obtaining in the Pennu-konda Board school was low, the hon. the Minister increased the scale of pay. He must have some reasons for raising the scale of pay. Because in certain schools there are old headmasters holding offices for a long number of years and they have got long association with the schools and it is not possible for them to throw out their jobs, can that be made the reason for not increasing their pay? Simply because Government have entered into agreements with the local bodies concerned under conditions which no longer exist now, is it fair to keep the teachers on the same low scale of pay? This reminds one of the story of Shylock and his pound of flesh. I hope, Sir, the Government will take a broader view of the question and see whether or not a proper

[Mr. A. Ranganatha Mudaliyar] [23rd March 1926]

scale is desirable in these districts. If they think that there are insuperable objections and difficulties in the way of fixing the highest scale, by all means let them give up that idea. But for goodness sake let there be only one cadre of a uniform scale of pay—let it be any cadre—and let there be no room for heart-burning between one teacher and another. On no account should there be a difference in pay between one teacher and another in similarly situated districts. So far as I have been able to gather I do not see anything in his speech which goes to show that the hon. the Minister for Education is going to act from this point of view, and fix a reasonable scale of pay in these schools where the conditions, I may assure him, do not differ.”

* The hon. Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. PATRO :—“The hon. the Mover says that in other departments there is a scale of pay and asks why it should not be adopted here? But I may tell him that he has forgotten the fact that there is a time-scale of pay in regard to Government service. This is not Government service, nor do they come under a particular cadre of Government service. These are all persons employed by the local bodies to do their work. The pay is paid out of the local funds and an agreement is entered into between the local body concerned and the teachers by which the latter are made to understand that they will be paid only a particular scale and they accept it. Therefore the scale of pay having been determined by agreement between the local body and the teacher it is not fair to ask the Government to say why a local body has fixed a particular standard which is not fair and ask that the balance should be paid by the Government. I am sure the House will realize that this is not a fair proposition. You cannot now ask the Government to make up the deficit because the Government have undertaken to pay the net cost of the expenditure.

“Then the hon. the Mover said that in the interests of the boys it was necessary that Government should pay a higher scale of pay. If in the interests of boys you fix a particular scale at a certain time, supposing the teacher comes to you at another time and says that the scale should be revised, then what could you do? I submit to the House that the scale adopted by the local bodies or the aided agencies is regulated purely on grounds of supply and demand, and in certain managements if unconscionable bargains have been made by them with the teachers and their scales of pay have been fixed very low, then the Government may interfere with such managements and set right the matter. It was said that teachers were asked to sign for a higher pay than they were actually receiving. We have taken steps to see that managements where such irregularities exist, are brought to order. If there is any such case, the hon. Member can bring it to the notice of the Government, and we are prepared to consider it. I am, unable to accept his motion.”

4-30
P.M.

* Mr. K. SITARAMA REDDIYAR :—“Sir, you will see that the next motion for reduction of the grant is against my name. I want to elicit from the hon. Minister some information about his policy of the net cost system, the policy which he is going to adopt in future years. He said just now that he appointed a committee to investigate the matter and that it has surveyed the whole situation and that the whole matter will assume a final shape very soon. If the hon. Minister would tell me when the committee was formed and what were its terms of reference and when the result of its labours will be made public I do not propose to move the motion that stands in my name.”

23rd March 1926]

* The hon. Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. PATRO :—“Sir, the distribution of the grant-in-aid is a difficult matter. I am aware that there has been agitation in several directions for revising the conditions of the grant-in-aid. Before we do so it is necessary for us to ascertain what are the schools that are in existence to which we should give grant-in-aid, and the schools which are under the management of the local bodies and which are aided institutions. The special officer has submitted his report recently and we have to see in what condition these institutions are, how many of them can be accepted for giving grant-in-aid and how many not. The Secondary Education Committee is now sitting and the next meeting will be held in June or July. When they make their recommendations and the financial effects of their recommendations are known the administrative department will have to consider them. I cannot at present say how many months it will take; but it is a very important matter and I wish to deal with it as early as possible.”

* Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—“Sir, I should like to press my motion. In doing so I want to say this . . .”

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—“The hon. Member is making two speeches by way of reply.”

* Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—“Just as you please, Sir, I press my motion.”

The motion was put to the House and lost.

* Mr. R. VEERIAN :—“I beg to move

‘that the allotment of Rs. 9,17,400 for grants to local bodies for secondary education be reduced by Rs. 100.’

“I want to raise the question of indiscriminately giving school-fee concessions to pupils of communities other than those mentioned in rule 92 of the Madras Educational Rules. In G.O. No. 855, dated 19th May 1925, it is mentioned that the concession is applicable only to the backward and depressed classes. But several instances of breach of this rule have come to my notice and I want to mention only one. In the case of the Coimbatore Municipality there are only a very few pupils of the depressed classes reading in their secondary schools. But I find that pupils of the forward classes also are receiving scholarships and are getting concession. I think, Sir, the local bodies cannot make this remission of fees without the approval of the Director of Public Instruction. The local bodies can only recommend the cases for the consideration of the District Educational Officer. If the local bodies think that there are pupils in other communities, Brahmans and Non-Brahmans, Vellalas also who are equally poor, even then they cannot take advantage of this rule. Even the Caste Hindu Vellala boys are not eligible to get this concession. Such being the case, how can they give full remission of fees in the case of Brahmans? The Adi-Dravida boys apply for concession; but for want of godfathers they do not get it. I hope the hon. Minister will look into the matter and set right the defect.”

* The hon. Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. PATRO :—“Sir, the hon. Mover has stated that rule 92 has been misused in a particular municipality and fee-concessions are given to pupils of communities which are not entitled to this concession. If a municipality abuses this rule and gives concession to pupils who are not entitled to receive the concession under this rule, then in calculating the amount of help or subsidy to the local body or the municipality

[Sir A. P. Patro]

[23rd March 1926]

we take it that the student in question has paid his full fees and the income of the school is measured accordingly. Thus by the abuse of this rule it is the municipality itself that suffers. I am sure the Coimbatore Municipality will not be so unwise as to misuse this rule; because they know that they could not derive any profit by that course. The rule reads thus:

‘92. *Exceptions.*—In institutions of a professional or special character, fees shall be levied at such rates as may from time to time be sanctioned by the Director or as may be prescribed by any rules sanctioned by Government for them. Fees in all institutions shall be levied at half the standard rates from Muhammadans, Oriyas, girls and members of backward classes and castes whose parents or guardians are so poor that the grant of this concession is necessary to enable them to continue their studies.

“Of course in cases of doubt such pupils have to produce poverty certificates to show that they are really poor and cannot afford to pay the full fees. The backward classes and castes are specified in a list that is attached to this rule. If concession is given to any class or caste that is not recognized in the list attached it is illegal and it is an abuse of rule 92 and Government will certainly not recognize such concessions in giving aid to such institutions.”

* The hon. the PRESIDENT:—“Is the hon. Member withdrawing the motion?”

* Mr. R. VEERIAN:—“For the information of the hon. Minister I may mention that such pupils get full concession there.”

* The hon. the PRESIDENT:—“The hon. Minister has already said that the institutions do so at their own risk.”

The motion was by leave withdrawn.

* The hon. the PRESIDENT:—“The hon. Member Mr. Saldanha cannot move motions 574 and 575 on the paper under this Demand. They relate to the Local Self-Government Department.”

* Mr. MUHAMMAD GHOUSE MIAN SAHIB:—“Sir, I beg to move

‘that the allotment of Rs. 22,54,600 for secondary education be reduced by Rs. 1,000.’

“Sir, for want of time I want to confine myself to a mere statement of the facts without a great elaboration.

“Firstly, I want that Muhammadan education should be separated from the main cadre and put in charge of a separate officer under the Director of Public Instruction. Mr. President, the elementary education of Muhammadan boys is under the charge of a Muhammadan inspector and this officer has got other duties also to do besides this such as propaganda work to bring into recognition and aid schools which are in the nature of pial schools and other schools in which religious training is given to Muhammadan boys. The deputy inspectors in charge of the Muhammadan ranges are invested with the powers of recommending such recognition and admission to the grant-in-aid. But whenever they send in their recommendations for recognition or amalgamation the District Educational Officers who are not generally Muhammadans do not sympathise with the aspirations of the Muhammadan community.”

* The hon. the PRESIDENT:—“If the hon. Mover wants a reply from the Government, he must be brief in his remarks. There are hardly four minutes more for the time allotted to the discussion of the Demand to expire.”

[23rd March 1926]

* Mr. MUHAMMAD GHOUSE MIAN SAHIB:—“Therefore, instead of asking these deputy inspectors to work under them, we may appoint a separate Muhammadan District Educational Officer for two or three Muhammadan ranges under whom these deputy inspectors will work. At that rate three or four districts might be brought under one District Officer. For the whole Presidency there need not be more than four or five District Educational Officers. I request the Government also to have an additional Deputy Director as they had in recent years in the person of Mr. Abdur Rahim who was transferred to one of the district charges. He was an experienced Muhammadan officer. I want the segregation of Muslim educational policy so that there might be some sympathy for the advancement of Muhammadan education.

“Secondly, Sir, with reference to the reorganization scheme, there has been a separation of the cadre of school assistants from that of deputy inspectors. I request that in future the strict separation of the two cadres might be abandoned and transfers from one cadre to another made possible. This will be very useful.

“Thirdly, Sir, I wish to draw the attention of the Government to the withdrawal of the allowances received by school assistants, a sum of Rs. 25 to Rs. 50.

“At the time when these officers were confirmed their allowances were withdrawn. At the time when this allowance was given, the understanding was that it would be consolidated with their pay when they were confirmed. I shall now discuss the educational policy.”

* The hon. the PRESIDENT:—“The time for this grant has expired.

“The question is that the Government be granted a sum of 148.98 lakhs of rupees under Demand XIX—Education (Transferred).”

The Demand was put to the House and carried. The Grant was made.

DEMAND XX—MEDICAL.

* The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL:—“Sir, on the recommendation of His Excellency the Governor, I beg to move

‘the grant for Rs. 58.47 lakhs under Demand XX—Medical’.

* Rao Bahadur C. NATESA MUDALIYAR:—“I move

‘that the allotment of Rs. 5,86,100 for medical establishments be reduced by Rs. 100.’

“Sir, I only wish to bring to the notice of the hon. the Minister the disabilities under which registered private medical practitioners are labouring now-a-days. Never were the private medical practitioners so humiliated as they are to-day. Sir, their medical certificates are not recognized generally by the heads of departments. Most of their certificates are sent for countersignature. The medical practitioner attends to the case and he knows the case much better than the District Surgeon to whom the medical certificate is sent for countersignature. Moreover, Sir, a private medical practitioner cannot prescribe an intoxicating drug without filling up a form that is supplied to him by the Collector of Madras. He cannot prescribe even half a dram of brandy, that is, 30 drops in cases of emergency without licence. These are the disabilities of the private medical practitioner which I hope the hon. the Chief Minister will look into

(At this stage the hon. the Deputy President took the chair.)

[Mr. O. Natesa Mudaliyar]

[23rd March 1926]

"Moreover, Sir, the Government generally insist upon getting physical fitness certificates from District Surgeons and not from private medical practitioners. The Staff Selection Board also insists upon a physical fitness certificate from a District Surgeon. Many a bright boy is prevented from appearing for the Staff Selection Board examination because he is not able to pay Rs. 15 which is required for getting a medical certificate from a District Surgeon.

"Coming now to the rural scheme, I wish to point out that the subsidy given to rural medical men is not adequate. When a medical practitioner settles himself in a place when the Government propose to establish a rural dispensary in that place, he is asked to shift himself to some other place. That defeats the object with which the rural scheme was started.

"On more than one occasion it was found out that when a Medical Board decides that a man was not fit for service, other expert Medical officers gave certificates that that man was fit for service. Recently there was a case in which a man was made unfit for service not because he was suffering from any disease but because he took two years' leave out of six years of his service. It is not the concern of the Medical Board to see whether he took two years' leave. The Medical Board is to concern itself with the fact whether he was suffering from any disease. Afterwards the very same man was certified by some other experienced expert Medical officers to be fit not only for civil service but for military service also. In hard cases it is better that the Government come forward and constitute other Medical Boards to examine the parties. The man thrown out by the Medical Board was drawing a pay of Rs. 105. This young man is left in the world without anything to do.

"Coming to honorary surgeonship, private medical practitioners should be made efficient for recruiting honorary surgeons and physicians for the various hospitals. To make private practitioners efficient, the Government should restrict consulting practice alone to those who are employed in various Government hospitals as honorary surgeons and physicians; or the Government should take the students that pass out from the Medical College as honorary house surgeons and promote them to honorary assistant surgeonship. Then they will be fit for honorary surgeonship. It is not necessary that there should be only one surgeon, one assistant surgeon and one house surgeon for a ward. There may be many house surgeons and many assistant surgeons for each ward. I learn that this practice is adopted in England. I appeal to the hon. the Minister that as soon as students graduate themselves they may be taken as honorary house surgeons for the various hospitals. I request the hon. Minister to look to these things."

* The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL :— "Mr. Deputy President, Sir, the hon. Member for Madras has tried to make out a case that the private medical practitioners are suffering under great disabilities and he has pointedly mentioned what those disabilities are. To be brief, Sir, the disabilities he has referred to are that their certificates are not being valued by the departments. Secondly, he said that they were not made members of the standing committee from which Medical Boards were formed. Thirdly, he stated that the medical officers in rural areas who are given subsidies do not get sufficient remuneration. He has also referred to the question of appointing honorary surgeons to Government hospitals.

23rd March 1926]

[The Raja of Panagal]

"Taking the first of these alleged disabilities into consideration, I may say that the question as to whether it is a disability was carefully examined by the Government and it was considered that if the certificates were to be obtained from Medical officers holding appointments under the Government, they could be held responsible for the certificates they give. With regard to the question of constituting Medical Boards with private practitioners as members, I think it may be possible that some of them may be made members of the standing committee from which boards are constituted. These men may then have a chance to sit along with the Government Medical officers on the Boards. At present, there is a standing committee consisting of the four Presidency Surgeons and the Medical officers in charge of the Government hospitals in the Presidency. My hon. Friend suggests that private medical practitioners may also be made members of this standing committee so that when the Board is constituted they would have a chance of being members of the Board. I shall be glad to have this suggestion examined by the Surgeon-General.

"Then as to the subsidies paid to the Medical officers in rural areas, the Government, after careful consideration, fixed the rates at Rs. 600 and 400—Rs. 600 in the case of Medical graduates and Rs. 400 in the case of Licentiated Medical Practitioners. Representations were made by local boards that the subsidy was not sufficiently attractive and that it was difficult to secure the services of medical men under the conditions prescribed by the Government. The Government refused to raise the subsidy. They, however, informed the local boards that, if they found it difficult to secure the services of medical men who settle down in villages, they might in special circumstances give additional subsidy from their own resources.

"In regard to the appointment of house surgeons for Government hospitals at present, Medical graduates as soon as they take their degrees are taken in as house surgeons. The appointment of honorary surgeons is still in its experimental stage; there are just at present 12 sanctioned appointments. Out of 12 only 7 are fitted. The Surgeon-General has been addressed to report why he was not able to secure private medical practitioners for the remaining places. Recently some of these honorary officers complained that the term of one year was too short and the Government have agreed to allow them to continue only subject to the condition that if at any time the Government want to dispense with their services they can do so after giving notice of three months. If the honorary medical officers do not want to continue as honorary officers, they have to give three months' notice. They also requested that they should have telephonic connections at Government cost. The Government thought that there was no necessity to provide them with telephones. They further requested that if any remarks were made on them by the Superintendents of Hospitals, they should be given copies of those remarks. The Government compelled with this request. In these circumstances, I do not think my hon. Friend will press the motion."

* Rao Bahadur C. NATESA MUDALIYAR :—"I thank, Sir, the hon. the Minister for all the information that he has given. I request him to consider the case of private medical practitioners, at least of those of certain standing and experience and let them be made equal to the District Surgeons so that their certificates will not be sent for countersignature. It is humiliating that our certificates should be sent for countersignature. It is the feeling of

[Mr. C. Natesa Mudaliyar] [23rd March 1926]

every private medical practitioner that he is not treated well by the Government. If he will consider that question I shall be very much obliged to the hon. the Chief Minister. I request him to give to the honorary surgeons all the privileges which the Government give to the permanent Surgeons."

The motion was, by leave, withdrawn.

The House then adjourned to meet again at 11 a.m. the next day.

R. V. KRISHNA AYYAR,
Secretary to the Legislative Council.

APPENDIX I.

[Vide answer to question No. 1747 asked by the Raja of Ramnad at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on the 23rd March 1926, page 503 supra.]

Copy of rule 20 of the Government Servants' Conduct Rules.

Criticism of Government and publication of information or opinion upon matters relating to foreign countries.—A Government servant may not publish in his own name—

- (a) any statement of fact or opinion which may embarrass the relations between Government and the people of India or any sections of the people;
- (b) any statement of fact or opinion concerning the policy or affairs of, or negotiations with, a foreign country which may embarrass the relations between such country and the British or Indian Government.

A Government servant who intends to publish a statement which may be considered to fall within this rule shall submit a proof thereof and shall obtain the permission of Government before publication.

APPENDIX II.

[Vide item III, "Communications to the Council" at page 510 supra.]

G.O. No. 165, Development, dated 2nd February 1926.

READ—the following papers:—

I

Letter from E. F. THOMAS, Esq., C.I.E., I.C.S., Director of Industries, to the Secretary to Government, Development Department (through the Accountant-General), dated Madras, the 9th October 1925, No. 252-E.

I have the honour to forward herewith the balance sheet, profit and loss account and the manufacturing and trading accounts of the Kerala Soap Institute, Calicut, for the quarter ending 30th June 1925. Of the amount of Rs. 11,792-1-6 shown as doubtful debts, a decree has been obtained for a sum of Rs. 2,441-7-0 while suits have been filed in respect of a further amount of Rs. 8,155-15-5 which excludes the security deposit of Rs. 2,000 furnished by A. Kasipathi. My remarks on the account will be forwarded to Government separately.

23rd March 1926]

ENCLOSURES THE KERALA SOAP INSTITUTE, CALICUT.

Balance Sheet as at 30th June 1925.

CAPITAL AND LIABILITIES.		PROPERTY AND ASSETS.	
RS.	A. P.	RS.	A. P.
Capital—		Fixed capital expenditure—	
Government of Madras—		Government land for the Institute—	
As per last balance sheet—		As per valuation as at 31st March 1924.	25,656 0 0
Balance ..	3,01,873 1 1	Buildings—	
Working capital ..	50,000 0 0	As per valuation as at 31st March 1924 and additions to date.	94,570 14 6
	3,51,873 1 1	Less depreciation—	
Reserve for bad and doubtful debts—		As per last balance sheet.	3,554 14 6
As per last balance sheet.	1,750 0 0	For the quarter ..	806 0 0
Add credit balances written off.	258 11 2		4,360 14 6
	2,008 11 2	Plant and machinery—	
Less debit balances written off.	20 2 8	As per valuation as at 31st March 1924 and additions to date.	36,099 12 2
Transferred to profit and loss account on stock returned.	667 15 6	Less depreciation—	
	688 2 2	As per last balance sheet.	3,436 6 6
	1,320 9 0	For the quarter ..	903 5 8
			4,339 12 2
Liabilities—		Furniture and fittings—	
For goods supplied ..	834 9 7	As per valuation as at 31st March 1924.	2,680 0 0
For expenses (local) ..	4,690 0 4	Less depreciation—	
For customers' credit balances.	368 5 9	As per last balance sheet.	268 0 0
For moiety of Director's salary, etc. (Government).	1,227 5 0	For the quarter ..	67 0 0
For audit fees (Government).	750 0 0		335 0 0
For contribution regarding leave and pension allowance (Government).	1,125 0 0		2,345 0 0
	8,995 5 8		1,49,971 0 0
Carried over ..	3,62,188 15 9	Carried over ..	1,49,971 0 0

Balance Sheet as at 30th June 1925--cont.

CAPITAL AND LIABILITIES--cont.		PROPERTY AND ASSETS--cont.	
RS. A. P.	RS. A. P.	RS. A. P.	RS. A. P.
Brought forward ..	3,62,188 15 9	Brought forward ..	1,49,971 0 0
Security of deposits invested per contra--		Roads, less depreciation ..	2,085 0 0
Store-keeper ..	1,000 0 0	Laboratory apparatus, less depreciation ..	5,416 0 0
Late traveller--Kasipati ..	2,000 0 0	Library books, as per valuation ..	100 0 0
Firewood contractor ..	200 0 0	Loose tools, at valuation ..	364 0 0
Profit and loss account--			
	23,164 2 9	Stores and raw materials--	
	3,284 11 1	Soda ash at Rs. 5 per cwt. ..	8,534 2 10
	19,879 7 8	Perfumes, essential oils and colours ..	3,043 3 6
		Other raw materials ..	37,889 12 10
		Packing materials, firewood, etc. ..	8,478 15 7
			57,896 2 9
		Soap basis--	
		Washwell ..	24,563 15 8
		Toilet ..	2,164 4 6
		Yellow bar ..	5,341 8 0
		Experimental bar ..	1,795 5 7
		Glycerine ..	2,068 4 3
			36,933 5 7
		Stock in trade--	
		Vegetol ..	2,489 12 7
		Washwell ..	8,665 6 0
		Toilet ..	149 13 7
		Yellow bar ..	91 7 0
		Shaving soap ..	35 14 6
		Deepa brand ..	1 3 0
		Experimental bar ..	488 14 11
		Cheap bar ..	3 10 9
		Fish and oil rosin ..	283 14 2
		Fish oil soft ..	2,413 8 1
			15,123 8 7
		Book debts--	
		Considered good ..	40,302 14 7
		Considered doubtful ..	11,792 1 6
			52,095 0 1
		Deposits and advances--	
		Fixed deposit receipt of Imperial Bank of India held as security deposit ..	2,000 0 0

[23rd March 1926]

23rd March 1926]

Fixed deposit with the Imperial Bank of India ..	200 0 0
Fixed deposit with the Nedungadi Bank Limited ..	1,000 0 0
Advance for advertisements and display boards in stock ..	973 14 0
Fire insurance prepaid ..	740 3 3
	4,914 1 3
Cash and other balances--	
No. 1 personal ledger account ..	3,383 10 2
No. 2 personal ledger account ..	67,844 13 8
Cash and cheques on hand ..	141 13 4
	61,370 5 2
Total ..	3,85,568 7 5
Total ..	3,85,568 7 5

Examined and found correct.

MADRAS,
25th September 1925.FRASER & ROSS,
Chartered Accountants,
Commercial Accountants and Auditors to the Govt. of Madras.

[23rd March 1926]

(2)

Trading Account for the quarter ending 30th June 1925.

(1)	Vegetol soap. (2)	Washwell soap. (3)	Toilet soap. (4)	Yellow bar soap. (5)	Shaving soap. (6)	Deepa brand soap. (7)
	RS. A. P.	RS. A. P.	RS. A. P.	RS. A. P.	RS. A. P.	RS. A. P.
To Stock on hand ..	1,129 7 2	5,287 2 0	479 10 1	698 2 8	18 6 0	7 14 5
„ Cost of soaps received from factory.	3,138 1 6	16,921 15 2	1,533 4 11	67 8 0	16 2 0	..
„ Cost of soaps returned.	2,137 11 0	527 8 0	..	..	..	..
„ Packing charges, etc.	134 3 9	807 3 9	635 4 7	51 10 0	27 13 10	..
„ Perfumes and essential oils.	..	..	871 2 3	..	..	..
„ Gross profit carried to Profit and Loss account.	..	2,238 12 8	479 15 11	235 15 4	31 10 10	29 12 3
Total ..	6,539 7 5	25,780 9 7	3,999 5 9	1,053 4 0	94 0 8	37 10 8
By Sales less returns.	3,656 0 10	17,094 3 8	3,304 8 7	736 3 0	54 14 6	36 7 8
„ Free samples ..	0 12 6	20 15 11	44 15 7	..	3 3 8	..
„ Soaps issued for reboiling.	176 0 7	..	..	225 10 0	..	..
„ Stock ..	2,489 12 7	8,665 6 0	649 13 7	91 7 0	35 14 6	1 3 0
„ Loss carried to profit and loss account.	218 12 11	..	..	..	..	..
Total ..	6,539 7 5	25,780 9 7	3,999 5 9	1,053 4 0	94 0 8	37 10 8
	Experimental bar soap. (8)	Cheap bar soap. (9)	Fish oil-rosin soap. (10)	Fish oil soft soap. (11)	Glycerine. (12)	Total. (13)
	RS. A. P.	RS. A. P.	RS. A. P.	RS. A. P.	RS. A. P.	RS. A. P.
To Stock on hand ..	455 4 10	97 4 0	604 7 5	4,871 13 10	..	13,641 10 0
„ Cost of soaps received from factory.	2,174 9 7	..	961 2 7	..	15 8 0	24,836 2 2
„ Cost of soaps returned.	..	7 8 0	..	..	..	2,672 11 0
„ Packing charges, etc.	204 5 10	..	20 15 11	369 13 7	2 5 7	2,353 12 10
„ Perfumes and essential oils.	..	..	..	..	..	871 2 3
„ Gross profit carried to Profit and Loss account.	300 7 4	25 5 0	207 16 6	1,854 10 11	3 14 5	5,406 8 2
Total ..	3,134 11 7	130 1 0	1,794 9 5	7,096 6 4	21 12 0	49,681 14 5
By Sales less returns.	2,457 10 11	125 13 6	1,187 0 0	4,682 0 0	18 12 0	33,353 10 8
„ Free samples ..	3 11 3	0 8 9	2 4 5	0 14 3	3 0 0	80 6 4
„ Soaps issued for reboiling.	184 6 6	..	321 6 10	..	..	907 7 11
„ Stock ..	488 14 11	3 10 9	289 14 2	2,413 8 1	..	15,123 8 7
„ Loss carried to profit and loss account.	..	..	..	..	..	216 12 11
Total ..	3,134 11 7	130 1 0	1,794 9 5	7,096 6 4	21 12 0	49,681 14 5

23rd March 1926]

(3)

Manufacturing Account for the quarter ending 30th June 1925.

(1)	Vegetol soap. (2)	Washwell soap. (3)	Toilet soap. (4)	Yellow bar soap. (5)	Shaving soap. (6)
	RS. A. P.	RS. A. P.	RS. A. P.	RS. A. P.	RS. A. P.
To Stock in process of manufacture.	..	30,386 9 0	1,785 7 4	5,409 0 0	12 3 0
„ Raw materials, scraps of other soaps and firewood.	2,629 0 8	7,309 10 6	1,406 10 10	..	3 15 0
„ Wages ..	71 4 10	606 8 9	103 10 9	..	..
„ Factory overheads ..	811 7 4	3,183 2 2	328 12 6	..	..
Total ..	3,611 12 10	41,485 14 5	3,697 9 5	5,409 0 0	16 2 0
By Scraps, etc., used for other soaps.	373 11 4	..	..	..	..
„ Finished soaps sent to stores.	3,138 1 6	16,921 15 2	1,533 4 11	67 8 0	16 2 0
„ Stock in process of manufacture.	..	24,563 15 3	2,164 4 6	5,341 8 0	..
„ Loss on glycerine concentration.	..	..	..	..	..
Total ..	3,611 12 10	41,485 14 5	3,697 9 5	5,409 0 0	16 2 0
	Deepa brand soap. (7)	Experimental bar soap. (8)	Fish oil rosin soap. (9)	Glycerine. (10)	Total. (11)
	RS. A. P.	RS. A. P.	RS. A. P.	RS. A. P.	RS. A. P.
To Stock in process of manufacture.	..	1,488 12 6	..	2,263 2 8	41,345 2 6
„ Raw materials, scraps of other soaps and firewood.	6 6 11	1,037 3 2	578 9 2	518 15 7	14,093 7 10
„ Wages ..	..	67 3 11	11 5 3	110 8 3	970 9 9
„ Factory overheads ..	1 7 6	896 13 7	371 4 2	..	5,662 15 3
Total ..	7 14 5	4,090 1 2	961 2 7	2,892 10 6	62,072 3 4
By Scraps, etc., used for other soaps.	..	120 2 0	..	..	493 13 4
„ Finished soaps sent to stores.	7 14 5	2,174 9 7	961 2 7	15 8 0	24,836 2 2
„ Stock in process of manufacture.	..	1,795 5 7	..	2,063 4 3	35,333 5 7
„ Loss on glycerine concentration.	..	..	..	808 14 3	808 14 3
Total ..	7 14 5	4,090 1 2	961 2 7	2,892 10 6	62,072 3 4

[23rd March 1926]

(4)

Profit and Loss Account for the quarter ending 30th June 1925.

	RS.	A.	P.	RS.	A.	P.
To Expenses—						
Establishment charges ..	2,782	4	0			
Rates and taxes ..	4	4	0			
Advertisement charges ..	908	12	8			
Printing and stationery ..	177	10	3			
Postage and telegrams ..	175	13	0			
Despatching charges ..	1,427	7	1			
Sundry, office and factory expenses ..	122	11	6			
Laboratory experimental work ..	10	8	1			
Free samples issued ..	80	6	4			
Discount and exchange ..	0	4	0			
Trade bonus (reserve) ..	480	12	0			
Rebate to agents ..	112	14	0			
Fire insurance ..	246	11	9			
Depreciation on—						
Office buildings ..	89	0	0			
Laboratory apparatus ..	360	0	0			
Office furniture ..	57	0	0			
Reserve for expenses credited to Government—						
Director's supervision charges ..	572	8	0			
Audit fee ..	375	0	0			
Leave and pension contributions ..	562	8	0			
				1,510	0	0
				8,556	6	8
By Gross profit from Trading account ..						
Less loss on vegetable soap ..						
Loss on glycerine concentration ..						
				1,025	11	2
House-rent ..						
Sundry sales ..						
Reserve on stock returned ..						
Balance—net loss for the quarter ..						
				4,380	13	0
				62	4	0
				160	11	1
				687	15	6
				3,284	11	1
				8,566	6	8

23rd March 1926]

II

Endorsement of the Accountant-General, No. H.A. Comml. 7/1027, dated 4th November 1925.

Forwarded.

2. The amount chargeable to the concern on account of audit fee (including travelling allowance and out-of-pocket expenses) for the quarter is Rs. 365-8-0 as against Rs. 375 shown as reserve for the purpose in the profit and loss account. The commercial auditors have been asked to adjust the difference in the accounts of the next quarter.

3. The following statement shows the monthly receipts, payments and balance (at credit of both No. 2 and 1 accounts) of the Kerala Soap Institute for the six months ending 31st August 1925 according to the figures available in the books of this office:—

	(1)	March 1925. (2)	April 1925. (3)	May 1925. (4)
		RS. A. P.	RS. A. P.	RS. A. P.
Receipts		16,157 6 5	10,699 15 9	7,662 8 0
Payments		6,364 9 8	17,342 4 5	10,052 0 0
Balance		76,433 8 5	69,686 0 0	67,556 12 2

	(5)	June 1925. (5)	July 1925. (6)	August 1925. (7)
		RS. A. P.	RS. A. P.	RS. A. P.
Receipts		13,142 1 5	13,199 11 10	12,316 13 2
Payments		21,147 1 11	10,739 11 4	12,473 13 11
Balance		59,190 8 4	62,972 15 4	61,981 3 9

The profit of Rs. 23,164-2-9 for 1924-25 will be adjusted to the debit of the personal ledger account on receipt of orders of Government on the balance sheet for 1924-25 forwarded with this office Endorsement No. H.A. Comml. 7/805, dated 23rd July 1925. It will be seen that even after this adjustment there has been, a balance of over Rs. 40,000 at the end of each of the months except June 1925. In view of the fact that the working capital is ordinarily fixed at a sum sufficient to cover all ordinary outgoings until they can be recouped from ordinary receipts and that Government have agreed to meet temporary emergencies by the grant of temporary accommodation, it is suggested for the consideration of Government whether the concern cannot be made to surrender a portion of the working capital of Rs. 50,000 sanctioned for it.

4. It is suggested that the Director be requested to keep the Government constantly informed of the realizations of debts due to the concern. It will be seen that bad and doubtful debts have

[23rd March 1926]

increased from Rs. 1,729 in the quarter ending 31st March 1925 to Rs. 11,792 in the quarter under report.

J. C. NIXON,
Accountant-General.

To the Secretary to Government, Development Department.

III

Official Memorandum No. 3033-II/25-1, Development, dated 20th November 1925.

[Reference.—Letter from the Director of Industries, No. 252-E/25, dated 9th October 1925—Accountant-General's Endorsement No. H.A. Comml. 7/1027, dated 4th November 1925.]

[Kerala Soap Institute—Accounts for the quarter ending 30th June 1925.]

A copy of the Accountant-General's endorsement is forwarded to the Director of Industries for very early remarks.

(By order)

C. J. PAUL,
Assistant Secretary to Government.

To the Director of Industries.

IV

Letter from E. F. THOMAS, Esq., C.I.E., I.C.S., Director of Industries, to the Secretary to Government, Development Department, dated 4th January 1926, No. 252-E/25.

I have the honour to forward herewith a copy of letter No. H.A. Comml. 7/1243, dated 7th December 1925, received from the Accountant-General, Madras, and to state that the write-off was carried out by the auditors themselves in the course of their audit of the accounts of the Kerala Soap Institute, Calicut. I request therefore that Government may be pleased to accord their formal sanction for the write off of the amount of Rs. 667-15-6 reference to by the Accountant-General.

ENCLOSURE

Letter from the Accountant-General, to the Director of Industries, dated Madras, the 17th December 1925, No. H.A. Comml. 7/1243.

I have the honour to state that in the balance sheet of the Kerala Soap Institute as at 30th June 1925, the auditors have written off against the reserve for bad and doubtful debts a sum of Rs. 667-15-6 by credit to the profit and loss account. This amount represents the difference between the value of Rs. 1,100 at which stocks were originally sold to Messrs. Anantanarayan Brothers Bombay, and the stock value of Rs. 432-0-6 at which soaps returned by the company were taken into account.

[23rd March 1926]

I have the honour to enquire whether sanction to the write-off of the amount as required in the annexure to Chapter 17 of Madras Treasury Manual, Volume I, and article to 227, Civil Account Code, Volume I, has been obtained.

V

Letter from E. F. THOMAS, Esq., C.I.E., I.C.S., Director of Industries, to the Secretary to Government, Development Department (through the Accountant-General, Madras), dated 21st December 1925, No. 252-E/25.

With reference to Government Memorandum No. 3033-II/25-1, Development, dated the 20th November 1925, forwarding for remarks a copy of Accountant-General's endorsement No. H.A. Comml. 7/1027, dated 4th November 1925, I have the honour to reply as follows :—

Paragraph 3 of the Accountant-General's endorsement—Working capital.—The balance of No. 2 Account on 16th December 1925 was Rs. 42,835-11-0. If the sum of Rs. 23,164-2-9 being the profits earned during the year 1924-25, is adjusted the balance left will be only Rs. 19,671-8-3. This amount, the Superintendent reports and I agree, will be spent in the purchase of oils and other raw materials required for the use of the Institute. Yellow bar soap to the value of Rs. 44,944-3-0 has been supplied against the order placed with us by the Director of Contracts, Simla, for which payment amounting to Rs. 4,336-3-0 has been made so far and for the balance, viz., Rs. 40,608-0-0 invoices have not yet been sent pending the receipt of the delivery receipts from the respective consignees. It is not known when the full payment is likely to be made. When the full amount is received it would be possible for me to consider whether any portion of the working capital could be surrendered.

Paragraph 4 of the Accountant-General's endorsement—Bad and doubtful debts.—The increase under this item from Rs. 1,729 in the quarter ending 31st March 1925 to Rs. 11,792 in the quarter under report is not due to any new debts having been proved to be bad, but the following old debts which were considered good during the quarter ending 31st March 1925 were recast by the auditors during the quarter under report and taken under 'bad and doubtful debts' :—

	RS.	A.	P.	RS.	A.	P.	RS.	A.	P.
A. Kasipathis	5,692	10	2						
Less his security deposit	2,000	0	0						
				3,892	10	2			
Murti & Sons				2,053	11	0			
Erasa Menon				3,233	8	0			

[23rd March 1926]

	RS.	A.	P.	RS.	A.	P.
Suspense—						
Payment to						
Government						
Pleader for						
suits against						
Kasipathi and						
Murti & Sons ..	695	0	0			
Do. do. against						
Erasa Menon..	300	0	0			
				10,174	13	5

The auditors considered that it was inadvisable to treat these debts for which suits had been filed as good and had therefore classed them under 'Bad and doubtful debts'. In the case of the decreed amount of Mr. Erasa Menon, monthly payments are being regularly received and it is anticipated that the balance amount will also be paid in full. The amount of Rs. 300 paid to the Government Pleader on this account has also been decreed and is recoverable. These items may therefore be considered 'good'. A monthly statement showing the realization of debts due to the concern will be submitted to Government as suggested by the Accountant-General, if Government so desire.

VI

Endorsement of the Accountant-General, No. H.A. Comml. 7/1277, dated 7th January 1926.

Forwarded.

2. The adjustment in respect of the profits of the concern for 1924-25 as required by article 41 of the Account Code has been made in the books of this office for January 1926.

J. C. NIXON,
Accountant-General.

To the Secretary to Government, Development Department.

ORDER—No. 165, Development, dated 2nd February 1926.

Recorded.

2. The Government sanction the write-off of a sum of Rs. 667-15-6 being the difference between the invoiced value and the value at stock rates of the goods taken over by Mr. S. C. Dalal from Messrs. Anantanarayan Brothers, Bombay, and returned to the Institute.

[3rd March 1926]

3. *Paragraph 3 of the Accountant-General's endorsement, dated 11th November 1925.*—The Director is requested to report as soon as possible what portion of the working capital of the concern could be surrendered.

4. *Paragraph 4 of the Accountant-General's endorsement, dated 4th November 1925.*—The Government do not require a monthly statement of realizations of the debts due to the concern as they already have opportunity to review the position four times in the course of the year, but they consider that the Director should obtain such a statement from the Institute and take such steps as may be required for the early realization of all outstandings.

(By order of the Government, Ministry of Development)

V. PANDRANG ROW,
Secretary to Government.

To the Director of Industries.
" the Accountant-General (through Finance Department).
" the Auditor-General (with C.L.).
" Messrs. Fraser & Ross.
" the Secretary to the Legislative Council (for placing the order on the Council table)
" the Finance Department.

APPENDIX III.

[Vide item 111, "Communications to the Council" at page 510 supra.]

G.O. No. 215, Development, dated 15th February 1926.

READ—the following papers :—

I

RUSSELLKONDA SAW MILL.

Report on the Accounts for the quarter ending 30th September 1925.

1. *Fixed capital expenditure.*—The small additions shown in the balance sheet as at 30th June 1925 have been written off in the current period to 'Repairs.'

2. *Stock.*—The stock of cut timber was valued at the rates adopted for the valuation of stock on 31st March 1925, and the logs at 4 annas per cubic foot.

3. *Sundry debtors, Rs. 16,173-0-6.*—This item includes a sum of Rs. 2,290-14-0 being the cost of and charges on saws returned to Messrs. Simonds Saw & Steel Co., New York.

4. *Provision for expenses—Audit fees Rs. 1,419-10-0.*—This is made up as under:—

	RS.	A.	P.
Audit fees and provision for expenses for the first quarter 1925-26	719	10	0
Audit fees and provision for expenses for the second quarter 1925-26	700	0	0

5. *District Forest Officer, Cr. Rs. 27,954.*—It was arranged that the mills pay to the District Forest Officer cash towards the amounts due to him for logs purchased, on the basis of the sales for each month. The cash balance was Rs. 55,191-0-11 as on 30th September, and we suggest that instructions are issued to the mills to pay off the present liability to the District Forest Officer in full and also pay monthly for further purchases.

6. *Profit and Loss account.*—The mill was closed during the quarter owing to accumulation of stock and no logs were received from the Forest Department except 54 cubic feet which were cut by hand.

No purpose can therefore be served by the division of expenses of the quarter as between production and selling charges.

Establishment account includes the full salary of the Manager Mr. Templeman who is on leave.

The sales for the quarter were 9,414.15 cubic feet timber realizing Rs. 26,007-7-9 at the average of Rs. 2-12-4 per cubic foot, the figures for the preceding quarter 1925-26 being 10,042.93 cubic feet realizing Rs. 27,845-8-6 at an average price of Rs. 2-12-4 per cubic foot.

The net profit for the year ending 31st March 1925 Rs. 1,894-12-4 was paid to Government on the 10th of October and the adjustment will be shown in the next quarterly balance sheet.

7. Subject to the foregoing we certify that we have obtained all the information and explanations we have required and that the balance sheet signed by us as relative hereto, in our opinion, exhibits a true and correct view of the state of the affairs of the Russellkonda Saw Mill, according to the best of our information and the explanations given to us and as shown by the books of the mill.

MADRAS,
12th November 1925.

FRASER & ROSS,
Chartered Accountants,
*Commercial Accountants and
Auditors to the Govt. of Madras.*

23rd March 1926]

ENCLOSURES.
BRISSET KONDA SAW MILL.

RUSSELL ROBERTSON & COMPANY, INC.

(1)

Balance Sheet as at 30th September 1925.

PROPERTY AND ASSETS.

[illegible]

Balance Sheet as at 30th September 1925—*cont.*CAPITAL AND LIABILITIES—*cont.*

	RS. A. P.	RS. A. P.
Brought forward ..	4,85,236 0 3	3,35,553 1 11

PROPERTY AND ASSETS—*cont.*

Fixed capital expenditure— <i>cont.</i>			
Furniture—			
At cost as per Balance sheet as at 31st March 1925.	..	6,285 0 3	
Loss depreciation—			
As per last Balance sheet.	984 13 8		
For the quarter ..	78 10 9	1,063 8 5	
			5,221 7 10
Motor and other vehicles	..	..	3,40,774 9 9
Stores and spare gear—	..	..	12,421 7 7
Machinery spare parts ..	..	5,502 4 11	
Tools and stores in stock ..	..	6,995 9 8	
Tools in use ..	..	100 0 0	
Stock—			12,597 14 7
29,723·19 c. ft. out timber	..	39,489 0 8	
150·00 c. ft. in log ..	..	37 8 0	
Sundry debtors—			39,526 8 8
Considered good ..	..	..	16,173 0 6
Advances—			
Unexpired insurance premium ..	..	1,725 11 0	
For repairs and travelling ..	..	77 8 0	
Cash and other balances—			1,803 3 0
Cash with treasury ..	..	54,836 3 1	
In hand ..	..	354 13 10	
			55,191 0 11

[23rd March 1926]

Profit and Loss account—			
Loss for the quarter ending 30th June 1925 ..	3,085 14 9		
Loss for the quarter ending 30th September 1925 as per Profit and Loss account.	5,557 0 10		
Less Balance at credit on 31st March 1925.	8,642 15 7		
	1,894 12 4		
		6,748 3 3	
		4,85,236 0 3	

23rd March 1926]

Examined and found correct subject to our report of even date.

MADRAS,
12th November 1925.FRASER & ROSS,
Chartered Accountants,
Commercial Accountants and Auditors to the Govt. of Madras.

[23rd March 1926

Profit and Loss Account for the quarter ending 30th September 1925.

	Rs.	A.	P.	Rs.	A.	P.
To Stock—						
39,164.48 c. ft. timber	50,531	7	7			
Purchases	13	8	0			
" Cart hire and loading charges	222	7	1			
" Cart hire to Berhampur	3,959	6	8			
" Charges, Calcutta (Rent, etc.)	181	4	0			
" Berhampur depot expenses	964	0	7			
" Managing agents fees	1,050	0	0			
" Establishment	6,178	5	9			
" Stationery	101	4	5			
" Postage and telegrams	89	14	6			
" Travelling expenses	129	5	6			
" General expenses	8	5	0			
" Commission on sales	1,349	7	8			
" Repairs to buildings	75	7	6			
" Repairs to machinery and furniture	53	12	11			
" Motor-car expenses	189	9	0			
" Audit fees and expenses	719	10	0			
" Travelling salesman	289	9	10			
" Insurance premium	1,013	7	0			
" Depreciation on—						
Buildings	922	5	2			
Machinery	3,216	10	7			
Furniture	78	10	9			
Motor-car, etc.	1,039	9	9			
Tram line	200	0	0			
	5,467	4	3			
	72,567	9	3			
By Sales—						
Reflections and firewood						
9,414.16 c. ft. timber at Rs. 2-12-2.42 per c. ft.	1,414	0	9			
	26,007	7	9			
" Refund of subscriptions to nursing institutions as per G.O. Msa. No. 1317, dated 9th September 1925						
" Stock—						
19,811.60 c. ft. at the mills at Rs. 1-2-10 per c. ft.	23,319	14	6			
8,520.69 c. ft. at Berhampur at Rs. 1-8-10 per c. ft.	13,224	13	2			
1,016.03 c. ft. at Calcutta at Rs. 2-4-10 per c. ft.	2,409	0	9			
344.87 c. ft. at Vizagapatam at Rs. 1-8-10 per c. ft.	535	4	3			
	39,489	0	8			
	5,557	0	10			
" Net loss for the quarter carried to Balance sheet..						
	72,567	9	3			

N.B.—Interest has not been debited in the accounts.
Interest on the capital of Rs. 4,51,868 for the quarter at 5 per cent per annum is Rs. 5,648-5-7.

23rd March 1926]

II

*Reference from the Chief Conservator of Forests, Madras, No. 7900/25,
dated the 15th December 1925.*

[Subject.—Russellkonda Saw Mills—Audit report—Quarter ending 30th September 1925.]

Submitted to Government.

2. *Paragraph 3 of the report.*—In my letter No. 1669-25/A 2-4, dated 14th July 1925, disposed of in G.O. Mis. No. 1199, dated 18th August 1925, I stated that Messrs. Parry & Co. had reported that the expenditure incurred in returning the bandsaws of the wrong gauge to New York had been recovered from the suppliers and credited to the Russellkonda Saw Mill. With reference to Messrs. Fraser & Ross' remarks in paragraph 3 of the present audit report Messrs. Parry & Co. now report as follows :—

"We originally drew on Messrs. Simonds Saw & Steel Co. for the value of the saws returned to them and we credited the proceeds to mills account. Subsequently they intimated through our bankers that they would remit the amount to us direct after the inspection of the goods, and this necessitated our redebiting the mills. We have since received a remittance of Rs. 2,260-10-0 on the 3rd idem and have credited the same to the mills account. We expect to recover the balance of Rs. 45-4-0 made up of interest and cable charges incurred in connexion with the draft in due course."

3. *Paragraph 5 of the report.*—Messrs. Fraser & Ross' suggestion may be accepted.

H. TIREMAN,
Chief Conservator of Forests.

To the Secretary to Government, Development Department
(through the Accountant-General) with Audit report.

III

*Endorsement of the Accountant-General, No. H.A. Comml. 12-1325,
dated the 12th January 1926.*

Forwarded.

2. The second paragraph of Chief Conservator's letter Ref. No. 7900/25, dated 15th December 1925, illustrates the difficulties which may occur in making direct purchase of Europe stores without the assistance of the Stores Department, and I have marked this case for consideration in connection with my Audit Report for 1925-26.

3. With reference to paragraph 5 of the Auditors' report, I may mention that it has already been suggested to the Auditor-General—vide this office letter No. H.A. Comm. 12-382, dated 4th October 1924, of which a copy was also sent to Government—that the Forest

[23rd March 1926]

Department may be allowed to take credit for the timber as soon as it is supplied to the mill. As this proposal has not yet been agreed to, the present procedure based on the instructions of the Auditor-General in 1922, under which the mill pays for the logs as and when it sells the sawn scantlings, has to continue.

4. In paragraph 6 of the report, the Auditors bring to notice that the manager's salary to end of September 1925 has been debited in full as an establishment charge in the mill accounts. As, however, Government have accepted liability for Mr. Templeman's leave salary till the 12th September 1925 (3 months and 24 days from the 20th May 1925)—vide G.O. Mis. No. 1081, Development, dated 27th July 1925, and G.O. Mis. No. 1653, Development, dated 17th November 1925, the excess of Rs. 540 (at Rs. 900 per mensem from 13th to 30th September 1925) has to be repaid by the managing agents to the credit of the mill accounts.

5. The actual expenditure chargeable to the concern on account of audit for the quarter under report is Rs. 562-4-9 against Rs. 700 reserved for in the accounts; the Auditors have been asked to adjust the difference in the accounts of the next quarters.

J. C. NIXON,
Accountant-General.

To the Secretary to Government, Development Department.

ORDER—No. 215, Development, dated 15th February 1926.

Recorded.

2. Paragraph 5 of the audit report and paragraph 3 of the Accountant-General's endorsement.—In the circumstances stated by the Accountant-General the Government agree that the present practice under which the mill pays for the logs as and when it sells the sawn scantlings should continue.

3. Paragraph 6 of the report and paragraph 4 of the Accountant-General's endorsement.—Messrs. Fraser & Ross are requested to make the necessary adjustment in the accounts for the quarter ending 31st December 1925.

(By order of the Governor in Council)

V. PANDRANG ROW,
Secretary to Government.

To the Chief Conservator of Forests.
,, the Accountant-General (through Finance Department).
,, the Finance Department.
,, Messrs. Fraser & Ross.
,, the Auditor-General (with C.L.).
,, the Secretary, Legislative Council office (for placing on Council table).

THE MADRAS LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

Wednesday, the 24th March 1926.

The House met at 11 o'clock, Mr. President (the hon. Mr. M. RUTHNASWAMY) in the chair.

PRESENT:

Ramaswami Ayyar, K.C.I.E., The hon. Sir C. P.	Marthandam Pillai, Mr. P. N.
Marjoribanks, C.S.I., C.I.E., The hon. Mr. N. E.	Moidu Sahib, Mr. T. M.
Usman Sahib Bahadur, The hon. Khan Bahadur Muhammad.	Muhammad Sahib, Mr. T. N.
Moir, C.S.I., C.I.E., The hon. Mr. T. E.	Murugappa Chettiyar, Diwan Bahadur A. M.
Raja of Panagal, The hon. the.	Muttayya Mudaliyar, Mr. C.
Patro, Kt., The hon. Rao Bahadur Sir A. P.	Narayanaswami Pillai, Mr. T. M.
Sivagnanam Pillai, The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir T. N.	Natesa Mudaliyar, Rao Bahadur C.
Abbas Ali Khan, Mr.	Noyce, C.S.I., C.I.E., Mr. F.
Abdul Wahab Sahib, Mr. M.	Obalesappa, Mr. B.
Abdulla Ghatala Sahib, Mr.	Pandurang Row, Mr. V.
Ankinedu Prasad Bahadur, Mr. S. R. Y.	Prabhakran Tampan, Mr. K.
Arpudaswami Udayar, Mr. S.	Premayya, Mr. G.
Arumuga Nadar, Mr. P. K. S. A.	Raghuchandra Ballal, Mr. K.
Bhanoji Rao, Mr. A. V.	Raja of Ramnad.
Boag, Mr. G. T.	Rajan, Mr. P. T.
Chidambara Nadar, Mr. A.	Ramachandra Reddi, Mr. B.
Devendrudu, Mr. N.	Raman, Rao Bahadur P.
Ellappa Chettiyar, Rao Sahib S.	Ramaswami Mudaliyar, Mr. A.
Evans, C.S.I., Mr. F. B.	Ranganatha Mudaliyar, Mr. A.
Ghouse Mian Sahib, Mr. Muhammad.	Sagaram, Mr. P.
Gopalan, Rao Sahib P. V.	Saldanha, Mr. J. A.
Haji Qasim Sahib Bahadur, Khan Bahadur Haji Abd-ul-lab.	Sarvarayudu, Mr. K.
Heggade, Mr. D. Manjappa.	Sesha Reddi, Mr. B. P.
Kesava Pillai, C.I.E., Diwan Bahadur P.	Sitarama Reddi, Mr. K.
Khadir Mohiddin Elyas Khan Sahib, Mr.	Srinivasan, Rao Sahib R.
Khalif-ul-lah Sahib Bahadur, Khan Bahadur P.	Subbarayan, Dr. P.
Krishnan Nayar, Diwan Bahadur M.	Subramania Pillai, Mr. K. Chavadi.
Krishnaswami Nayudu, Rao Bahadur K.	Sundaramurti, Rao Sahib P. V. S.
MacDougall, Kt., Sir Alexander.	Suryanarayanamurti Nayudu, Diwan Bahadur K.
Madanagopal Nayudu, Mr. R.	Tangavelu Pillai, Rao Sahib T. C.
Madurai, Hony.-Lieut.	Veerian, Mr. R.
Mallesappa, Mr. T.	Venkatachala Padayachi, Mr. K.
Marakkayar Sahib Bahadur, Khan Bahadur Mr. V. Hamid Sultan.	Windle, Capt. E. G.

[24th March 1926]

I

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

[Order made by the President of the Madras Legislative Council under Standing Order No. 15 on the 4th December 1924.]

1. Starred questions to be put at a meeting of the Council with their answers shall be printed and placed on the Council table an hour before the President takes his seat.

The Secretary shall call out the name of each interpellator in the order in which the names are printed, specify the serial number of his question and make a sufficient pause to give him or any other member a reasonable opportunity of rising in his place and putting a supplementary question. Supplementary questions must be put immediately after the principal questions to which they relate.

2. If a member responsible for a starred question happens to be absent when it is called, it will be open either to him or to any other member to put supplemental questions thereon after the other starred questions for the day have been answered, provided question-time is not thereby exceeded.

3. Questions, not starred, will not be called in Council, but they will be printed with their answers and placed on the table of the House along with the list of starred questions. Oral supplementary questions will not be allowed in regard to unstarred questions.]

STARRED QUESTIONS.

Bucket Shops.

'Bucket shops' in the City.

* 1758 Q.—Mr. S. SATYAMURTI: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether his attention has been drawn to the existence of a number of 'bucket shops' in the City;

(b) whether he has made any enquiries in the matter; and

(c) whether the Government will take steps to put down the gambling which goes on in these 'bucket shops'?

A.—(a) Yes.

(b) Yes.

(c) The matter is under consideration.

Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR:—"Sir, with reference to clause (c), the Government say that the matter is under consideration. I wish to know whether the question of putting down the gambling is under consideration or whether the measures necessary for putting it down are under consideration."

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR:—"The legislation that has been attempted in the Bombay Presidency and the measures to be taken here for the purpose of discouraging these practices are both under consideration."

Mr. R. MADANAGOPAL NAYUDU:—"In connexion with the answer to clause (b), is the hon. the Law Member aware of the fact that there have been occasions when fraud has been committed on persons and that people who were keeping these 'bucket shops' ran away with the money?"

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR:—"Yes, Sir, at least two such instances have come to the notice of Government."

[24th March 1926]

Legislative.

Preparation of voters' lists for legislative bodies.

* 1759 Q.—Mr. G. RAMESWARA RAO: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that several names are omitted from the lists of voters for legislative bodies in consequence of the municipal registers not containing the names of persons qualified by holding land, military service, and paying income-tax; and

(b) whether any measures are in contemplation for making the lists of voters for legislative bodies as exhaustive as possible?

A.—(a) The Government have no reason to suppose that there are many such omissions. Every effort is made to make the electoral rolls as complete as possible and under the rules it is open to persons whose names are omitted to apply for inclusion.

(b) Instructions are being issued from time to time to registration officers, pointing out the necessity for ensuring that the rolls are as complete as possible.

Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR:—"With reference to clause (a), the Government say that they have no reason to suppose that there are many such omissions. Did they go into the matter at all to see whether many people who should have been registered were not registered?"

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR:—"Some time ago a similar query reached Government and they have circularised various authorities on the matter. The answer to clause (a) represents what may be called the net result of those enquiries; but I do not mean to say that those are perfectly accurate; it may be that there are mistakes. But as a matter of fact, as pointed out in the answer to clause (a), it is open to persons whose names are omitted to apply for inclusion. May I also invite the attention of hon. Members to what I said in this connexion that it is as much the duty of the various candidates and of the voters themselves to take steps to do this, as of others? But I do not for a moment minimise the duty cast upon the authorities in this matter."

Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR:—"The voters' lists are yet to be prepared for the coming elections and without those lists it is not possible for us to see what omissions there are going to be, and I think it is rather hard on us to be asked to supply all these omissions now all over the district."

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR:—"What will be done this year is that the lists will be ready much sooner than on previous occasions for scrutiny and criticism by the public."

Mr. B. RAMACHANDRA REDDI:—"May I know, Sir, whether any instructions have been issued for the altering of the places of location of these polling stations wherever necessary?"

The hon. the PRESIDENT:—"Order, order. This question is not about polling stations."

[24th March 1926]

Marine.*Construction of the Cochin Harbour.*

* 1760 Q.—Mr. J. A. SALDANHA: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(a) what measures have been taken for constructing the Cochin Harbour under important heads, e.g.—

(1) dredging,

(2) docks,

(3) erection of causeways and what expenditure has been incurred under each heading;

(b) what the staff employed is, with the names of the officers, Engineers, Captains of dredgers and launches drawing a pay over Rs. 150 with their respective nationality, educational and other qualifications, antecedents, previous training, etc.;

(c) what establishment is employed with its cost in the Port Trust office, dredgers, boats, etc.;

(d) whether appointments for the several posts, made and contemplated, have been advertised in papers and if so, in what papers; and

(e) whether tenders for dredgers, plant and machinery have been notified to the public and if so, how and from what firms they have been ordered or are proposed to be ordered?

A.—(a) A dry dock has already been constructed at a cost of Rs. 4.21 lakhs. The estimates for the other works have been prepared and sanctioned and the necessary plant is now being procured. Most of the expenditure on the plant will be incurred in the United Kingdom and information about the payments made till now is not available. It is expected that expenditure in England during the current year will be £106,000.

(b) The gazetted officers employed in the Cochin Harbour division are the following:—

(i) Mr. F. G. Dickinson, M.C., B.ENG., ASSOC.M.INST.C.E.,
Officiating Executive Engineer.

(European; belongs to the cadre of Indian Service of Engineers; has been at Cochin since June 1920.)

(ii) Mr. H. Reed, ASSOC.M.INST.MECH.E., Mechanical Superintendent.

(European; has been at Cochin since September 1921—engaged on a five years' contract.)

(iii) M.R.Ry. T. P. Anantaram Avargal, B.E., Assistant Engineer.

(Indian; was head draughtsman in the office of the Harbour Engineer-in-Chief to Government prior to September 1925; has served in the department for three years.)

The Government have no further information.

(c) There is no Port Trust office at Cochin. The Port Trust has not yet been constituted.

24th March 1926]

(d) The Government have no information. The High Commissioner for India is arranging for the dredger staff. Applications received by the Deputy Harbour Engineer-in-Chief in India have been forwarded to the High Commissioner.

(e) Tenders were notified to the public by the High Commissioner in accordance with his usual practice. The firms from whom plant has been ordered are given below:—

(1) Messrs. Wm. Symons & Co., Limited, Renfrew.

(2) Messrs. Bow McLachlan & Co., Limited, Paisley.

(3) The Earl of Dudley's Round Oak Works, Limited, Brierly Hill.

Police.*Lady Goschen's recent visit to Rock Fort temple.*

* 1761 Q.—Mr. S. SATYAMURTI: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that during Lady Goschen's recent visit to the Rock Fort temple at Trichinopoly peaceful devotees going for their morning worship at the Ganesh temple at the foot of the rock were roughly ordered out of the way and not allowed to go to the temple from about 6 a.m. in the morning;

(b) whether the people going to bazaar were pushed out of the direct route and ordered to go by circuitous lanes; and

(c) the reasons why this action was taken by the Police?

A.—(a) & (b) The Government have inquired and find that the answer to both questions is in the negative.

(c) Does not arise.

Selection of Police sub-inspectors.

* 1762 Q.—Mr. R. VEERIAN: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(a) how many members belonging to the depressed classes applied for selection as Police sub-inspectors during 1925 in the whole Presidency;

(b) how many of them were selected and the districts in which they were selected; and

(c) how many of them were appointed after selection?

A.—(a) & (b) The hon. Member is referred to the answer to clause (a) of question No. 1427. The figures in the statement relate to 1925.

(c) None.

Mr. R. VEERIAN:—“Sir, with reference to the answer to clause (c) that none of them was appointed after selection, I want to know whether they failed to pass the training examination and whether they will be asked to undergo training for a further period.”

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR:—“It depends on the particular cases, Sir. This training is a kind of probation. If they are fairly up to the mark and if they fail in one or two particulars, they may be given a further probation. If they are found particularly unsuitable, they will be sent away.”

[24th March 1926]

State Prisoners.*Release of Mr. Narayana Menon.*

* 1763 Q.—Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(a) how many memorials and how many copies of resolutions passed in public meetings have been received by the Government for releasing Mr. Narayana Menon and how many for not releasing him; and

(b) whether the Government have taken all these into consideration and, if so, whether they have come to any conclusion on the matter?

A.—(a) Eleven memorials and twenty resolutions requesting the release of M. P. Narayana Menon have been received. One petition was received by the District Magistrate, Malabar, praying that he should not be released and four persons withdrew their signatures from a memorial praying for his release on the ground that they had been induced to sign through misrepresentation.

(b) Yes. The attention of the hon. Member is invited to the answer to clause (b) of question No. 1710.

Mr. A. CHIDAMBARA NADAR:—"Sir, with regard to clause (a), may I know the ground on which the District Magistrate of Malabar prayed for not releasing Mr. Narayana Menon?"

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR:—"One petition was received by the District Magistrate praying for the release, but the District Magistrate did not pray."

Mr. A. CHIDAMBARA NADAR:—"What is the ground, Sir, on which he put in his application for not releasing him?"

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR:—"I do not think it is necessary to refer to those grounds. I do not think it is expedient that I should do so."

Land Revenue, Survey and Settlement.*Re-settlement in South Kanara district.*

* 1764 Q.—Mr. K. RAGHUCHANDRA BALLAL: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) how many times the district of South Kanara has been surveyed by the Government since its annexation by the British;

(b) when the last survey operations were completed in South Kanara;

(c) whether it is a fact that a re-survey has been introduced in some of the taluks in the said district; if so, which of them;

(d) what are the reasons for the introduction of re-survey operations in South Kanara;

(e) whether it is a fact that re-settlement of lands in South Kanara is under contemplation;

(f) whether the Government are not aware that at the last settlement in the district the rates of assessment were very excessive, and whether it is a fact that the productive capacity of those lands cannot bear the existing rates;

24th March 1926]

(g) whether the Government are aware that great agricultural discontent exists in the district by reason of the floods of recent years and by reason of the rinderpest prevailing in many parts of the district; and

(h) whether, in view of the above facts, the Government propose to give up the idea of the introduction of re-settlement in the district?

A.—(a) Once.

(b) In the year 1896.

(c) & (d) The hon. Member is referred to the answer to clause (a) of question No. 335 asked at the meeting of the Council held on 24th August 1925.

(e) Yes.

(f) The attention of the hon. Member is invited to paragraph 36 of the report of the Settlement Officer in G.O. No. 982, dated 9th October 1905, which has been laid on the Editors' Table, wherein he has shown that 'the present settlement is far lighter than Munro's when the increase in prices and area under cultivation is taken into account'.

(g) The Government are not aware of any such discontent.

(h) The facts in the possession of the Government do not justify any such proposal.

Strength and occupation of villagers in Bindoor division.

* 1765 Q.—Mr. K. RAGHUCHANDRA BALLAL: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue and the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that twenty to thirty villages in Bindoor division of the Kundapur taluk in South Kanara are near the coast line and the western ghats;

(b) whether it is a fact that the said villages were grouped as special and first class at the last Settlement;

(c) whether it is a fact that the population of those villages is about seventy to eighty thousands;

(d) if not, what the correct population of those villages is;

(e) whether it is a fact that the majority of the population are actual cultivators of lands; and

(f) whether it is a fact that such cultivators have not the advantages of manure leaf supply in and about their lands?

A.—(a) to (e) The hon. Member has not given the names of particular villages for which information is required. His attention is drawn to G.O. No. 757, dated the 25th August 1902, and G.O. No. 982, dated the 9th October 1905, which have been placed on the Editors' Table. From these it is seen that 121 villages on the coast between Shirur and the Chandragiri river have been included in the special class, but the Government are not aware how many of them lie in the area referred to by the hon. Member as the Bindoor division.

(f) So far as the Government is aware, it is not a fact.

[24th March 1926]

Public Service.*Special pay to acting officers.*

* 1766 Q.—Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue and the hon. the Member for Finance be pleased to state—

(a) whether officers of the Madras Provincial services who are made to do the duties of heads of offices are generally not granted any additional privilege or pay or travelling allowance;

(b) whether the same disability exists in the case of men belonging to the Upper subordinate service acting in the Provincial Service; and

(c) in view of the increased responsibility that pertains to the acting appointments why a special pay is not granted to the officiating incumbent?

A.—(a), (b) & (c) The questions are not understood. An officer of a Madras Provincial or Upper subordinate service who officiates in a higher appointment than his permanent appointment will draw pay and allowances in accordance with the Fundamental rules on the subject.

Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—“ I am sorry, Sir, I have not made myself clear on the point. I would rather illustrate it like this. Suppose an officer of the Provincial Service is made to act as Director of Agriculture. Would he, in that case, be able to draw his travelling allowance on the scale that is permitted to the Director of Agriculture? ”

The hon. Mr. N. E. MARJORIBANKS :—“ The matter is regulated, Sir, by the Fundamental Rules. As regards the special case which the hon. Member has put, I cannot undertake to answer it without notice.”

Local Boards and Municipal Councils.*Nomination of depressed classes members to local boards in the Tanjore district.*

* 1767 Q.—Mr. R. VEERIAN: Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) the names of all the taluk boards and union boards that are within the jurisdiction of the Tanjore District Board;

(b) the names of all the members belonging to the depressed classes that were nominated to each of the taluk boards and union boards by the respective local board presidents to represent the said classes in each of the taluk boards and union boards; and

(c) if the Government have no information with reference to clauses (a) and (b), whether they will be pleased to call for the information?

A.—(a), (b) & (c) A list* giving the available information is laid on the table. Information in regard to the union boards under the Papanasam Taluk Board has not yet been received from the President, District Board, Tanjore.

* Printed as appendix on page 668 infra.

[24th March 1926]

Mr. R. VEERIAN :—“ Sir, with reference to clauses (a), (b) and (c), Government have asked me to refer to the list. I find, Sir, from the list that in two taluk boards of the Tanjore district no member of the depressed classes has been appointed and in fifteen of the unions also no member of the depressed classes has been appointed. I want to know, Sir, whether the Government have sent any recent circulars to see that members of the depressed classes are appointed to these taluk boards and union boards according to the Act by the appointing authority, when the next vacancy occurs? ”

The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL :—“ The President of the District Board has been asked to report as to why he has not appointed members from the depressed classes. We have not yet received his reply.”

The non-representation of Viswakarma community in the newly formed taluk boards of Nilakkottai, Palni and Dindigul.

* 1768 Q.—Mr. A. CHIDAMBARA NADAR: Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Viswakarma community is taken as a minority community in Madura district;

(b) if so, why they were not represented in the newly formed taluk boards of Nilakkottai, Palni and Dindigul;

(c) whether Nayudus, Vellalars and Goundars are minority communities in the district and how many of them have been nominated to the newly formed taluk boards;

(d) whether any representation was made to the Government that Viswakarmas should be represented in those boards;

(e) whether the Government simply approved the nominations sent up by the President of the District Board, or made any alterations; and

(f) whether an elected member for Nilakkottai firka was taken as a member for Dindigul Taluk Board, and another was nominated for Nilakkottai in his place?

A.—(a) The Government are not in a position to express an opinion on the point.

(b) The President, District Board, Madura, did not recommend the nomination of Viswakarma.

(c) With reference to the first part of this clause, the hon. Member is referred to clause (a) above. The number of Nayudus, Vellalars and Goundars appointed as members of the new taluk boards is as shown below :—

	Taluk board.	Nayudus.	Vellalars.	Goundars.
Dindigul	...	5	...	1
Palni	...	...	3	4
Nilakkottai	...	...	2	1

(d) An application was received from a member of the Viswakarma community.

(e) The Government made some alterations.

(f) The answer is in the affirmative.

Mr. A. CHIDAMBARA NADAR :—“ With regard to clause (d), may I know, Sir, whether any steps have been taken on the application? ”

[24th March 1926]

The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL:—"Government do not think it desirable to take any steps."

Mr. A. CHIDAMBARA NADAR:—"May I know, Sir, whether the Viswakarma community will be represented in any of the taluk boards at any time?"

The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL:—"It is rather difficult to answer that question. The Viswakarma community is not considered to be an important minority community in the sense that the Christian, the Muhammadan or the depressed communities are."

Mr. A. CHIDAMBARA NADAR:—"Is there any list of the minority communities?"

The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL:—"I do not think so."

Mr. A. CHIDAMBARA NADAR:—"Then, Sir, with regard to clause (e), may I know what necessity there was for making the alterations in the matter of these nominations?"

The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL:—"On the representation of the parties affected in the matter, the Government may make alterations."

The RAJA OF RAMNAD:—"Does the Viswakarma community come under the class of Brahmans? I thought they were claiming it."

The hon. the PRESIDENT:—"That is hardly a fair question to put to the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government."

Mr. A. CHIDAMBARA NADAR:—"With regard to clause (c), Sir, the Government made some alterations on the application of the persons affected. May I know, Sir, who those persons are?"

The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL:—"I should like to have notice of this question."

Mr. A. CHIDAMBARA NADAR:—"May I know, Sir, whether the persons who were affected are the persons who were nominated?"

The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL:—"I cannot say that off-hand."

Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR:—"With reference to clause (b), Sir, may I know the taluk board under whose jurisdiction the firka is included? It is said that an elected member of one was taken as a member for a certain taluk board, and I wish to know whether that firka is included in this taluk board?"

The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL:—"Yes, in the Nilakottai Taluk Board itself."

Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR:—"Then, Sir, what was the need for nomination for Nilakottai? Are nominations made for areas?"

The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL:—"Yes. It was a newly constituted taluk board."

Representation of Jains in the Madras Municipal Corporation and Madras District Educational Council.

* 1769 Q.—Mr. K. RAGHUCHANDRA BALLAL: Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government and the hon. the Minister for Education be pleased to state whether there are any Jains as members in the Madras City Municipal Corporation and in the Madras District Educational Council?

A.—The answer is in the negative.

24th March 1926]

Mr. D. MANJAYYA HEGGADE:—"Sir, may I ask the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government whether the Jains are entitled to nominations for the Municipal Corporation at the next election?"

The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL:—"There is no vacancy at present. When a vacancy occurs the claims of the community will be considered on their merits."

Contribution to Chingleput District Board by the Conjeevaram municipality.

* 1770 Q.—Mr. S. SATYAMURTI: Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether representations were made to the Government in January 1922 by the municipality of Conjeevaram about the excessive contribution levied from them to the District Board of Chingleput from collections made from their toll-gates;

(b) whether the Government ordered that the municipality must pay a third of the collection to the district board;

(c) whether on 19th January 1924 the municipality unanimously passed the resolution requesting the Government to reconsider their decision and the Government refused to do so;

(d) whether subsequently the municipal council wanted the Chief Minister to receive a deputation on this matter;

(e) whether the Minister refused to receive the deputation and if so, the reasons; and

(f) whether it is a fact that the other municipalities in the district, e.g., Chingleput and Saidapet, are contributing only a fifth of their incomes from the toll-gates to the district board?

A.—(a) Yes; the Municipal Chairman reported in January 1922 that, having regard to its financial condition, it was not possible for the Council to continue to pay a contribution of one-third of its net toll receipts to the Chingleput District Board.

(b) Yes, in January 1924.

(c) Yes.

(d) Yes.

(e) Yes. The joint committee consisting of the representatives of both the local bodies appointed for the purpose was unable to arrive at an agreement as to what should be the proportion in which the municipal toll income should be divided between the Municipal Council and the District Board. After careful consideration of the representations received from both the local bodies the Government decided that the existing arrangements should continue. It was therefore considered that no useful purpose would be served by receiving a deputation on the subject. It is still open to the local bodies if they think fit to appoint another joint committee to settle the distribution.

[24th March 1926]

- (J) The Chingleput Municipal Council contributes to the District Board one-fifth of the net income from tolls; the Saidapet Municipal Council, on the other hand, has since 1923-24 received from the District Board a fixed annual contribution of Rs. 6,000 as compensation for waiving its right to open toll-gates of its own.

Acquisition of site for school play-ground.

* 1771 Q.—Mr. R. VEERIAN: Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

- (a) whether the Government intend to take any steps in regard to a protest made by me in letter dated 4th December 1925 against the proposal of the Coimbatore municipality for acquiring about nine Adi-Dravida houses in the Ninth ward, Thirumall street, Coimbatore, in spite of their unwillingness, for a secondary school building play-ground without acquiring the vacant spaces that are lying idle for the purpose; and
(b) whether they have given consent for such acquisition of nine Adi-Dravida houses on seeing their estimates?

A.—(a) & (b) The hon. Member was informed on 19th December that proposals for the acquisition had not yet reached Government and that when they were received, due consideration would be given to the points raised by him. A copy of his letter and of the Government's reply thereto was sent to the Collector of Coimbatore for information. No proposals for the acquisition have yet been submitted to Government.

Alleged use of 'Chakillian' in a notice issued by the Mettupalaiyam Union Board.

* 1772 Q.—Mr. R. VEERIAN: Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

- (a) whether the copy of G.O. No. 817, Law (General), dated the 25th March 1922, has been communicated to all the chairmen of municipalities, presidents of local boards and other heads of the Government offices; and
(b) if so, why the Mettupalaiyam Union Board within the Coimbatore taluk used the word 'Chakillian' in the printed notice issued by them on 27th July 1925 and served to one Posangan alias Nagan, Mettupalaiyam?

A.—(a) As the Government Order was placed on the Editors' Table, it was not thought necessary in the first instance to communicate it to all local boards and municipal councils. This has, however, recently been done.

(b) The Government have no information.

Mr. R. VEERIAN:—"Sir, in spite of the issue of the Government Order not to use the reproachful term, I find that they are still using it. I therefore wish to know whether Government are going to take any further effective steps to see that their orders are obeyed."

The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL:—"It is not for Government to take action in the matter. The Government only said that they would not use it. If others use it, it is for the party concerned to take action."

[24th March 1926]

Mr. R. VEERIAN:—"Sir, it is not any party that is using the term. The word occurs in the printed orders of the local boards."

The hon. the PRESIDENT:—"So, the action must be taken in the local boards."

Mr. R. VEERIAN:—"The Government Order forbids the use of such terms in any of the Government records."

The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL:—"The records of local bodies are not Government records."

Mr. R. VEERIAN:—"Are not local bodies part and parcel of Government, Sir?"

The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL:—"If, however, the hon. Member draws the attention of the Government to any particular instance, the Government will bring it to notice of the local body concerned."

Mr. R. VEERIAN:—"Here is the particular instance of the Mettupalaiyam Union Board. They have used the word in a printed notice. And I have drawn the attention of the Government to that matter."

The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL:—"What I meant to say was that if the particular paper where the word is used is forwarded to the Government, the Government will refer it to the local body concerned."

Mr. R. VEERIAN:—"As I have given sufficient information in this question, will the Government be pleased to call for information?"

The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL:—"I have already said that if the hon. Member furnishes the Government with a copy of the document, the Government will refer the matter to the local body concerned."

Exemption of motor vehicles from tolls.

* 1773 Q.—Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR: Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state the steps taken by the Government to exempt motor vehicles from tolls on payment of an additional annual tax?

A.—At a joint meeting on 18th May 1925, the Local and Municipal and Public Health Advisory Committees suggested that motor vehicles might be exempted from tolls on payment of an additional annual tax. They desired that statistics of motor vehicles in each district and of the amount of tolls that would be foregone by each district board, if motor vehicles were exempted from tolls, should be called for. Complete information has not yet been received. When it has been obtained, the matter will again be placed before the Advisory Committees.

Medical.

Scheme for registration of indigenous medical practitioners.

* 1774 Q.—Mr. C. GOPALA MENON: Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state whether the Government have a scheme for the registration of indigenous medical practitioners; if so, at what stage it is?

[24th March 1926]

A.—The Government have no such proposal at present under consideration.

Mr. R. MADANAGOPAL NAYUDU :—" Sir, in view of the fact that there is a Bill for the registration of the indigenous midwives, will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to consider the advisability of the proposal to register the indigenous medical practitioners also ? "

The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL :—" If the Bill now pending before the House is passed, the matter may be considered. "

Rao Sahib P. V. GOPALAN :—" On a point of order, Sir. Order 2 of the orders made by the President under S.O. 15 printed at the beginning of the List of Questions and Answers says :

" If a member responsible for a starred question happens to be absent, when it is called, it will be open either to him or to any other member to put supplemental questions thereon after the other starred questions for the day have been answered "

" Is my hon. Friend in order in putting this question now ? "

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" The hon. Member can put the question now. He is in order. "

Public Health.

Scheme for water-supply to Bellary town.

* 1775 Q.—Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR : Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that the District Board of Bellary has resolved that water tax shall be levied in the union of Rayadrug only after the water scheme is completed and found to satisfy the needs of the town ;

(b) the maximum and minimum depth of water found in the Doddannabhavi wherefrom water is proposed to be pumped out for the supply of the town in each of the last three years ;

(c) whether any attempts were made in the past, by pumping water out of the well or by any other device, to find out the daily quantity of water from the well that can be safely counted upon even during summer to meet the demands of the town ;

(d) the population of the town and the number of gallons per head which the scheme on completion is expected to provide for the town ;

(e) the part or parts of the town, if any, that are not to benefit by the water scheme under contemplation and the population dwelling in such area ; and

(f) if Doddannabhavi by itself cannot meet the demands of the town, whether the Government have considered the question of supplementing its supply by sinking new wells or in other ways and, if so, whether the extra cost so resulting will be borne altogether by the Government ?

A.—(a) & (b) The Government have no information.

(c) No quantity tests have been carried out, but there are reported to be good springs in the well and the well besides supplying a large portion of the town with drinking water is said to have been used for irrigation.

[24th March 1926]

(d) The population of union was 9,565 according to the census of 1921. The scheme provides for a water-supply of about two gallons per head per day.

(e) None.

(f) The question of supplementing the supply from Doddannabhavi does not arise at present.

Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—" Sir, have the Government received any memorial to the effect that that particular well is not likely to supply the needs of the town ? "

The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL :—" No information is available, Sir. "

Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—" Sir, in view of the fact that the District Board of Bellary has resolved that water-tax shall be levied only after the water-supply scheme is completed and found to satisfy the needs of the town and in view of a similar resolution of the Union of Rayadrug, will not the Government see first whether the well can supply enough water to the town. A portable engine may be brought and the sufficiency of the water may be found before embarking on a scheme costing thousands. I should think that the sufficiency should be tried, and a quantitative test applied before the scheme is embarked upon. "

The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL :—" There has been no report from the local board and if there is such a report, the request will be considered. "

Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—" Would the Government then be pleased to call for whether or not the resolution of the kind mentioned in clause (a) has been passed by the District Board and the Union of Rayadrug ; if so, what their reasons were ? "

The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL :—" I think it is for the local board to communicate the resolution, to the Government, of course, if they think it necessary to do so. "

Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—" In the meanwhile, are the Government proceeding with the work, Sir ? "

The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL :—" Yes. "

Village Panchayats.

Village Panchayats' Conference, Sivakasi taluk.

* 1776 Q.—Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR : Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state whether he has received a copy of the resolutions of the Panchayats' Conference and what action, if any, has been taken ?

A.—A copy of the resolutions has been received by the Registrar-General of Panchayats. They are now under the consideration of the Government.

Conference of Village Panchayats.

* 1777 Q.—Mr. A. CHIDAMBARA NAIDU : Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state whether he has received a copy of the resolutions of the Conference of Village Panchayats and what action, if any, has been taken ?

(a) whether the Government have passed in the conference of Village Panchayats any resolution regarding the Thiruthangal ; and

[24th March 1926]

(b) whether any action has been taken by the Government on the resolutions?

A.—(a) & (b) The attention of the hon. Member is invited to the answer to question No. 1776.

Constitution of village panchayats in the Presidency.

* 1778 Q.—Mr. R. VEERIAN: Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) how many village panchayats have been established or constituted in the Presidency and how many members of the depressed classes were able to get through the elections up to this;

(b) whether there is no provision for nomination to depressed classes in the Village Panchayats Act as in the case of Local Boards Act; and

(c) what are the activities of the village panchayats?

A.—(a) Up to 22nd February 1926, 874 village panchayats had been constituted. So far as information is available, 32 members of the depressed classes have been elected to ten panchayats.

(b) No.

(c) The hon. Member is referred to sections 15 to 25 of the Madras Village Panchayats Act, 1920, which describe the functions and powers of panchayats.

Mr. R. VEERIAN:—“With reference to the answer to (a), may I know whether, owing to the several practical difficulties experienced in the matter, the Government contemplate the inclusion of a provision in the Village Panchayats Act to the effect that members of the depressed classes shall be represented in the panchayat courts?”

The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL:—“The Government are trying to divide the wards in such a manner as may give representation to the depressed classes.”

Education.

Proposal for treating untrained teachers of 15 years' service as trained.

* 1779 Q.—Mr. R. VEERIAN: Will the hon. the Minister for Education and the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) what has become of the proposal which was before the Director of Public Instruction, Madras, about treating the untrained elementary school teachers who have put in about 12 or 15 years' service and whose age also exceeds 40 or so as trained teachers giving them all the facilities that are being given to trained teachers at present;

(b) whether the proposal has been given effect to;

(c) if not, whether the Government now at least intend taking up such a proposal for their consideration;

(d) whether the Government are aware that an Adi-Dravida teacher employed by the Palladam Taluk Board, Coimbatore district, whose age exceeds over 40 and who has put in a service of about 17 years, has not been treated like other teachers with qualifications like his own and that his pay has been reduced from Rs. 18 to Rs. 16; and

[24th March 1926]

(e) what pay is given at present to all the untrained teachers employed by the Palladam Taluk Board, Coimbatore district, and why the pay of the teacher has been reduced?

A.—(a), (b) & (c) The Government understand that the Director of Public Instruction, after careful consideration, decided not to proceed with the proposal for the following reasons among others:—

(1) that he did not feel justified in recommending additional concessions such as were contemplated so long as the department was unable to meet in full the demands made by the District Educational Councils for paying grants to elementary schools at sanctioned rates and as there were more urgent claims on the funds at the disposal of the department; and

(2) that the rates of teaching grants to which untrained teachers are eligible have been recently increased. The Government do not intend to consider the proposal at present.

(d) The Government have no information.

(e) The minimum pay of an untrained teacher employed in elementary schools, under the Palladam Taluk Board, is Rs. 16 inclusive of a temporary allowance of Rs. 4. The Government have no information in regard to the latter part of the question.

Rao Sahib P. V. GOPALAN:—“Sir, may I ask the hon. the Minister for Education whether the first part of the answer to clauses (a), (b) and (c) relates to schools under private management or whether he does not find it reasonable to interfere in the case of aided schools managed by local bodies?”

The hon. Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. PATRO:—“Aided schools managed by local boards—there is an inconsistency in that.”

Mr. R. MADANAGOPAL NAYUDU:—“Is the hon. Minister aware of the fact that the Madras District Educational Council made a recommendation on similar lines some time ago?”

The hon. Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. PATRO:—“I am not aware of any such recommendation, Sir.”

The RAJA OF RAMNAD:—“I heard the hon. Minister say that ‘aided schools under local boards’ was an inconsistency. May I ask whether local boards schools are not given any such grant in aid?”

The hon. Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. PATRO:—“They are subsidized, not given grants-in-aid.”

The RAJA OF RAMNAD:—“Subsidized under what provision of law or rule, if not under the Grant-in-Aid Code?”

The hon. Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. PATRO:—“Under the Grant-in-Aid Code.”

[24th March 1926]

Co-operative Societies.

Division of the Inspecting staff of Co-operative Societies for audit and administration.

* 1780 Q.—Mr. T. ADINARAYANA CHETTIYAR: Will the hon. the Minister for Development be pleased to state—

(a) in how many sections of Assistant Registrars of Co-operative Societies the division of the inspecting staff for audit and administration is being followed at present;

(b) whether in any sections the division is not followed, and, if so, the names of those divisions and reasons for the same; and

(c) whether in any sections the division was followed only for a part of the year ending with 30th June 1925 but not during the whole of the year; and if so, their names and reasons for the same?

A.—(a) In all sections.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The Government have no information.

Indian Companies Act.

Companies registered under the Indian Companies Act.

* 1781 Q.—Mr. C. GOPALA MENON: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(a) the number of companies in the Madras Presidency registered under the Indian Companies Act in existence at the beginning of 1915;

(b) the number of companies in the Madras Presidency registered under the Indian Companies Act for the last ten years beginning from 1915 to 1924 inclusive;

(c) the number of companies in the Madras Presidency removed from the register since the last ten years beginning from 1915 to 1924 inclusive; and

(d) the nominal share capital, the subscribed share capital, and the actual paid-up share capital through calls in each of the above-mentioned classes of companies?

A.—The attention of the hon. Member is invited to the answer to question No. 978 given at the meeting of the Legislative Council on the 14th December 1925.

Veterinary.

Pay and prospects of subordinates in Veterinary, etc., Departments.

* 1782 Q.—Mr. J. A. SALDANHA: Will the hon. the Minister for Development and the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether there have been representations made to the Government or Veterinary Department authorities from Veterinary graduates associations and others in regard to the inadequacy of pay of non-gazetted Veterinary subordinates;

(b) whether it has been found that they are paid comparatively on a scale far lower than the officers of corresponding rank in the other departments—Revenue, Agricultural, Medical, etc.;

24th March 1926]

(c) whether their work is appreciated and in demand by the public concerned so far as Government are aware;

(d) what are the educational qualifications required for Veterinary Assistant Surgeons;

(e) what are the various grades of appointments and pay of the subordinate officers in the Veterinary Department;

(f) what are the higher appointments (with pay) which they can aspire to;

(g) whether they are at liberty to have private practice and if so, what is the extent of this practice as a rule; and

(h) whether Government will be pleased to place before the House a comparative statement showing the appointments of the subordinate service in the Veterinary, Revenue, Agricultural and Medical Departments with their pay and permanent allowances and the higher gazetted appointments open to them?

A.—(a) Yes.

(b) No.

(c) Yes.

(d) Secondary School-Leaving Certificate and diploma of the Veterinary College.

(e) The only appointments in the subordinate service in the Veterinary Department are those of Veterinary Assistant Surgeons on a pay of Rs. 60—4—120 with a selection grade of Rs. 125—5—175.

(f) The higher appointments are those included in the Madras Veterinary Service—Deputy Superintendents and Assistant Professor and Personal Assistant to the Principal on a pay of Rs. 250—25—550 (efficiency bar)—25—750.

(g) Yes; provided it does not interfere with the discharge of public duties. The Government have no information on the extent of the practice.

(h) The hon. Member is referred to the heads of account concerned in the Civil Budget Estimate and to Appendix E thereto for information regarding the detailed scales of pay of non-gazetted and gazetted appointments in the various departments.

UNSTARRED QUESTIONS.**Civil Justice.**

Seating arrangements for distinguished visitors in South Kanara District Munsifs' Courts.

1783 Q.—Mr. J. A. SALDANHA: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(a) what arrangements there are for the seating of respectable persons interested in cases, who have to attend the Court but are not required to give evidence, in the District Munsifs' Courts in South Kanara;

(b) whether in some of the courts seats are provided for such persons but not in others; and

(c) whether there are any general instructions in this connexion?

[24th March 1926]

4.—(a) & (b) Benches have been provided in all the District Munsifs' Courts in South Kanara district for the benefit of those who attend courts either on business or as visitors.

(c) No.

Police.

Quarters for sub-inspectors of Police in the Madras City.

1784 Q.—Mr. J. A. SALDANHA: Will the hon. the Law Member and the hon. the Minister for Education be pleased to state whether among the sub-inspectors of the Madras City Police Anglo-Indian sub-inspectors get better quarters than Indian sub-inspectors?

A.—The Government quarters provided for European, Anglo-Indian and Indian sub-inspectors were designed to suit their different habits of living. It has recently been reported, however, that the type-design for Indian sub-inspectors was unpopular and a revision of the design is now under consideration.

Motor cycle allowances of sub-inspectors of Police.

1785 Q.—Mr. J. A. SALDANHA: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state whether existing motor cycle allowances of the sub-inspectors are cancelled when they exchange or buy another motor cycle while the inspectors are allowed to sell or exchange them without their allowances being stopped?

A.—Before 1923 all sub-inspectors in the City were granted a conveyance allowance of Rs. 20 per mensem, the actual conveyance to be maintained not being specified, and the sub-inspectors in the mufassal were granted a conveyance allowance of Rs. 5 per mensem when an ordinary cycle was maintained and Rs. 25 per mensem when a horse or a motor cycle was maintained and used; all Inspectors in the City and all Reserve Inspectors in the mufassal were granted a conveyance allowance of Rs. 25 per mensem and all Circle Inspectors in the mufassal were granted a conveyance allowance of Rs. 25 per mensem which was reduced to Rs. 5 per mensem if only a cycle was maintained. In 1923, on the recommendation of the Retrenchment Committee, the conveyance allowance of sub-inspectors was withdrawn in the case of a Prosecuting and Court Sub-Inspector and those in the Mounted branch in the City and of mufassal sub-inspectors employed in the Railway Police or as Prosecuting sub-inspectors or readers and it was replaced by a cycle allowance of Rs. 5 in other cases except in the case of sub-inspectors of the Motor and the Intelligence departments in the City who were granted a conveyance allowance of Rs. 25 per mensem if a motor cycle was maintained. Sub-inspectors in the City and in the mufassal who already possessed motor cycles were, however, allowed to draw a motor cycle allowance of Rs. 25 per mensem, but this concession does not apply to any subsequent purchase of a new motor cycle. Divisional Inspectors, the Harbour Inspector, the Reserve Inspector, the Inspectors of

[24th March 1926]

the Motor and Intelligence departments in the City were granted a motor cycle allowance of Rs. 25 per mensem on condition of their maintaining a motor cycle. A similar allowance was granted to Circle Inspectors in the mufassal.

Public Service.

Number of Mappillas employed as Tahsildars, etc.

1786 Q.—Mr. T. M. MOIDU SAHIB: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state the number of Mappillas serving as Tahsildars, Deputy Tahsildars and Revenue Inspectors?

A.—The hon. Member is referred to the district establishment lists which give the names of the officials holding these posts.

Forests.

Disafforestation of the Palamadi reserve.

1787 Q.—Mr. T. ADINARAYANA CHETTIYAR: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact there are large areas in the Palamadi reserve in the Vellore range of the North Arcot district where there are no valuable trees whatever and which are situated close to villages; and

(b) whether there is any proposal to disafforest these forests in the very near future?

A.—(a) The Palamadi reserve measuring 8,160 acres is not valuable from a forest point of view. It is situated close to Vellore town.
(b) No. A portion of the reserve measuring 6,687 acres includes the catchment area of the Vellore Water Works and proposals for transferring it to the Vellore municipality are under the consideration of the Chief Conservator. The remaining portion of the reserve will be handed over for panchayat management.

Local Boards and Municipal Councils.

Cancellation of the increased water-tax imposed by the Kumbakonam Municipal Council.

1788 Q.—Mr. T. ADINARAYANA CHETTIYAR: Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that the Rate-payers' Association of the old seventh ward of the Kumbakonam municipality have been asking Government for the cancellation of the increase of $1\frac{1}{2}$ per cent on water and drainage tax imposed by the Kumbakonam Municipal Council in that ward;

(b) whether it is a fact that the Municipal Council did not forward the above resolution of the Rate-payers' Association to Government; and

(c) if the answer to (b) is in the negative, when and what recommendations were made to Government by the Municipal Council on the above request of the Rate-payers' Association?

[24th March 1926]

A.—(a) Representations were received by the Government in 1923 and 1924 from the Rate-payers' Association of the old seventh ward of the Kumbakonam municipality against the resolution of the Municipal Council in which it decided that the water and drainage tax should be levied in this ward at the same rate as in other parts of the town, i.e., that the rate of the tax should be increased from 2 per cent to $5\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. No petition regarding an increase of $1\frac{1}{2}$ per cent as mentioned in the question has been received by the Government.

(b) & (c) No resolutions of the Rate-payers' Association were submitted to the Government by the Municipal Council but they were considered by the Council before it decided to levy the tax at the enhanced rate. The Government, after consideration of the representations submitted to them direct, declined to interfere.

Nominations to Tanjore District Board.

1789 Q.—Mr. P. S. RAJAPPA: With reference to the answer given to my question No. 640 on the 29th October last, will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) the reasons for which the Government concluded that there was no need for nominating a zamindar to the district board; and

(b) whether it has reference solely to the Tanjore District Board or whether it is the policy of the Government in respect of all district boards in the Presidency?

A.—(a) The Government were given to understand that the zamindars of Tanjore district, most of whom belonged to the Kallar community, could easily secure representation on the district board by election in view of the strength of the Kallar community in the district.

(b) The answer has reference only to the Tanjore District Board.

Administration reports of municipalities and local boards.

1790 Q.—Mr. J. A. SALDANHA: Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) why in the reports on the administration of municipalities and of local boards no financial summaries are shown showing the income under various headings of their income such as land cess, profession tax, tolls, etc., separately; and

(b) whether orders have been issued for showing the several receipts and heads of expenditure and if not, why?

A.—(a) & (b) Full details are given in the Comparative Annual Account which accompanies the administration report and the Government therefore consider it unnecessary that they should be given in the report.

Introduction of the Madras Local Boards Bill.

1791 Q.—Rao Bahadur A. S. KRISHNA RAO PANTULU: Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state the progress made in the preparation of the Madras Local Boards Bill, and when it is likely to be introduced in the Council?

24th March 1926]

A.—The hon. Member is referred to the answer to question No. 1638.

Aid to the Madura Deaf and Dumb school for purchasing a weaving loom.

1792 Q.—Rao Bahadur C. NATESA MUDALIYAR: Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that Devakotta Union Board was not allowed to pay Rs. 125 sanctioned by the union board to the Madura Deaf and Dumb school for purchasing a weaving loom; and

(b) if so, whether the Government will reconsider its orders and ask the Devakotta Union board to pay the sanctioned amount to the Madura Deaf and Dumb school?

A.—(a) The answer is in the affirmative.

(b) The answer is in the negative.

Imposition of enhanced taxes by the Tadpatri municipality.

1793 Q.—Mr. G. RAMESWARA RAO: Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether any appeals of the rate-payers to the Tadpatri municipality against taxes imposed resulted in enhancement and if so, what they are;

(b) what was the tax levied at the outset and what was the enhanced tax in each case in each of the last three years; and

(c) whether the Government obtained any information in the matter of the grievance, whether any report was called for and received and if so, whether it will be placed on the table of the House?

A.—(a) & (b) The answer to the first part of clause (a) is in the affirmative. As regards the second part of clause (a) and clause (b), complete information is not available.

(c) The Government obtained a report from the Collector, but they do not consider that any useful purpose would be served by placing it on the table.

Amalgamation of Karkal and other taluk boards.

1794 Q.—Mr. D. MANJAYYA HEGGADE: Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state whether the Government have come to a final decision regarding the amalgamation of Karkal, Udupi and Coondapoor taluk boards, and Kasaragod and Uppinangadi taluk boards?

A.—The Government have decided not to pursue the proposal for the present.

Mussalman Wakf Act.

Extension of the Mussalman Wakf Act to this Presidency.

1795 Q.—Khan Bahadur HAJI ABD-UL-LAH HAJI QASIM SAHIB Bahadur: Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state whether the Government have any intention of extending the Mussalman Wakf Act (Act No. 42 of 1923) to this Presidency at an early date and if not, why?

A.—The matter is under the consideration of the Government.

[24th March 1926]

Tours.*Tours of the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government.*

1796 Q.—Mr. T. ADINARAYANA CHETTIYAR: Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether he has undertaken any official tours for the purpose of unveiling portraits or laying foundation stones of public buildings; and

(b) whether the cost of travelling to and fro on such occasions has been debited to public funds and, if so, the amount thereof?

A.—(a) Official tours are undertaken for the discharge of public duties. In these tours as well as in their private tours Ministers do unveil portraits of notable persons or lay foundation stones of public buildings when invited to do so by public institutions or individual philanthropists, but no official tours are undertaken merely for the purpose of unveiling portraits or laying foundation stones.

(b) Does not arise.

Excise.*Closure of liquor shops in Madras City.*

1797 Q.—Mr. T. ADINARAYANA CHETTIYAR: Will the hon. the Minister for Education be pleased to state whether the hon. the Minister will be pleased to place the terms of the recommendation of the Madras Excise Licensing Board to close four shops in the ensuing year in the city of Madras and the orders of the Board of Revenue thereon on the table?

A.—The hon. Member's attention is invited to the discussion on his adjournment motion on this subject at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on the 12th February 1926.

[Note.—An asterisk (*) at the commencement of a speech indicates revision by the Member.]

* Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR:—“Sir, I sent a question asking for information as to the names of persons who were nominated for election to a taluk board in Bellary, their particular castes or sub-castes, the names of those finally returned and of those who were defeated, whether any of the defeated candidates have been nominated and whether any candidates proposed for nomination are of the same caste or sub-caste as the successful candidates. That question has been returned by your office as one not being the primary concern of the Local Government; but I find, Sir, questions similar to that, for instance, question No. 1767 put to-day relating to taluk boards, have been answered. May I crave your indulgence to send back the question to your office?”

* The hon. the PRESIDENT:—“The question of admission or rejection of a question should be discussed in the office by means of a communication to the President instead of by a point of order raised in the House. What is the intention of the hon. Member I should like to know?”

* Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR:—“My point is this. Sir, I find among the questions answered here, questions like the one which I sent up but you have disallowed, and I wanted to bring it to your notice just to ascertain whether it was a mere oversight.”

* The hon. the PRESIDENT:—“I think the office and the one who ruled out the question must have had sufficient reasons. If the hon. Member feels in regard to the matter, he should address the office.”

24th March 1926]

II**DISCUSSION REGARDING BUSINESS BEFORE THE HOUSE.**

* Mr. B. RAMACHANDRA REDDI:—“Before we proceed to discuss the motions on the budget, may I request the hon. the Law Member to tell us how many days we are going to sit this week and how many during the next; and if we are to sit during the next week, what business has to be gone through.”

* The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR:—“It is very difficult to answer the question in the form in which it is put, but I take it that we shall go on until the evening or some time during the 26th, so far as the grants are concerned. There will be no sitting on the 27th and 28th, the last Saturday and Sunday of the month. On the 29th March there will be official business which may go on up to 31st. I do not expect the House to sit beyond the 30th.”

* Diwan Bahadur M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—“May I know what the official business is? We have been informed that there would be some supplementary demands. I wish to know whether there is any other business in addition to it.”

* The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR:—“So far as I am instructed, Sir, in addition to the supplementary demands which may not take much time, there will be the Bill for the registration of Nurses and Midwives and some other Bills relating to the Local Self-Government Department.”

* Diwan Bahadur M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—“May I ask the hon. the Chief Minister whether he intends introducing the District Municipalities Act (Amendment) Bill and the City Municipal Act (Amendment) Bill?”

* The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL:—“Yes.”

* The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR:—“I am told that there would be the report of the Public Accounts Committee also.”

* Mr. J. A. SALDANHA:—“We are taken by surprise, Sir, that the District Municipalities Act (Amendment) Bill will be introduced now. We had no notice of the work that will be before us at this sitting. It is due to this House that some sort of intimation is given at the beginning at least of the sitting instead of our being told that such important Bills as the District Municipalities Act Amendment Bill are likely to be introduced at the last moment.”

* The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR:—“I do not understand the difficulty, Sir. These particular Bills relating to the Local Self-Government Department were in the agenda of the last meeting. True it is that we have not specifically adjourned them to this meeting. But hon. Members need not be surprised if business on the list of Government business which was not taken up at the last meeting is brought up now.”

* Mr. J. A. SALDANHA:—“My point is this. Why should items of business be placed before us like this? Already we find an attenuated House day by day.”

* The hon. the PRESIDENT:—“I think the hon. Member has used the word ‘attenuated House’ more than once. I think he had better take the House as it is.”

[24th March 1926]

* Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—" My fear is that the House will get weaker and weaker day by day. Of course we shall have work enough but now in a Bill of this kind which should take a long time to read and long time to discuss, it is due to us that we should have some kind of intimation. Most of us have come with the impression that the discussion will last for only ten days for the budget and one for the discussion of the demands for supplementary grants and also the Bill which has already been discussed, the Bill for the Registration of Nurses and Midwives. We have our arrangements to make at home. We are now told that this important Bill which will take at least two days for discussion will be taken up. I do not say that I am not prepared to face it. We come from long distances and each one of us has got our affairs to attend to at home. To be told at the last moment that this Bill will be taken up is not fair. For the present, I do not raise any such objection but in future at least, I should expect that the Government would give us some idea of the work to be transacted at the beginning of each sitting."

III

MOTIONS ON THE BUDGET FOR 1926-27.

DEMAND XX—MEDICAL—cont.

11-30
a.m.

* Rao Sahib P. V. GOPALAN :—" Mr. President, Sir, the motion which I move runs thus :

'that the allotment of Rs. 1,10,500 for contribution to the United Free Church of Scotland Mission on account of the maintenance of the Leper settlement at Tirumani be reduced by Rs. 100'.

" I have tabled this out not for pressing for a reduction but for acquainting the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government with the actual state of affairs obtaining in the Puthayara leper asylum at Calicut. I am told that this asylum was made over to the Christian Association in the year 1923 when there were only about 40 lepers in that asylum. Till then the Calicut municipality was managing the asylum and they have been incurring an expenditure of about Rs. 4,000. Now I am told that the number of inmates in that leper asylum is over a hundred and the actual cost of running it comes to about Rs. 17,000 or Rs. 18,000. I am told that the Government of Madras gives only about 30 per cent of the expenditure and when a request was made to the Calicut municipality by the authorities of the leper asylum, that municipality refused to give any grant except a sum of Rs. 350, which works at the rate of two per cent of the expenditure now incurred by the authorities of the asylum. I would therefore appeal to the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government to have mercy on these so-called unfortunate inmates of this leper asylum (Mr. J. A. Saldanha: 'Why so called? They are really unfortunate people') and request him to grant more money every year for the maintenance of this asylum, the inmates of which come from different parts of Malabar, Cochin and Travancore. I am told that more than 25 per cent of the lepers do come from the municipality of Calicut and it is only fair that that municipality should contribute about Rs. 1,000 instead of 2 per cent of the expenditure of the asylum as they do now."

* Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—" I have got a motion on a similar subject, and I wish to speak in general about leper asylums. Now, we have got before us motion No. 644 on the paper, from which you will find that the sum of

24th March 1926]

[Mr. J. A. Saldanha]

over a lakh is budgeted for the leper asylum at Tirumani, and this amount is to be given to the mission which manages the asylum as a sort of contribution. We are not told for what particular object this money is to be spent, and what are the conditions under which this money is to be spent, what is the contribution made by the mission itself for the maintenance of this asylum and whether the Government is solely responsible for its maintenance or does the mission contribute something. Then we find that in spite of about 3 lakhs spent over the buildings and a lakh a year which is, I believe, the annual recurring charge, the condition of the lepers in the city of Madras has hardly improved. We find more or less the same number of lepers passing us everywhere in different parts of the town begging for bread and becoming a source of nuisance. At the same time apart from their nuisance, I wish to appeal to the House for merciful consideration of their distressful condition.

" Then with regard to the asylum at Calicut in the Malabar district, it is the one asylum the lepers have got for that area. The Government contribution to that asylum is only about 30 per cent. The municipality pays nothing and I do not know how much the district board pays. It says it has nothing to do with it, I suppose. At Mangalore we have got an asylum for which the Government pays Rs. 4-8-0 per mensem for each inmate. The municipality pays something like Rs. 500, but the district and local boards have stopped their contributions on the ground that that institution is semi-national. When I asked what the meaning of that expression was, I was told 'Look into the dictionary for the meaning'; and yet I must say that this is a very mysterious word. I think my hon. Friend, the Member for Chingleput, used that expression or something like that. But when I asked what it meant, I was told that I must look into the dictionary. When people are vague and are not earnest about doing the work, they will always tell us, when we ask the meaning of the policy underlying that word, that we should look into the dictionary. When I asked the President of the District Board what the meaning of the expression 'semi-national' was, he said that 'national means institution which is for the benefit of the whole of the Presidency, and 'semi-national' means partly for the benefit of the lepers of the Presidency and partly for the benefit of those of the district. It may refer even to the whole of India. That is the explanation given by the President of the District Board; he gave it to me in writing. Now, the District Board have stopped the contribution to this institution on the ground that it is semi-national in character. I asked the authorities of the asylum whether there are any inmates coming from outside, outside lepers, who have come from Malabar and elsewhere. And the answer was in the negative, that is, no lepers came from outside, and that all inmates were from within the district. Now in the district of South Kanara there are over 300 lepers, and in the whole Presidency the number of lepers according to the last census is about 1,500. And I believe in the hospital at Chingleput only 300 lepers are looked after. There are other asylums, one at Kumbakonam, and a few at other places, maintained mostly by Missionary bodies. They are very poorly aided by the Government and are leading a precarious life owing to the lukewarm support given by the Government. There are some district boards and municipalities helping them. But I think, Sir, in the matter of these lepers who, apart from their pitiable condition, are a source of danger to

[Mr. J. A. Saldanha]

[24th March 1926]

others on account of the infectious nature of their disease, and whose piteous condition evokes our sympathy, I think it is high time that Government adopt a forward policy of relief to lepers. I have been agitating for this relief since the very first meeting of this Council, and as yet the hon. the Chief Minister can only tell us that the Government are considering a comprehensive policy and an exhaustive settlement of the question. I may indeed give him credit for all this, but I have great doubt as to whether the Government are in earnest. The indifference of Government towards this matter can be seen from this. When I asked a question about lepers I referred therein to the Lepers Act and I received a demi-official letter asking me to mention the year in which that Act was passed. In fact they do not know whether it is a Government of India Act or a Madras Act. Then I replied that it was a Government of India Act of 1898. Again, they did not know that the Act was amended. The opinion in the old times was that leprosy was contagious in its later stages, but the present opinion is that in the early stage also it is contagious. I think the Act as amended is sufficiently comprehensive to enable the Government to take action."

* The RAJA OF RAMNAD :—"May I ask the hon. Member what the early stage of leprosy is? Does he mean the period of incubation?"

* Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—"When it shows itself, or manifests itself I believe. The later period which is less infectious is the stage when the sores open. However, the Act will apply to both. The original Act of 1898 applied only to cases of leprosy at the later stage but in the present Act the words 'at a later stage' are omitted. Therefore it applies to all stages of the disease and Government can take action. I am at a loss to see from the answers given what further amendment the Act requires and what is the difficulty of Government to find the money and spend it on this object. I wonder how this one lakh is spent on this asylum near Chingleput, at Tirumani. I think this House must be anxious to know how this amount of 3 lakhs has been spent on buildings, if the buildings are completed, and if so, why 2 lakhs more are necessary to complete the buildings and how the annual contribution of one lakh is spent. And I suppose that this one lakh is sufficient for the relief of lepers of this city. It can be applied to the City of Madras, and if the scheme is worked, the City will be rid of lepers at all stages of the disease. And yet we find that the Government take no action. I think the policy of the Government in regard to this matter both from its financial point of view and from the meagre details that were supplied to us as to how the moneys were spent in the asylum near Chingleput and from the want of earnestness shown by Government and their callousness and indifference to the sufferings of the lepers and the danger of contagion to the public, is open to censure. I shall give one little instance to show how these lepers are a danger to others. Now these lepers are very persistent beggars. They come to the gate of the house and they open the gate even if it remains closed, and this will happen unless we lock the doors. They will open the gate with their hands which are full of sores and come into the house to beg. We can fancy the danger of contagion when that gate is again opened by healthy people. So, this is a nuisance and a danger to which hundreds of people at Mangalore are subject. I therefore appeal to the Government to take this question into

24th March 1926]

[Mr. J. A. Saldanha]

their serious consideration and to take prompt steps to relieve the poor lepers and at the same time save us from the danger, the real danger, of the spread of the disease, which is now really spreading everywhere."

The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL :—"Mr. President, Sir, the leper asylum at Chayyur is in receipt of a capitation grant at the rate of Rs. 4-8-0 per mensem for every leper patient subject to a maximum of Rs. 8,000 a year. That rate, the rate of Rs. 4-8-0 is the rate at which grants to private leper asylums are distributed. The case of the Tirumani settlement is different. The Government had their own leper asylum at Rayapuram and have removed that asylum to Tirumani, and the liability of meeting the expenditure of the asylum is therefore on the Government, and the Government thought that by transferring the management to a Mission institution, it would be more economically conducted. We cannot therefore treat the case of Tirumani in the same manner as the case of other leper hospitals. In the case of private hospitals, grants are generally given at the rate of Rs. 4-8-0 per patient per mensem. The question of increasing this rate is under consideration. Sir, the hon. Member for South Kanara has charged Government with callous indifference in the matter of aiding private enterprise. I cannot understand how he is justified in levelling this charge against Government. He himself states that the Government have already spent 3 lakhs upon the construction of buildings for the leper settlement and they are spending more than a lakh of rupees a year. That statement is enough to answer the charge."

* Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—"What I said was that so much money is spent; the actual result is nil."

* The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL :—"It is not for the hon. Member to say that. It is for the people of Madras who have visited the institution, who have actually been there and seen how the work is being carried on, it is for them to pronounce an opinion on the result of the working of the settlement. It is not for the hon. Member for South Kanara to say that the settlement is not properly run. He has not visited the institution and he does not know what is being done there. I have inspected the asylum more than once. It is doing splendidly well. Then, Sir, he has asked the question as to whether leprosy is more contagious at the earlier stage or at a later stage. It is a matter for experts to answer that question. The hon. Member for South Kanara may have his own views on the subject."

* Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—"I have no idea on the matter."

* The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL :—"He may have confidence in himself but the Government have confidence in their expert advisers."

* The RAJA OF RAMNAD :—"Mr. President, Sir, I remember having moved a resolution in the Pre-Reform Council recommending to the Government taking action immediately for segregating the lepers. Mr. Habibulla Sahib was then in charge of the department and he said that the resolution had all his sympathy and that early steps would be taken to provide accommodation for segregating the lepers. According to some investigation made—I do not remember the year—in a particular year up to that moment it was found that there were something like 11,000 lepers, 4,000 or so of whom were engaged in selling eatable articles. I am sure such a state of things continues even to-day. But what do you find? It is said that some settlement has come

[The Raja of Ramnad]

[24th March 1926]

into existence in Chingleput. It provides accommodation for about 300 men which is a mere handful. What is this number when compared to 11,000? What is the effective step that has been taken in this direction? That question had not been answered. It is true that Government Members rely on experts to decide at what stage of the evolution of this disease it is infectious. We have literature and we have articles written by experts in this matter and I have personally heard, Sir, from the Secretary of the All-India Leprosy Association, who is interested in devising means for the eradication of this disease, something about this disease. Unless the hon. Minister says what steps he has taken for providing more accommodation and what steps he has taken for preventing lepers from selling articles of consumption, I believe the answer will not be satisfactory. Further, the hon. Member has told us that the Leper Act has not been extended to this province. Without extending the Act I do not think any effective steps can be taken either by Government or the local bodies. These are certain aspects which I would seriously place before the hon. Minister for his consideration and prompt action."

* The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL :—"The Raja of Ramnad is perfectly right when he said that until the operation of the Leper Act is extended to Madras it will not be possible to control the movements of lepers and prevent the unfortunates from selling the eatable articles. But the question of the operation of the Act depends upon the availability of accommodation for leper patients in the asylum. That question is under consideration. The Government are taking steps. The existence of the Settlement at Tirumani bears testimony to their earnestness in the matter. They are now considering the possibility of four more settlements in different parts of the Presidency. Until the accommodation is made available for leper patients, it will not be possible to extend the operation of the Leper Act in this Presidency."

* The RAJA OF RAMNAD :—"May I just ask whether there is any provision in the budget for providing more accommodation this year or next year?"

* The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL :—"Provision can only be made when the schemes of settlements are ready for execution and as there are no schemes and as the whole question is still under consideration the Government could not provide any funds in the coming year's budget."

Mr. F. NOYCE :—"There is one point I should like to bring to the notice of this House in connexion with the motion now before it and that is the work which the British Empire Leprosy Relief Association may be expected to do in regard to the treatment of this leper problem. As the House is probably aware, a sum of about 19½ lakhs had been subscribed to that Association at the beginning of January last. It is, I think, the intention of the Association to use this money mainly on research, the provision of short courses of training in the diagnosis of leprosy and general propaganda work. It is possible that a sum of money may be placed at the disposal of this Presidency for converting some of our asylums into hospitals and providing infirmaries. I only say that there is this possibility. Whether it will be effective or not remains to be seen. As the Central Association has still to decide how the money is to be used, we cannot predict anything now."

[24th March 1926]

* The RAJA OF RAMNAD :—"Since the Secretary of the Local Self-Government Department has referred to the Central Association, I am in a position to say that they find themselves absolutely helpless without the extension of the Act to this province. I have heard this from no other than the Secretary of the Association Rev. Oldrieve. I therefore wish to say—I won't say shelving—that to expect from the Central Association any appreciable work in this province is not at all a practical proposition. Any effective step that ought to be taken must be by Government and the first step to take is the extension of the Act. At the same time provision ought to be made for accommodating patients."

* Rao Sahib P. V. GOPALAN :—"I would earnestly appeal to the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government to give more liberal funds to this leper asylum at Cheyyur for the reason that many deserving cases are shut out for want of room. The medical treatment now carried on there is according to the latest method of Dr. Muir. We were assured sometime back by the hon. the Minister that it was contemplated to get some people trained under Dr. Muir and the trained men will be touring in the different parts of the Presidency. Since the private associations are doing that work it is but fair that Government should help them. Since this association has got more than fifty asylums in India, it will be quite impossible to support it themselves unless liberal grants are given. A sum of Rs. 134 has been received as contributions to this asylum from all India and the Government of Madras give them only Rs. 6,709, and the mission has to bear Rs. 9,935. I therefore make this appeal to the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government that he would always have a sympathy for those unfortunate brethren of ours and that he would sympathetically consider the institution at Cheyyur for its maintenance."

The motion was by leave withdrawn.

* Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—"There remains my motion, Sir."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—"The hon. Member said he would only make a speech."

* Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—"I beg to move

'that the allotment of Rs. 10,85,400 for mufassal hospitals and dispensaries be reduced by Rs. 101.'

"I suggest, Sir, that the dispensary which was for a long time in existence in Kottur in the Kudligi taluk of the Bellary district may be reopened. There was a long felt want for a medical institution in that area. In 1914 Government came to the help of the district board and allowed a dispensary to be opened at Kottur. It was working satisfactorily for a number of years. Then there was a reorganization of the taluk boards and one taluk board which was financially considered to be in an unsatisfactory position in order to retain its place, recommended this drastic change, viz., the closing down of dispensaries and other useful services in the area. Now the taluk board has been abolished and I appeal to the Minister to see if he cannot find his way to re-establish this dispensary at that place. For the matter of that, Sir, there are many taluk boards in the province which are financially less sound than the taluk board to which exception was taken and when the abolition of the board was decided upon it is the poor people who were put to difficulties and not the taluk board as such. I once again appeal to the hon. Minister to re-establish the dispensary."

[24th March 1926]

The hon. the RAJA of PANAGAL:—"The dispensary at Kottur was abolished with effect from the 30th July 1924. The dispensary was abolished because the taluk board was not financially in a position to maintain it. The abolition is due to the poverty of the taluk board. The president of the district board asked the Government to cancel the taluk board's resolution abolishing the dispensary but Government could not do so as they had no power. It is true, Sir, that it is the duty of the taluk board to provide for medical relief for the people living in its area but the Government cannot interfere in the matter and force them to open medical institutions. If to-day the dispensary is reopened there it will earn the usual grant, at 10 per cent of the pay of the sub-assistant surgeon or 22½ per cent of the pay of the assistant surgeon employed there. Probably owing to the still unsatisfactory financial condition of the taluk board it might not be possible for the board to open a dispensary but it might open a rural dispensary. If the present taluk board of Hosur opens a rural dispensary at Kottur the Government will be glad to give the honorarium of Rs. 400 or Rs. 600 for a sub-assistant or an assistant surgeon as the board may be prepared to appoint."

* Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR:—"I am much obliged to the hon. Minister for his kind assurance. I take it that in addition to those that have already been sanctioned he is willing to consider favourably an application for a dispensary at Kottur."

The motion was by leave withdrawn.

12
noon.

* Mr. K. SITARAMA REDDI:—"I move
that the allotment of Rs. 10,85,400 for mufassal hospitals and dispensaries be reduced by Rs. 1."

"I wanted by this out, Sir, to know from the Government what exactly they propose to do with these taluk headquarter medical institutions. As matters stand at present, they are mostly hospitals, and there are some few dispensaries in these taluk headquarter stations. These hospitals and dispensaries are under the control of either the municipalities or the taluk boards. The district boards have more or less nothing to do with them. The taluk boards have to spend enormous sums on them. It must also be said that recently the Government came to the rescue of these taluk boards and municipalities and paid out of its own funds the pay of the medical subordinates of these institutions. Therefore, the taluk boards and municipalities have now to incur charges in connexion with the lower subordinates, viz., the midwife, compounder and other menial servants of the institutions and also the cost of medicines. Even now, these charges are very high. I will quote one or two instances to illustrate the position. For example, in the Tindivanam hospital—I am referring to that instance to show how enormous these items of minor expenditure are—we have to spend about Rs. 6,000 nearly in the shape of pay of those lower people and for medicine. Again, in Tirukoyilur it comes to about Rs. 4,000. Roughly, we may take it that the taluk board has to spend about Rs. 5,000 to Rs. 6,000 on every such institution. It must be remembered in this connexion that these institutions are mostly situated either in the municipalities or in unions, and under the Act which we have now in force, the union cannot contribute to the expenditure of these institutions. But as a matter of fact I know from figures that at least 90 per cent of the patients treated in these institutions are coming from the

24th March 1926]

[Mr. K. Sitarama Reddi]

unions or the municipalities, and so I do not see why the taluk boards should be burdened with the charges of these institutions. Besides, these institutions, whatever amounts these taluk boards may now spend on them, are not properly maintained. My scheme therefore will be to provincialise these taluk institutions, the whole charges including the pay of the menial staff and the cost of medicines being met from provincial funds, and I may say that the Government with better finances than these taluk boards may be able to run these institutions much better, thereby relieving the taluk boards of this expenditure of money which they may spend on—I would not say more legitimate but—other equally legitimate items. I say these taluk boards are not bound legally to maintain these institutions because these institutions do not benefit the ratepayers of these taluk boards. According to my scheme the taluk headquarter hospital will be a central institution which may receive serious patients from institutions run by taluk boards or from other local institutions and these institutions may not take up operation and other serious cases. Rural dispensaries or other institutions maintained from taluk board funds may send their serious cases to the taluk headquarter hospital and the rural dispensaries may confine their attention merely to the treatment of out-patients without taking up major cases involving operation, etc. The taluk boards will thus be able to release that money for other expenditure. It was rumoured, Sir, that some time back there was such a scheme under contemplation by the Government, and, if so, I do not know why it has not reached the stage of fruition. If the Government propose to consider such a scheme, or if the Government say that they have not yet dropped that question, I would not press this motion."

* The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL:—"Mr. President, as matters stand, so far as the taluk headquarter hospital is concerned, the Government pay the entire salary of the medical officers, and the rest of the expenditure, consisting of the cost of medicines, the pay of midwife, compounder, etc., is being incurred by the taluk board itself. The Government have for a long time been considering to lay down the principles upon which the grant should be made to hospitals other than district headquarter hospitals. Only recently at a meeting of the Public Health Advisory Committee, this subject was discussed, and the Surgeon-General outlined a scheme. According to that scheme, the entire cost of the taluk headquarter hospital should be borne by the Government, and the cost of maintaining the other medical institutions should be borne by the local bodies. This scheme is now being considered. If the Government take up the management of the taluk headquarter hospitals and aid local boards with subsidies for rural dispensaries, the boards may not find it difficult to finance and maintain the other institutions."

The motion was by leave withdrawn.

Mr. P. T. RAJAN:—"The hon. the Raja of Panagal told us that there is a proposal to take up the control of taluk headquarter hospitals. What I would like to suggest is that all the hospitals should be taken control of by the Government, and it should not be left to the district boards or taluk boards to have anything to do with hospitals and dispensaries except by way of contributions towards their maintenance. I therefore formally move—
that the allotment of Rs. 5,03,900 for Government Medical officers lent to local bodies be reduced by Rs. 100."

[24th March 1926]

Mr. A. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—"Mr. President, I wish to say a few words in connexion with the motion that has been moved. This motion, Sir, tries to raise the question of the control that is now exercised over the medical subordinates employed in local boards. According to a recent interpretation of the Act, it is now well understood that medical subordinates of the rank of sub-assistant surgeons employed by local boards are entirely under their control. The result of it is that a great many sub-assistant surgeons are being thrown out of employment, a most unfair system, and I do not wish to say on whom such an incidence of unfairness lies. The Government recruited a number of young men to the Medical department as sub-assistant surgeons with the prospect of permanent service and a pension according to the regulations after 25 or 30 years' service. But after six, seven and sometimes even ten years of service, the local bodies under the new powers under the amended Local Boards Act are telling these sub-assistant surgeons that they do not want their services and are giving them notice to find employment elsewhere. These sub-assistant surgeons find they cannot get employment elsewhere, and sometimes even after fifteen years of service they are cast adrift. Now, I do not want to say anything with regard to the progress of local boards, and I am sure my hon. Friend below the gangway (the Raja of Ramnad) will, as he has done before, so ably defend the position of the taluk boards and district boards. What I wish to emphasize is in regard to this unfairness, essential unfairness against these medical subordinates. It is not my point to attribute it either to one party or the other. What is the position? Is the Government going to look with equanimity at a number of these people being cast adrift? And I do not wish to say anything as to how presidents of district boards and chairmen of municipal councils appoint their subordinates in their places. But I do think that the evil—and I consider it an evil that men after putting in a number of years of service should be suddenly sent home, while they were entertained with the prospect of being made permanent and of earning a proportionate pension—I do think the evil is far-reaching, and the Government ought to see that these medical subordinates are not sent home after a number of years of service, while they had held out to them prospects of permanent service and pension. Those medical men on higher pay have had their prospects and pay and all other things assured to them over and over again, sometimes statutorily and sometimes by rules and regulations. I cannot understand the Government, which is so very solicitous about the higher employed staff, being so absolutely—I do not use the objectionable word 'callous'—so absolutely indifferent to the lot of these poor people. Now, Sir, it seems to me that at least this could be done, that whenever a man has been sent out by the local board, and he could not find employment in Government service, a certain amount of pensionary contribution at least should be paid by the local board. I say this with the greatest amount of restraint because I see the Finance Secretary opposite looking at me lest the finances of the Government should be encroached upon. When I say at least a certain amount of pensionary contribution ought to be given, the contribution should be proportionate to the number of years of service. I do think that the condition is growing so acute among this large staff of well-deserving medical subordinates, and the Government is bound to lend its hand in settling their grievances in this direction."

[24th March 1926]

* The RAJA OF RAMNAD :—"Sir, it is a matter of great surprise to me that every day my hon. Friend from Madura, Mr. Rajan, should bring forward some reactionary proposal. Yesterday he suggested the shifting of the Queen Mary's College (laughter) from such a healthy locality as the beach to such an unhealthy locality as the bank of the Cooum in Nungambakam."

Mr. P. T. RAJAN :—"On a point of order, Sir. I daresay Nungambakam is a very healthy place."

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—"Order, order. It is not a point of order."

* The RAJA OF RAMNAD :—"To-day, he has brought forward this proposal which can only be considered by those who know anything about the affairs of local bodies as a most reactionary proposal. Unfortunately, my hon. Friend is not a member of any local board till to-day. Therefore, I shall not go into his remarks. But my other Friend from Chingleput, whom I congratulate on his election to the Corporation by the Senate, because he will have some intimate knowledge of the working of local bodies at least hereafter, conveyed a wrong impression about local bodies, and their medical officers. What he said was entirely wrong. I may be pardoned for having to make a somewhat lengthy statement. What happened was this; originally the local bodies were recruiting their own men. This went on for some time. Afterwards the Surgeon-General was asked to recruit men for the local bodies, and these men were sent to the local boards; they were on a provincial cadre, and they had to be employed side by side as vacancies arose among men recruited by the local bodies. So, the local boards men were gradually disappearing and the men recruited by the Surgeon-General filled their places. The Local Boards Act, it was thought, gave power to local bodies to recruit their own men. The local boards thought that the contribution they had to pay on behalf of men recruited by the Surgeon-General was very costly. So the local bodies who had power given to them under the Local Boards Act, some of them, perhaps three or four of them, moved the Government to permit them to appoint their own men on a pay of Rs. 60 or 70 for a sub-assistant surgeon, while they had to pay something like Rs. 130 or so as contribution for the men sent by the Surgeon-General. I know a case where there was an appointment of a sub-assistant surgeon by a taluk board and there was trouble going on for some months between the taluk board and the Government. The taluk board would not yield and the Government would not give in. The District Board being midway between them had a lot of trouble in bringing about a reconciliation in the matter."

"Then there is the question of the Surgeon-General sending away men in service in large numbers. The Surgeon-General has been asked not to recruit in large numbers hereafter, seeing that some of the taluk boards working under deficit may go in for cheaply paid men. It was in that connexion, as the hon. the Chief Minister referred to, a meeting of the Public Health Committee was called and the Surgeon-General asked to limit recruitment. He suggested that the headquarter dispensaries might be made into hospitals and some of his men might be absorbed there. The whole thing is in a melting pot. I do not think it is right to say that men had to be sent away because the local bodies will not take them. In the Ramnad district out of 32 men only 3 or 4 are local board men. When a particular man is very popular in a particular place and the Surgeon-General transfers him to some other

[The Raja of Ramnad]

[24th March 1926]

place, saying he must undergo Agency training and all that, the whole town people agitate to retain him saying that the man is very popular. The Surgeon-General is unable to comply with the request. This brings in a conflict between the Surgeon-General and the local body concerned. We are not suggesting to throw anybody out of employment; only the Surgeon-General is being asked not to make recruitments in larger numbers. In spite of the knowledge of my Friend from Chingleput in other matters, I am afraid that in the present case his knowledge is not correct. Though my hon. Friend never comes without preparation before making his remarks, yet in this case he has failed in that respect. He ought not to have made those remarks particularly when there are so many district board presidents who could tell him with one voice that his views are neither correct nor sound."

* The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL:—"Sir, the medical officers lent to the local bodies can under the Act 1 of 1920 be punished and removed by local bodies. The right to punish and remove these officers is a statutory right conferred on them. No doubt the suggestion made by the hon. Members for Chingleput and Madura would tend to greater efficiency, but I am afraid its adoption would not be received without a demur from local bodies. The services of medical officers serving in the headquarter hospitals cannot be dispensed with by local boards, but in the case of officers employed in other medical institutions under the management of local boards they can be. Recently this question was discussed at a meeting of the Public Health Advisory Committee and the Surgeon-General proposed that these powers of local bodies to remove medical men lent to them might be limited to 25 per cent. of the total number. The proposal is still under consideration. We must educate the local boards not to be arbitrary. We can only advise them. The discretion is with them; they have to see whether their financial condition would permit of their employing more costly officers. It would not be fair on the part of the Government to compel them to retain these officers. The general policy is under consideration. It is proposed to have two cadres, one cadre to officer the taluk headquarter hospitals and other institutions to supply officers to institutions managed by local bodies, the latter appointments to be made by the authorities concerned in consultation with the Surgeon-General. In these circumstances I have only to say that it will not be advisable to interfere with the discretion of the local bodies."

Mr. P. T. RAJAN:—"I withdraw the motion."

The motion was by leave withdrawn.

Mr. A. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR with the permission of the House moved the following resolution standing in the name of the Zamindar of Kallikota:—

'that the allotment of Rs. 3,34,800 for maintenance be reduced by Rs. 100.'

(To discuss about the inadequate provision of Rs. 34,000 made in the Budget for extension of medical relief in rural areas.)

He said:—"Sir, in places like the Ganjam district, it is very difficult to recruit these medical officers under the rural dispensary scheme, on the salaries that are now sanctioned by G.O. No. 1522, P.H., dated 22nd October 1924. The medical officers are paid a salary of Rs. 33½ a month with a free supply of medicines to the value of Rs. 250, if they appoint sub-assistant surgeons, and Rs. 50 a month if they appoint assistant surgeons.

[24th March 1926]

[Mr. A. Ramaswami Mudaliyar]

Many presidents of district boards are at a loss to get medical practitioners of any standing, even ordinary beginners, to accept this salary and stay in those rural parts where the rural dispensaries are constituted. The difficulty is twofold, generally in places of any slight importance there is already a local fund dispensary run by the taluk board with a regular body of sub-assistant surgeons or assistant surgeons. The scheme of rural medical relief, as I understand it, is to take medical relief out into the remote parts of the district to those rural areas which have no regular institutions. I consider the present scheme as a very well thought-out scheme. It has to get the medical men to go there with medical outfit for which a small grant is given by the Government and to run institutions practically as private medical practitioners. There is only one difficulty in that scheme, and that is, there is absolutely no scope for private practice in places far remote, places to which medical relief is for the first time taken and where people have yet to appreciate the benefits of the western system of medicine. There being practically very little scope for private practice it comes to this, the medical practitioner if he is a sub-assistant surgeon has to be content with the salary of Rs. 33½ that he gets. It is merely an honorarium. An assistant surgeon gets only Rs. 50. I do not by any means suggest that they should be paid anything like the regularly constituted servants of the taluk board. But I plead that in areas where it is difficult to open rural dispensaries, some increase may be made in this amount. I know that some of the local boards have resorted to a sort of circumvention; and I have myself discouraged it. The circumvention is this; they shift the location of the dispensaries. If a dispensary is in a fairly popular place, popular from the medical point of view, and has been established for a number of years and is being run as a dispensary and has a permanently paid subordinate attached to it, the difficulties of getting men attaching themselves as honorary officers in a remote part being very great, the local body just transfers the regular dispensary to a remote part and places a regular officer in that latter place, though this is done on very rare occasions, I admit, and by very few local bodies. But this sort of circumvention is neither contemplated by Government nor desirable in the interests of the public. There must be a certain amount of permanency attached to these dispensaries. The men must know before they are going out as another type of officers at remote places, they are officers with a certain amount of efficiency. I therefore plead that the original idea of the Government should be directly carried out by the local bodies and the medical relief should be carried into the interior by means of these honorary officers. I therefore plead that the Government may be pleased to consider whether it is not possible to slightly increase the amount that they are now giving for these rural medical institutions."

* Mr. K. SITARAMA REDDI:—"I also move

'to reduce the allotment of Rs. 4,16,500 for grants to local bodies by Rs. 1.'

"Sir, I associate myself entirely with the observations made by my hon. Friend from Chingleput. It is true that the Government have formulated this scheme with a view to increase medical relief in out-of-the-way places. But the difficulty arises in getting young men with high prospects before them to settle in out-of-the-way places for which these institutions are

[Mr. K. Sitarama Reddi]

[24th March 1926]

intended. As president of a district board I know some details of this system. In the South Arcot District Board, it was proposed to open ten dispensaries, two for each taluk board, and the taluk boards sent up recommendations fixing the places, etc., to the district board and they were duly forwarded to the Government. The Government have approved these proposals. I believe, out of ten such institutions, three or four have not yet been opened and of the remaining six or seven, some have already died out, because these medical practitioners, with no prospects of getting any high income, do not agree to permanently stick themselves to those places. There are one or two points more that have to be considered by the Government and the local bodies in this matter. It is true the Government have promised about Rs. 400 to the sub-assistant surgeons and about Rs. 600 to the assistant surgeons. Who would like to settle in those out-of-the-way places? In a regular dispensary, the sub-assistant surgeon or assistant surgeon commands other conveniences; for instance, he commands the services of a compounder, he commands the services of a midwife, of an attender, and of a gardener. It must be said that the Government have promised, I believe, a sum of Rs. 100 to these sub-assistant or assistant surgeons who engage midwives. But this Rs. 100 is a small sum for any midwife of respectable position to be tempted to go to out-of-the-way places. In these circumstances, it is highly necessary that the Government should make it a point of raising the subsidy which they have promised, and the taluk boards may also be instructed to give these assistant or sub-assistant surgeons other conveniences in the shape of a compounder, and in the shape of other services.

"There is again this question of housing the institution. It has been found very difficult to find buildings for these institutions. The Government must adopt the policy of promising 75 per cent, or if that is not possible, at least 50 per cent of the capital expenditure that the taluk boards incur on buildings for housing these institutions."

12-30
p.m.

* The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL :—"The object of introducing rural medical relief scheme is to extend medical relief to the interior of the Presidency. According to this scheme medical officers are not expected to be servants either of the Government or local bodies. They are private practitioners settled in particular places to practise as all private medical practitioners do. We are aware that it would be difficult for medical practitioners to get on with this small subsidy. The honorarium or subsidy is intended only as an inducement to them to go and settle in particular areas. It is not intended as the pay of the officers. These officers are expected to be useful to the public just as any other private practitioners are. Generally speaking, medical practitioners do not have compounders or separate buildings for their dispensaries."

"Government were anxious to introduce as many as 300 dispensaries in the very first year. Unfortunately, owing to want of applicants, the local bodies were able to introduce only 229 such dispensaries. This year it is proposed to add some 155 dispensaries more, but this addition would depend upon the availability of men. I should very much like to have more dispensaries brought into existence. Owing to limitations, limitations due to want of qualified medical men, although the Government were willing to open as many as 300 dispensaries in the very first year, local bodies were

24th March 1926]

[The Raja of Panagal]

able to open only 229 dispensaries. There is therefore no use in providing funds for a very large number of dispensaries. It is for these reasons that the Government made provision only for 155 hospitals."

The motions were by leave withdrawn.

* Mr. R. VEERIAN :—"I beg to move

'that the allotment of Rs. 4,16,500 for grants to local bodies be reduced by Rs. 100.'

"I know for certain that there are several dispensaries run by local bodies, some of them having their own buildings and some rented buildings. In my experience I have found that the members of the depressed classes have no free access to these dispensaries. They are feeling the same difficulties as in the case of schools. It is a fact that they are made to stand in the *anra* street. They are not asked to get even on the pials. I think this is due to lack of human feelings and sympathy. I am sure the hon. the Raja of Panagal will never tolerate this kind of ill-treatment meted out to the depressed classes. I hope that at least hereafter the hon. the Minister in charge will kindly see that such a distinction is not made between man and man especially in medical dispensaries. It is true that these dispensaries are purely under the control of the local bodies and that Government cannot interfere in their affairs. But the District Medical Officer generally makes his inspection and I do not know what kind of inspection is generally being made by him in each of these dispensaries. It would be advisable if the district Medical Officer takes this matter very seriously into his head and makes some enquiries into the matter. I am sure that such an enquiry will set matters right."

* The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL :—"The hon. Member for the depressed classes has tried to make out a case that the medical treatment given to the depressed classes is not the same as the treatment given to others. So far as I know, there is absolutely no difference in the matter of treatment between patients of one community and those of another. The members of depressed classes are treated in the same manner as the members of any other community. They are given the same treatment, the same medicine and the same diet. If it is contended that the patients from the depressed classes are not shown better consideration and that they are asked to pay for treatment, the contention I must say is not well founded. Patients of depressed classes are treated gratis. For generally their income is less than Rs. 50 per mensem and persons whose income is less than Rs. 50 are treated gratis."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—"I think the hon. Member was referring to the treatment given in rural dispensaries."

* Mr. R. VEERIAN :—"My motion refers to the partial treatment given in dispensaries and hospitals maintained by local bodies, that is to say, municipalities and taluk boards. I have not mentioned anything about demanding payment."

* The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL :—"So far as the dispensaries and hospitals run by local bodies are concerned, they are being inspected by the Surgeon-General and also by the District Medical officers. If there were any cases of the kind referred to by my hon. Friend, Mr. Veerian, certainly

[The Raja of Panagal] [24th March 1926]

they should have been brought to the notice of the Government. If, however, the hon. Member places before the Government any case where such a distinction was made, they will certainly take action and see that no such distinction is made."

The motion was by leave withdrawn.

* Mr. K. PRABHAKARAN TAMPAN:—"I beg to move

'that the allotment of Rs. 4,16,500 for grants to local bodies be reduced by Rs. 100.'

"Sir, the object of my token motion is to suggest to the hon. Minister the desirability of opening Ayurvedic dispensaries in the local board areas.

"At the outset I must say that great credit is due to the hon. the Chief Minister for the vast strides he has made in affording medical relief in this Presidency after he has assumed charge of the department. He has also recently introduced the system of giving subvention to medical practitioners who have settled down in the rural areas. I am one of those who believe that the problem of medical relief can never be adequately and satisfactorily solved unless and until we encourage indigenous systems of medicine and the agency of the Ayurvedic system is resorted to. In the first place, allopathic system is neither cheap, nor is it so congenial to the health of the people as the indigenous systems are. In the second place, considering the cost of allopathic medicines, we shall require large sum of money which for a long time to come we may not be able to provide for to meet the requirements of the large number of dispensaries and hospitals throughout the Province.

"Sir, we in Malabar are reputed to have an efficient system of Ayurvedic medicines. There are doctors who can cure the most complicated diseases which would baffle eminent English doctors. There are very many physicians in my district who have the reputation of being efficient men. If these people are helped with some kind of subsidy and they are asked to practise in particular areas, the problem of medical relief in Malabar will be easily solved. I am aware that the conditions in other parts of the Presidency are not so favourable as in Malabar. It will be enough if you maintain a headquarter hospital in all taluks. It will then be very easy and quite possible to have two or three Ayurvedic dispensaries in every firka throughout the district. If my suggestion seems to be acceptable to the Government, I would recommend that some of the Ayurvedic physicians may be got together and a few lectures on hygiene, treatment of cholera and other diseases and first-in-aid may be given to them by the District Medical and Sanitary Officer so that these people may become up to date in the treatment of such diseases; for I believe that English treatment is more efficient in such respects than the indigenous system. I am anxious that our Ayurvedic systems of medicine should be given sufficient encouragement and made use of for the welfare and prosperity of the people of this Presidency."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT:—"Mr. Ramachandra Reddi has given notice of a motion on a similar subject. I think he may speak upon that motion now."

* Mr. K. SITARAMA REDDI:—"That motion refers to the opening of Indian schools of medicine."

24th March 1926]

* Mr. B. RAMACHANDRA REDDI:—"I have given notice of a similar motion (motion No. 666). It runs thus:

'666. To reduce the allotment of Rs. 48,700 for the school of Indian Medicine by Rs. 100.'

"I want to raise the question of opening more Indian schools of medicine, and of issuing Government certificates to students completing their course in private colleges.

"Sir, while feeling grateful to the hon. the Raja of Panagal for having given impetus to the improvement of Ayurvedic system of medicine in this Presidency, I should say . . ."

* Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR:—"Will it not be more convenient to deal with Mr. Ramachandra Reddiyar's motion separately because it deals with Indian schools of medicine, whereas the motion moved by my hon. Friend, Mr. Prabhakaran Tampam, refers to dispensaries."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT:—"They are allied subjects in regard to the encouragement of Indian medicine."

* Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR:—"It is a long jump to go to motion No. 666 from motion No. 655."

* Mr. B. RAMACHANDRA REDDI:—"I should like to say, Sir, that he is moving a little bit slowly."

* Diwan Bahadur M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—"Mr. Ranganatha Mudaliyar or the hon. the Raja of Panagal?"

* Mr. B. RAMACHANDRA REDDI:—"I am afraid both of them. (Laughter.)

"Sir, experience has taught us that the Ayurvedic dispensaries are much less expensive and more attractive than allopathic ones. In many places, especially in my own district, many such dispensaries have been started and they are working satisfactorily. But Government is not gracious enough to give grants towards the maintenance of these institutions. On the other hand, every facility is given by the Government to open allopathic dispensaries and maintain them. This goes a great way to discourage the attempt of many taluk boards to open many dispensaries. When a question was put in this House whether the Government would not recruit Ayurvedic practitioners under the scheme of Rural Medical Relief, the hon. Minister replied that there were not enough number of trained men to be appointed for the various dispensaries. I should like to suggest a way out of the difficulty. I am afraid it will take a number of years for the School of Indian Medicine at Madras to train a number of people from that institution to be appointed in the various dispensaries. I should like to suggest that some more schools of Indian Medicine should be opened in the Presidency. To begin with, there may be one in the northern districts, one in the Coed districts, one for the southern districts, and one in Malabar for the West Coast. These institutions will be able to train a good number of practitioners in a short time and they will be able to run dispensaries on indigenous lines. If the Government are really anxious to improve the condition of the rural areas which are in need of indigenous medicine they should open more schools on these lines. Pending the decision of the Government to open more institutions of this kind, I would suggest to the Government another easy and convenient system. In every town in the Presidency there are schools run by several Ayurvedic medical practitioners.

12-45
p.m.

[Mr. B. Ramachandra Reddi] [24th March 1926]

They are not at all encouraged by the Government. Even the practitioners trained by these institutions are not encouraged by the Government. Government may issue certificates to these practitioners that come out of these schools by holding an examination and testing their efficiency. If this is done, a good number of practitioners who have been certified by the Government will be available for appointment under the local bodies or in the rural dispensaries. These private schools must be subsidized by the Government to train more practitioners under the indigenous system. I urge upon the hon. Minister the necessity of opening more schools of Indian Medicine and more dispensaries of an indigenous nature and contribute to the improvement of the Ayurvedic system and the relief of the rural population."

* Diwan Bahadur M. KRISHNAN NAYAR :—" Sir, I have great pleasure in supporting the motion of my hon. Friend. The allopathic system of medicine is doing considerable good to the people of this country. I venture to think that whatever may be the number of dispensaries or hospitals that are opened on western lines, they would not be able to serve the needs of the whole population. They will only touch the fringe of the whole mass; because the money that will be available to the Government at any time for this purpose will be limited. It is therefore only with the aid of the indigenous system of medicine, with the help of the Unani and the Ayurvedic physicians that the Government will be able to render medical aid to the people at large. Again, Sir, the fees demanded by the practitioners of the allopathic system are comparatively higher than the fees charged by the Ayurvedic physicians. It is therefore necessary that dispensaries of the indigenous system should be opened not merely in every firka as the mover of the resolution suggested but also in every village if possible. In an advanced Indian State the system has been introduced and found to work satisfactorily. There is a superior officer, the Director of Ayurveda, who is a man of learning and well versed in both the systems, western and indigenous. Under him there is a net work of dispensaries on the indigenous system established in almost every village in the country. A similar system may be introduced here also with much advantage and without much cost. Small sums of Rs. 15 to Rs. 30 according to the qualifications of the practitioners may be paid to them monthly and they of course may be allowed the privilege of private practice. One officer may be appointed under the control of the local body at the head of the Ayurvedic department. They should be asked to maintain a register of patients and medicines dispensed to the patients. A stock of medicines also will have to be kept. It will be profitable to the practitioners when they receive grants and it will also be beneficial to the people. There is no fear that these practitioners will demand large fees when they are allowed private practice, because they know the limits within which their demands can be enhanced. If necessary, an examination may be instituted and it may be laid down that it is only those who have passed the examination that will receive grants and will be allowed to have private practice. The hon. the Minister has laid the people of the Presidency under a great obligation to him by establishing the School of Indian Medicine. An examination may be instituted by the authorities of the School of Medicine and thus the whole system will be found to work very smoothly and without much cost to the Government."

Mr. Chavadi K. SUBRAHMANYA PILLAI :—" Sir, I beg to support the motion. Ayurvedic dispensaries are less costly and more popular. It is a demand on which all the parties are united. The promotion of indigenous

[24th March 1926] [Mr. Chavadi K. Subrahmanya Pillai]

system of medicine is under contemplation for many years. It seems that some five years ago the question of Ayurvedic, Unani and Siddha systems was started in this House and a committee appointed and took evidence about these systems. That committee appears to have resolved that an Ayurvedic institution, with a hospital attached to it, should be started as an experimental measure in the Madras City. That proposal appears to have been sent nearly three years ago. An Advisory Board also seems to have been appointed by Government and a scheme appears to have been framed by it and submitted to the Government. Except the opening of an Indian School of Medicine nothing appears to have been done till now. Many medical schools should be opened and the people should train and qualify themselves and they should also work as teachers in various schools. It is only then there will be system and we will be giving a systematic basis to the Ayurvedic, Unani and Siddha varieties. The Government should encourage the indigenous systems of medicine. It appears that the hon. Minister for Local Self-Government has sympathy for the Ayurvedic and Unani systems of medicine. The hon. Minister is kindly requested to make necessary arrangements immediately for the opening of more schools of Indian medicine, if he is sincere, which, I am sure, he is, and if he wants to improve the condition of Ayurvedic and other systems. I would also request the hon. Minister to give liberal grants to local bodies in order to encourage the opening of Ayurvedic dispensaries in many localities in rural areas."

* Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—" Sir, I am sorry I am obliged to strike a discordant note in the debate on this question. We are all familiar with the arguments that are usually advanced in favour of the establishment of indigenous dispensaries on the Ayurvedic or the Unani lines. We may also say that we have got a fair amount of unanimity of opinion in the matter. It was with a view to encourage the establishment of Ayurvedic dispensaries that we pressed upon the Government to open an Indian School of Medicine, so that practitioners of the indigenous system might be trained to serve in the dispensaries. Such a school has been opened and has been working for some time past. Time has not yet come when we have got a sufficient number of trained practitioners to be sent out to the various indigenous dispensaries. When we have not got enough number of trained and well qualified men for running even the existing dispensaries, I am rather surprised at the attitude of some of my hon. Friends in urging that more such dispensaries should be opened."

* Mr. B. RAMACHANDRA REDDI :—" As a matter of personal explanation, may I say that I did not suggest that unqualified practitioners should be taken in? It is only with a view that only trained people and people whose efficiency has been tested, should be appointed that I asked for the establishment of more schools for training more practitioners."

* Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—" Trained by whom, and tested by whom, Sir, I should like to know?"

* Mr. B. RAMACHANDRA REDDI :—" By the Government, Sir."

* Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—" Again by the Government, Sir? Here is the Government engaged in this task. Their school is not yet complete; their men are not yet ready to go out and practise. I know of

[Mr. A. Ranganatha Mudaliyar] [24th March 1926]

districts which in their enthusiasm for these dispensaries have closed the allopathic dispensaries and started Ayurvedic dispensaries in their place. The people of these districts are sorry for the step that they have taken. Even for little wounds and things like that they can get no relief in the Ayurvedic dispensaries.

1 p.m. "On the other hand, in the Indian School of Medicine people will have efficient training in these matters; they will have training not only on the surgical side but also on the side of medicine. Until such time as qualified people come out of this school I am rather reluctant that we should embark too rapidly on the extension of these dispensaries. The moment you want to open a dispensary there is no end of applications from people for the posts but I may assure the House that most of them are people who are not able to make both ends meet and who want to get anything they can from local bodies and municipalities to drag on their existence. I think the Government and the local bodies would be failing in their duty to the people if they make these institutions unpopular by keeping them in charge of unqualified people."

* The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL :—"Mr. President, Sir, the object of the motion is to suggest to the Government that a large number of Ayurvedic and Unani dispensaries should be forthwith opened in the province. This question of opening a large number of indigenous dispensaries was considered in connexion with the introduction of the rural medical relief scheme. It was then considered that it was impracticable to open these institutions for want of properly qualified and accredited medical practitioners. The hon. Member from Bellary has touched the right cord when he said that it is difficult to find out whether an Ayurvedic or Unani medical practitioner is qualified or not. It is for this reason that the Government do not sanction any grants from provincial funds to these institutions opened by local bodies. They do not, however, object to local bodies giving contributions to the dispensaries. The hon. Member from Nellore took the Government to task for being slow in this matter. May I not tell him that in matters like this it is only when we are slow that our progress will be sure? The same hon. Member proposed that there ought to be more Ayurvedic and Unani schools of Medicine. He suggested that the students who pass from private institutions should be given certificates by the Government. He also suggested that the private schools should be affiliated to the Government School of Indian Medicine. These questions were considered by the Government. So far as the question of giving certificates is concerned the Principal of the Indian School of Medicine was of opinion that since the alumne of private schools have no knowledge of anatomy, physiology and surgery, it would not be proper to give them certificates. He further pointed out that as there is no provision for teaching anatomy, physiology and surgery in private medical schools they cannot be affiliated to the Government school. These proposals were therefore dropped. I may assure the hon. Member that as soon as the Government school turns out medical practitioners it will be possible for local bodies to absorb them into their service. The day will not be long before the first batch will be available for local bodies for working indigenous dispensaries. We shall see how far these medical practitioners will be serviceable in giving medical relief to the people of this province. When it is found that these medical practitioners will do as well as allopathic doctors we can establish more

24th March 1926]

[The Raja of Panagal]

schools. The present School of Indian Medicine is indeed conducted as an experimental measure. The future policy of the Government will depend upon the results of the working of this school. I oppose the motion."

* Mr. K. PRABHAKARAN TAMPAN :—"Sir, the hon. the Minister says that for want of competent medical men, my proposal cannot be accepted. I do not know anything about the conditions existing in other parts of the Presidency. But in Malabar there is no lack of such competent men. In the first place, there is a kind of Government examination conducted by the Travancore Government. Many men from Malabar pass that examination and set up private practice in their own places. There is also a non-official body in that district which holds examinations and awards certificates. I cannot understand why the Government should refuse to recognize the diplomas given by these bodies. If the principle of the proposal is accepted by the Government, the local bodies concerned may be trusted to find competent doctors for themselves. There will be no difficulty about that question. There are any number of men in the district who have a reputation of their own. As I said, it is quite sufficient if hospitals and dispensaries of the western kind are maintained in the headquarters of the taluks. There is no need to give subventions to private practitioners in a firka or a small village. The indigenous system, being cheaper and easily available, ought to be preferred. The difficulty of obtaining properly qualified men in other parts of the Presidency ought not to stand in the way so far as Malabar is concerned. I would be very thankful if the hon. Member in charge of the subject will consult the district board and other bodies in Malabar and give a fair trial to the scheme."

* The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL :—"Mr. President, Sir, there is no doubt that there may be medical practitioners practising in the Ayurvedic and Unani systems of medicine in Malabar. There may also be students who have come out successful in the Travancore examinations. But so far as this Government are concerned, they have no inspecting agency to find out whether a particular institution started by a medical practitioner is doing its work properly or not. Without an inspecting agency it will be too much for the Government to pay for such institutions . . ."

* Mr. K. PRABHAKARAN TAMPAN :—"There is a dispensary, Sir, in Kottakkal where medicines worth Rs. 13,000 are sold every month. The popularity of such institutions can never be questioned."

* The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL :—"I do not deny the fact that there are such medical institutions here and there. But it will be difficult to ascertain whether all the institutions are working properly or not. We have no inspecting agency to inspect the institutions and report to the Government that they are functioning properly. Without such an agency it is impossible for the Government to take the responsibility of recognizing the institutions and provide grants for them from provincial funds. The hon. Member has requested the Government to consult the presidents of the local boards in this connexion. There is no necessity for consulting them. If the presidents are satisfied that a particular dispensary is doing good work it is open to them to help them financially and the Government do not object to their doing so. In fact, such help is given in several cases."

The two motions were, by leave, withdrawn.

[24th March 1926]

* Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—“ I move

‘ that the allotment of Rs. 1,71,900 for Grants-in-aid—General—Non-recurring be reduced by Rs. 100.’

“ My object, Sir, is to draw attention to the smallness of the grants given to private leper asylums, notably that of Mangalore. The Mangalore Leper Asylum has been seen by the hon. the Raja of Panagal during his visit to the place. Since then, the authorities have extended the accommodation; but it is quite insufficient for the purpose of meeting the requirements of the large number of lepers in the district. Many seek admission but they do not get it. While the Government is lavishing something like one lakh of rupees for about 300 lepers here, I think that they should be more liberal to a district asylum maintained by Missionary bodies at much self-sacrifice. A sum of Rs. 4-8-0 can hardly cover even one-third or half the expenditure that is incurred for maintaining one single leper. I do not know how the calculation is made. But if you bear in mind the voluntary labour of the Sisters of Charity employed to look after the lepers, I think that more amount should be paid to that asylum. The Government should undertake at least to bear the cost of the building. The great difficulty is to provide the building. With regard to service, the Sisters of Charity and others are willing to aid the institution with their charitable contribution. But the difficulty is to maintain the buildings, to get the necessary land, construct the required building and provide the necessary accommodation. I confine myself to the Mangalore asylum. That is not the only asylum. There are many asylums of this character. I appeal to the Government to follow a more generous policy. I think the Act can very well be extended without much expenditure on the part of the Government. More than half the cost of the asylums will be met by local agencies like these charitable institutions. The amount which the Government will have to pay to the institutions will proportionately be very much less than that they spend at Tirumani. I may also mention that the authorities have recently taken care to send a doctor for getting special training for looking after the lepers. They have expert Nuns and Sisters of Charity to look after the lepers. These charitable institutions are working at much self-sacrifice for the benefit of the lepers. I think the Government should embark upon a more generous policy to aid the institution.”

l-15
p.m

* The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL :—“ Mr. President, Sir, I thought my friend from South Kanara had exhausted what he had to say on the leper question. I am however glad that he has given an excellent certificate to the work done at the Mangalore Leper Asylum. I was at Mangalore, and I was glad to see splendid work done in the institution, but what I cannot understand is the jealousy which my hon. Friend feels towards Tirumani. I have already told this Honourable House that the case of Tirumani is different from that of any other asylum. Tirumani is practically a Government asylum. The Rayapuram Asylum has been transferred to Tirumani and the responsibility of maintaining it rests with the Government. I cannot understand why he should expect that the treatment given to the Tirumani settlement should be given to other settlements.”

* Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—“ I think, Sir, he has misunderstood me on this point. What I said was that while Government lavish such large amounts of money on their institution so liberally, they should go half-way at least

24th March 1926]

[Mr. J. A. Saldanha]

and be more generous towards helping these institutions, especially for providing building accommodation which is necessary for extending the operations of the settlements.”

* The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL :—“ Sir, so far as I can remember, there has been no application for any special grant from the Mangalore Leper Asylum authorities. That however is a different matter. The hon. Member has also referred to the question of raising the rate of grant for these asylums. That question, as I have already told the Council, is under consideration. I trust my hon. Friend will withdraw his motion.”

The motion was, by leave of the House, withdrawn.

Mr. D. MANJAYYA HEGGADE :—“ Sir, I beg to move

‘ that the allotment of Rs. 38,62,600 for hospitals and dispensaries be reduced by Rs. 100.’

“ I raise this token motion to direct the attention of the Government to the needs of the rural areas and especially of malaria-ridden places and to bring to the notice of the Government the necessity of maintaining qualified midwives also in the rural aided dispensaries. The people of rural parts feel at times the want of midwives, and many deaths occur due to the absence of timely help. Considering the fact that the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government has earned the lasting gratitude of the people by his scheme for aided rural dispensaries, I hope he will seriously consider the question of increasing the aid at present granted to them with a view to their maintaining qualified midwives also. The attention of Government is to be drawn to the pitiable plight of the people of the malaria ridden places. It is not necessary for me to describe here the fatal consequences of malaria and how it slowly but surely renders the patient too weak and unfit for any hard labour. Not only dispensaries should be established in all such places but ample provision should be given to them to combat this deadly disease. Where hospitals cannot be opened, at least touring medical men may be appointed who will go round the villages within their jurisdiction at least once a fortnight. I hope the Honourable House will sympathise with my motion.”

* The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL :—“ Mr. President, Sir, the hon. Member from South Kanara has pressed his plea for the extension of rural medical relief and also for anti-malarial campaign. The hon. Member wanted to have more dispensaries. If only he knew that under the new scheme there are already 229 dispensaries brought into existence and 155 are to be brought into existence during the coming year, I do not think he would have complained of any lack of interest on the part of the Government in the matter of extension of medical relief to rural areas. They are trying their best; but in all these cases the rate of progress depends upon the availability of funds. So far as the complaint regarding anti-malarial enterprise is concerned, I can only say that the Government are taking steps in that direction. They have deputed some medical men to be trained in the Calcutta School of Tropical Medicine to have a special course of training there so that when they come back they can take up the anti-malarial work in the Presidency. The scheme however is still under consideration, and as soon as these trained men come back they will be in a position to carry out the scheme of anti-malarial work.

[The Raja of Panagal] [24th March 1926]

"Another point referred to is the maternity work. Already the Government have offered to give Rs. 100 more to any medical practitioner in charge of a rural dispensary in case he employs the services of a midwife. Perhaps, under the existing circumstances it may not be possible to have midwives all over the Presidency on account of the scarcity of trained midwives; but when my hon. Friend's Bill becomes an Act, it will be possible to have some of the Dhais who have had shorter courses recognized as midwives. When they are available local bodies can employ them. I hope and trust that local bodies will get these Dhais to undergo the course of training."

The motion was, by leave of the House, withdrawn.

* The hon. the PRESIDENT:—"I am afraid Mr. Srinivasan cannot move his motion because it relates to a Central subject."

* Rao Sahib R. SRINIVASAN:—"My motion is to elicit information as to the necessity for establishing hospitals to be maintained by Railway Companies for their employees in the city and districts."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT:—"That makes the meaning clear, and it also makes it possible for me to rule this motion out of order, because it relates to a Central subject. The Local Government have nothing to do with the maintenance of hospitals by Railway Companies."

* Mr. R. VEERIAN:—"On a point of order, Sir. May I know whether these things are not verified in the office before they are put on paper?"

* The hon. the PRESIDENT:—"Order, order. The placing of these motions on paper does not at all mean that they are in order."

* Mr. R. VEERIAN:—"Sir, I beg to move

'that the allotment of Rs. 3,47,700 for medical schools be reduced by Rs. 100.'

"If I remember aright, Sir, some candidates who have not completed the Secondary School-Leaving Certificate nor passed any of the examinations recognized by the Government as equivalent to it in Article I of the Public Service Notification are not admitted in the medical schools to undergo training in the L.M.P. course. This is a disqualification, and I am going to point out the reasons for that. If candidates have not obtained a sufficient number of marks in particular subjects or in some subjects, they may be given a test and admitted in the schools for the preliminary examinations they hold every year. I think, Sir, they hold preliminary examinations for three or four years. These candidates may be given a test to see whether such students who have not obtained a sufficient number of marks are capable of ever getting the capacity to continue in the medical line. By chance, I know that some students get better marks or a good deal of marks according to the pleasure of the examiner. Therefore, I should like to know, Sir, whether any exemption cannot be made, or whether there is any feasibility in making an exemption in the case of lady students or at least in the case of the male students belonging to the depressed classes to undergo training in these medical schools. Then, Sir, I wish to know about the examinations equivalent to the Secondary School-Leaving Certificate. I wrote to the Surgeon-General as well as to the Secretary of the Local Self-Government Department requesting them to furnish me with the required information. I do not know whether the reply is on its way to

[Mr. R. Veerian] 24th March 1926]

me or not. I want to know, Sir, whether the Senior or the Junior Cambridge examination or the Middle School examination is equivalent to the Secondary School-Leaving Certificate examination. I should like to know from the hon. the Minister in charge whether exemption cannot be made in the case of those depressed class students who have not obtained completed Secondary School-Leaving Certificates."

* The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL:—"Mr. President, Sir, possession of Secondary School-Leaving Certificate is prescribed as a qualification for admission for the mere reason that unless the students have a certain amount of general knowledge and are in a position to understand the lectures given in the medical schools, there would be no use in admitting them to medical schools. My hon. Friend thinks that an exception should be made in the case of girl pupils and boy pupils belonging to the depressed classes. I do not think the Government will be well advised to make any exception of the kind. The hon. Member asks whether students who have passed examinations equivalent to the Secondary School-Leaving Certificate examination could be admitted. The object in prescribing the Secondary School-Leaving Certificate, particularly with Science as optional subject, is to see that the student who seeks admission to the school has a fair knowledge of Physics and Chemistry. If the Cambridge Senior examination has in its curriculum the Science course equivalent to the course prescribed for the Secondary School-Leaving Certificate or higher, there can be no difficulty in getting those who have passed that examination admitted."

The motion was, by leave of the House, withdrawn.

* Mr. R. VEERIAN:—"Sir, I beg to move

'that the allotment of Rs. 8,09,600 for Medical Colleges and Schools be reduced by Rs. 100.'

"Sir, there is some difficulty in giving this concession of school fees for the students who are undergoing training in the medical colleges and schools. I think, Sir, that stipendiary students are exempted from school fees; but in the case of other students, they are asked to pay the school fees. In the case of backward or depressed classes as specified by the Government in their notification, they are eligible to get half the standard fees; but the difficulty arises in this way. If they are Ezhuvas and if they spell their names in the recognized manner, namely, Ezhuvas, there is no difficulty. But if they spell their names in the common way, viz., Eluvas, they are not eligible for the exemption. (Laughter.) I made a reference about it to the Surgeon-General and he has written to the Government. All the same, Sir, they are Ezhuvas. There is no difference between that word and this word, but the community is the same though there is difference in the spelling. I do not know if the same difficulty arises even in the case of other communities; I only request the hon. the Minister to kindly look into it and see that such difficulties are not felt. Candidates are not supplied with any Government notification containing such names spelt in the recognised manner."

* The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL:—"Sir, the Government have no objection to look into the matter; but I believe the mistake must have been made because there is a list of the communities given. If the particular applicant did not give the name of the community as mentioned in the

[The Raja of Panagal]

[24th March 1926]

list, the authorities responsible might find some difficulty in identifying the community. In such cases, it is open to the members concerned to satisfy the authorities that they belong to the particular community in the list."

The motion was, by leave of the House, withdrawn.

* Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR:—"Sir, in moving for the reduction of the allotment of Rs. 2,98,300 for Mental Hospitals by Rs. 101, I beg to suggest that separate accommodation be provided for patients according to the maladies they are suffering from. It may be a matter, Sir, which perhaps is already engaging the consideration of the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government.

1-30
p.m.

"When I had been to the mental hospital to see the patients there I was struck with the absence of arrangements for segregation of the patients according to the maladies they are suffering from. Now I am reliably informed that there are some diseases which the patients may be suffering from and which spread to others who come in contact with them like hysteria for instance. I should therefore suggest that some arrangement should be made for providing separate accommodation to patients according to modern requirements."

* The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL:—"The question is already engaging the attention of the Government. The Surgeon-General has reported that a classification is being attempted and in virulent cases, the patients are segregated."

The motion was by leave withdrawn.

* Mr. J. A. SALDANHA:—"Sir, I move

'to reduce the allotment of Rs. 21,100 for Medical—Works by Rs. 100.'

"My object in bringing this motion is to draw attention to the neglect of the Women's Hospital at Mangalore. I am sorry that the Government are so hard-hearted and obstinate, where they should be sympathetically inclined. We have raised contributions to the extent of Rs. 28,000 for a Women's Hospital which is sorely needed there. The hon. the Minister has indeed admitted more than once and even gave a solemn assurance in this House that if people in South Kanara raised a contribution for building a hospital, he would provide an equal amount for the purpose. Depending upon that, we have collected Rs. 28,000 and I think we can even collect more. But to our surprise there is no provision made in the budget for the purpose. From the proceedings of the Finance Committee supplied to us I find that the Government have gone on very strange calculations. At first perhaps they thought the people of Mangalore would not be so generous and calculated that the building would cost Rs. 41,000. Now they have found that a sum of Rs. 75,000 would be necessary and they offer to pay the difference between the original estimate and the actual amount collected, that is, 41,000 minus 28,000, or 13,000. They now say that the rest of the money should be found by the people. This is an unfair way of dealing with the public. The Government have broken faith with the people who have been generous. If only the Government had encouraged us, we should have expected more generous response from the public. I say so, Sir, because we have been maintaining many public institutions by public contributions. There is hardly an educational institution in Mangalore that is not run with charitable aids and even the Government College there is endowed by the public,

[24th March 1926]

[Mr. J. A. Saldanha]

in several ways. Instead of encouraging us and enabling us to set an example to the other parts of the Presidency, instead of giving us as much as they can, they have made no provision. And I now call upon the hon. the Minister and the hon. the Finance Member—I do not find him here—to explain this state of affairs."

* The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL:—"Sir, we have one more motion about the Medical Institutions of Mangalore. It is true that the hospital referred to by my hon. Friend is far from being satisfactory. The Government realised this and wanted to improve the building accommodation. But unfortunately for want of funds, they could not go ahead with the work. Later on however they added a block of buildings (the police hospital) and the position of accommodation was thus improved. It is true, Sir, that the generous people of Mangalore were pleased to subscribe Rs. 28,000 and odd. But the revised estimate has risen to a much larger amount. At one time it was considered that Rs. 44,000 and odd will do for the entire scheme. But according to the revised estimate the cost of the work will be much more. And the question is one of ways and means. I hope and trust that an early opportunity will be taken to provide funds for this scheme. In fact, we have arrived at a decision to allow the work to go on."

* Mr. J. A. SALDANHA:—"That is poor consolation, Sir."

* The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL:—"Meantime, they can go on with the funds at their disposal."

The motion was by leave withdrawn.

Mr. A. V. BHANOJI RAO:—"Sir, I move

'that the allotment of Rs. 58.47 lakhs for Medical be reduced by Rs. 100.'

"The object with which I tabled this motion is about the opening of a new dispensary at Vizagapatam. I have made repeated requests to the hon. Minister for Local Self-Government to open a small dispensary without any expenditure. There used to be a dispensary-endowed by a certain gentleman and that was taken away by the Medical College. Now people in one portion of the town feel it very difficult for want of medical help. They have to go a distance of about two and a half miles to the new hospital at Maharanipectta. When the site was selected for the present hospital there was a deputation to the hon. Member for Government who came there to choose the site and the difficulty was pointed out on the part of the people who live in the southern portion of the town and who will have to go all the way to the hospital. I believe the hon. Member for Government then gave us an assurance that a small dispensary would be opened in the locality. Since the Government have taken away the dispensary presented to the public in that part of the town, it is but right that a small dispensary is now opened in that locality. It will not entail any expenditure and I will show how. There are already a number of doctors and also those working in the medical college may be utilized while the medicines could be supplied from the hospital. The doctors who have no other work practically except teaching work in the college are always available, and they can be put in charge of the dispensaries by turns. At present it works very hard on the poor people to go all the way to the hospital for simple maladies like slight fever

[Mr. A. V. Bhanoji Rao] [24th March 1926]

or headache. I would request the hon. Minister that he may take all these into consideration and open a small dispensary which will involve no extra expenditure.

"I would then suggest that as the medical college just opened at Vizagapatam on the lines of the medical college at Madras needs a provision for a hostel being attached to it for the benefit of students who find it very difficult to accommodate themselves, some provision may be made for a hostel. Moreover, from the educational point of view, it would also be better if all the students are placed together under a common supervision. These are the two points that I wanted to raise on this motion and I hope the hon. the Minister will give a sympathetic reply."

* The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL:—"Mr. President, Sir, the two points raised by the hon. the Member for Vizagapatam are: first, the opening of an allopathic dispensary at Vizagapatam and secondly, the construction of a hostel for the students of the Medical College. So far as the first of these points is concerned, the hon. Member rested his case upon an assurance given by the hon. Sir Alexander Cardew, a former Member in charge of the Medical portfolio. Since there was no reference in the office traceable, the hon. Member was asked to give us the reference and his reply is yet to come."

Mr. A. V. BHANOJI RAO:—"On a point of personal explanation, Sir. It is very difficult to find an assurance of the kind given by an hon. Member of Government. At the time he came a deputation waited on him and he gave an oral assurance. Of course that hon. Member is not present here and I have written to the hon. the Minister that it is not possible to find any written record on the matter."

* The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL:—"At all events, the foundation for that assurance is not as sure as it was represented to be. On the merits of the case, I must say that both the District Medical Officer and the Surgeon-General considered it not necessary. Their contention is that the headquarters hospital (the King George's Hospital) is almost in the centre of the town. No portion of the town is more than two miles away from this hospital. Moreover, Sir, the outpatients department of the Women and Children's hospital is near the place where my friend would have the proposed hospital opened. There is also an Ayurvedic dispensary maintained by the municipality near the place. For these reasons I must say there is no case made out for the institution of the dispensary. If the municipality likes it could convert one of the Ayurvedic dispensaries into allopathic."

"So far as the second point is concerned, I am glad I can give him a more favourable reply. The work that he has proposed has been sanctioned."

Mr. A. V. BHANOJI RAO:—"Just a few words, Sir, regarding the opinion given by the Surgeon-General and the District Medical Officer. The present hospital is not really in the centre of the town. If it were so, nobody would suggest the opening of another dispensary. It is in one corner, nearer to Waltair than to Vizagapatam. People really find it very difficult to go there. About the Ayurvedic dispensary which is now maintained by the municipality, I should say that the general tendency for some to prefer the allopathic to the Ayurvedic system must be taken into account. People should not be forced to the Ayurvedic dispensary when they have got faith in

24th March 1926] [Mr. A. V. Bhanoji Rao]

allopathic cure. Moreover, the Government have taken away a dispensary which was presented for the benefit of the public, and it is but right that they must open one in its place. That is my contention, and I hope that the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government will be pleased to comply with my request."

The motion was by leave withdrawn.

The demand under the head "Medical" was then put and carried and the grant made.

The House then adjourned for lunch.

After Lunch (2-45 p.m.).

(The hon. the Deputy President in the Chair.)

DEMAND XXI—PUBLIC HEALTH AND VITAL STATISTICS.

* The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL:—"Mr. Deputy President, Sir, I beg to move on the recommendation of His Excellency the Governor

'that the Government be granted a sum not exceeding Rs. 33.28 lakhs for Public Health and Vital Statistics.'"

* Mr. J. A. SALDANHA:—"Sir, I beg to move

'that the allotment of Rs. 3,25,900 for pay of establishments be reduced by Rs. 100.'"

"My object is to urge the desirability of having vaccinators paid by Government and local bodies charged for the payment. Sir, the present system of vaccination, as I have more than once pointed out on the floor of this House, requires a good deal of improvement. The Government when charged with carelessness with regard to the vaccination system blames municipalities and local boards because the appointments are in the hands of those local bodies, and the salaries are paid actually by the local bodies. In reply to a question, Government recently explained that the standard rates of pay were fixed for the different classes of vaccinators which were reasonably high, but if the local bodies cannot pay that salary they appoint men who are not fully qualified though the qualifications are fixed by the Government as well as the salaries. Between this Government fixing an ideal and the local bodies carrying it out into practice far below that ideal, the people must suffer. There are many cases I think wherein vaccination is done in a very careless manner. Government formerly were preparing vaccine which could not be preserved for a long time. Now, they have got vaccine which can be preserved long. I think that experience has shown that vaccine that is imported now will maintain its purity for a very long time, under the system in which it is preserved now, and is not liable to quick decay. It will not lose its good properties, and sceptic poison will not get into it as it happened to be the case formerly sometimes. Last year on the floor of this House I said that the results of some cases of vaccination were disastrous, and I was charged with exaggerated language. But in view of the cases which occurred in the past the language was not exaggerated. But as things have improved in that direction, there is not much to blame in regard to vaccine. The fault lies, not in the vaccine, but in some of the vaccinators,

[Mr. J. A. Saldanha]

[24th March 1926]

on whom we cannot place much reliance. Therefore what should be done is this, as in the case of the health officers whose standard of qualification and salaries are fixed and paid by Government, and as in the case of the municipalities the salaries are charged to the account of the municipalities in certain proportion to be exacted from them, Government should place these vaccinators entirely under the district health officers and under their control, the vaccinators being appointed by Government or the Director of Public Health or by the district health officers according to the high qualifications required of the vaccinators. They should be paid by the Government and a certain proportion of the full amount should be exacted from the municipalities and local boards. I know of course it will be pointed out to me that this is against the principle of Local Self-Government and that we should have confidence in the municipalities and local boards. That there are certain local boards which do not realise the importance of careful vaccination and also sanitation in general, of course, is not very much to the credit of the local boards who do not pay according to the standard fixed by Government or do not appoint men according to the standards required. But there are certain local bodies that think that they do not get sufficient income and that they cannot pay according to the higher standard laid down by Government. In a matter like this in which the health and the life of the people are concerned, the Government should undertake the whole responsibility of the appointment and payment of vaccinators, taking a reasonable contribution from the municipalities."

* Diwan Bahadur M. KRISHNAN NAYAR :—" In this connexion, I wish to draw the attention of my hon. Friend, the Chief Minister to one fact, Sir. I do not know whether it is due to want of skill on the part of the vaccinators or the bad quality of the lymph that is employed, but I know of two cases in which two children who were vaccinated fared very badly after the vaccination. One of these two children suffered in consequence of this vaccination from a kind of disease which lasted for one full year, and the other child had smallpox. Fortunately the two children did not die. I do not know whether it is due, as I said, to the incapacity of the vaccinator or the bad quality of the lymph that is given. Such cases do occur, and I know these two cases personally, and I hope my hon. Friend, the Chief Minister, will insist upon the department being more careful both in the quality of the lymph and also in the qualifications of the vaccinators."

* The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL :—" Mr. Deputy President, Sir, I very much regret the incidents which my hon. Friend the Member for Malabar has referred to. As he himself pointed out, the two cases might have been the results of a mere accident, and hon. Members are aware that such accidents are inevitable in any treatment. I do not mean to say that we are not going to take steps to prevent such accidents."

" Sir, this time the hon. Mover has allowed his irresistible eloquence to attack the system of vaccination. He has tried his best to make out a case for what I do not know. I have listened carefully to his lengthy speech and yet I am sorry I am not in a position to know definitely what really he is aiming at. There was a vague suggestion to the effect that the Government are taking shelter under the plea that because this work is done under the supervision of the local bodies, they cannot be held responsible."

24th March 1926]

[The Raja of Panagal]

I do not for a moment wish to plead any excuse in the matter, if really there is any defect in the system. I do wish to improve the system if indeed I can do so."

" Sir, so far as the question of provincialising the service is concerned, it is not so easy as my hon. Friend seems to think. He urges on the Government to pay the vaccinators' salary bills and recover the same by way of contributions from the local bodies. Even if we do this the vaccinators will still be the servants of local bodies. On the other hand if the Government pay their salaries from Provincial funds they would incur heavy expenditure. Moreover, vaccinators are under the Acts of 1920 appointed by the local boards and municipalities. Any attempt on the part of the Government to go back upon this would be seriously resented. These appointments however can be made only in consultation with the District Medical Officers. That really means that the Department of Public Health will have its voice in the matter of these appointments."

The hon. the DEPUTY PRESIDENT :—" Probably the hon. Minister means the District Health Officer, not the District Medical Officer."

* The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL :—" Yes, Sir, in consultation with the D.H.O.'s, that is, the District Health Officers. That is a guarantee for qualified men being appointed; more than that I think it will not be possible. Recently this question of transferring the service from the control of the taluk boards to that of the district boards was being discussed in the Public Health Advisory Committee, and for obvious reasons the Committee could not agree to the transfer. The proposal had therefore to be dropped. The system of provincialization was introduced in the case of the municipalities, and the municipalities have been complaining against the system. Similarly if the service of vaccinators is provincialized in the case of local boards, the local boards will raise a hue and cry. For these reasons, I have to oppose the motion."

* Mr. K. SITARAMA REDDI :—" Sir, I also rise to oppose this motion of my hon. Friend, Mr. Saldanha. It is true that vaccinators in some of the districts are not paid adequately, but that does not mean that the power now vested in the local boards should be taken away from those boards. There may be cases in which here and there people are not paid properly. But what is the remedy? Is the Government going to pay them more if the cadre is provided for by them? Certainly if they want to mend matters in that direction, it is open to the Government to grant subsidies. I do not propose to ask for subsidies as president of a district board. Recently this question was mooted in various boards and most of the boards have considered the proposal of the Director of Public Health to improve the scale of pay of these vaccinators, and my friend, Mr. Saldanha, may be glad to learn that most of the boards have recently revised the scale of pay as suggested by the Director of Public Health. I know some of the boards have not reached the standard fixed by the Director of Public Health, but the scale has been revised fairly liberally. I do not know how my friend, Mr. Saldanha thinks that if the Government take up the establishment under their own hands the system would improve. When local bodies with their local knowledge and with the constant supervision over these people are not able to manage these vaccinators, how does he expect the Government to exercise better control over these people? There is a Director of Public Health with his staff, and then there has recently been

[Mr. K. Sitarama Reddi]

[24th March 1926]

installed, the district health staff with a District Health Officer who looks into these things very minutely. They have got to submit returns fortnightly and these will have to be scrutinised by the district boards also in some cases. When a system of local scrutiny is supposed to be working all right I do not know why centralisation is deemed necessary by my hon. Friend.

3 p.m. "This is the first time this question is mooted in the House. Unless the Government is going to increase its expenditure, Sir, heavily under this item, I do not think matters would improve. I do not think Government should take this item under their charge."

* Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—"I think taluk boards are responsible for these appointments. They must have a direct sense of responsibility to discharge their obligations towards the people. What happens is this. There is a strong prejudice against vaccination in the villages generally. There is a considerable body of people who are against vivisection and such other matters. They consider it almost a sin and there is a good deal of a kind of propaganda against vivisection. So many people do not willingly resort to vaccination. When they really see serious cases of illness after vaccination they do not want to be vaccinated. So it is the duty of the local bodies to respond to the claims by the Government for the appointment of men with proper qualifications and also pay the vaccinators according to the standard fixed by Government. When they do not do so and when it is due to their neglect I think Government should take the responsibility and make the local bodies pay the amount expended, as it is done in the case of the municipal health officers. They are paid by Government and a certain amount of contribution is exacted from the municipalities. The same principle may be carried out in the case of the district boards. I am very proud to see that the taluk boards are generally alive to their responsibilities. But in this matter, I think, there is neglect on the part of some boards. I am therefore right in asking the gentlemen here who are connected with local bodies—and most of them are connected with local bodies—to see that the local bodies discharge their duties properly. With the assurance given by my hon. Friend that the local bodies are willing to do their duty properly I have no objection to withdraw the motion."

* The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL :—"Sir, I must join issue with my hon. Friend when he says that the local bodies show a want of sense of responsibility in their administration. They have their sense of responsibility and they know their duty. Sir, coming back to the question I must say that the suggestion made by the hon. Mover would, if adopted, result in unnecessary correspondence. He wants the Government to pay the salaries of vaccinators from the provincial funds and recover the amount from local boards. Local boards would naturally delay payment and protracted correspondence will be the result. This will not in any way improve the service. So far as the question of the increased scale of the pay is concerned Government addressed local boards that they should increase the pay and as has been pointed out by the President of the South Arcot District Board some of the presidents have already agreed to improve the prospects of these vaccinators. As regards the efficiency of vaccination the Director of Public Health has recently issued instructions in the matter of vaccination. It is expected as the result of following these instructions there will be improvement in the work of vaccination."

The motion was by leave withdrawn.

[24th March 1926]

* Mr. R. VEERIAN :—"I beg to move

'that the allotment of Rs. 5,87,700 for Establishment—Mufassal, be reduced by Rs. 100.'

"I want to point out, Sir, that in many places members who are not willing to enter into the cheris are appointed as inspectors. In a place near Vaniyambadi there was a cholera case. Cholera was raging in that village and when the health inspector went there he did not enter into the cheri but he stood upon the pial of a church and taught the people how to avoid the epidemic. He did not come the next day but simply told them how they should behave. So what I wanted to suggest is that non-orthodox people should be appointed as far as possible so that this kind of distinction may not be made by them. This department is such a department, Sir, and therefore I ask that only such kind of people who would serve the department well with a view to bring good reputation to the department should be appointed. The second thing that I wanted to point out is that whenever these health inspectors go the people say, 'Look here, we have no water to drink. Our cheri is not in a sanitary condition and is overgrown with prickly-pear bushes also.' What could these health inspectors do? They have no money with them. For each and everything they will have to write to the presidents of the taluk boards and the other authorities concerned. What I would suggest is that a certain amount be left in the hands of the health officers so that they may utilize the amount in consultation with the president of the taluk board for providing water-supply in rural parts and removing prickly-pear growths, etc., etc."

Mr. T. MALLESAPPA :—"Many villages are without public wells. Some contain one or two unprotected private wells, which, however, provide neither sufficient quantity nor good quality of water to the villages. By using the water of such wells the villages become subject to all sorts of epidemics. A few of the villages have not got even a single well. The villagers here depend upon rain water which is collected in some pond or other. Whenever the local boards are approached to provide wells, they plead they have no funds. In order to see that the local bodies do not put forward such pleas, it is the duty of the Government to place sufficient funds at the disposal of the local bodies to carry out the work essential to the welfare of the people. Owing to the scarcity of rains for the last three or four years especially in the district of Bellary, the ryots of almost all the villages are in need of sufficient supply of water both for men and cattle. Tanks and Vakkaraïs are to be constructed in various places to store up the rain water in the rainy season so that it may be used during the remaining portion of the year. The inhabitants of certain villages are forced to vacate their villages and settle in some other villages for a portion of the year for want of water. So I request the hon. Member in charge of the Local Self-Government Department to see that sufficient funds are given to get the villages sufficient supply of water."

* The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL :—"Mr. Deputy President, the orthodoxy referred to in the motion at one time puzzled me. But the hon. Mover has made it clear that it is not the orthodoxy in regard to the profession but in regard to the views about caste. The hon. Member contends that when orthodox men, men who have strict ideas about caste, are

[The Raja of Panagal]

[24th March 1926]

appointed they will not care to visit the cheris. He has referred to dereliction of duties on the part of health inspectors. It has not come to the notice of the Government that there has been any dereliction of duty in the direction in which the hon. Mover accuses the health staff. In any case, Sir, the health staff is working under the direction of District Health Officers and the Director of Public Health. These officers are expected to exercise sufficient control and supervision over the health staff and to see that the staff visits these places and does its work properly. So long as the staff does its work, it does not matter to the Government whether the staff is orthodox or heterodox. Sir, regarding the second point raised in the debate, namely, allotting funds to be placed at the disposal of the department, I must say that that department is not a department to execute works. There is the Public Works Department. There is the Engineering staff under the local bodies and there is the Labour department. It is indeed the duty of these departments to carry out the execution of water-supply schemes such as well-sinking, etc. I do not think, Sir, that the Health department can take up the work of executing these works. I oppose the motion."

The motion was by leave withdrawn.

* Rao Sahib R. SRINIVASAN :—"I beg to move.

'that the allotment of Rs. 5,87,700 for Establishment—Mufassal, be reduced by Rs. 100.'

"I want to say only a few words. These health officers do not visit the cheris at all. They simply come, make enquiries, ask the talaiyaris and go. The system should be so modified as to insist on these people visiting the cheris. Therein lies the whole thing. Many of these people do not go to see personally what is going on there. It is with that object I have brought in this motion. I hope the Government will see that those who are interested in the work are made to do this work and will also insist upon their visiting these cheris."

3-16 p.m. * The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL :—"I have only to reply to the statement made by my hon. Friend representing the depressed classes that the health staff has been discharging their duties satisfactorily towards the health of the cheris and the people living there. As a matter of fact, in the report submitted by the Director of Public Health, it was stated that the health staff has been discharging its duty well. It is true that the condition of some cheris is not satisfactory. But improvement in this direction can only be a matter of time. Progress can but be slow. If in case the Government are in a position to finance all schemes of improvement at once, progress can be more marked. But there are limitations to their financial capacity. I trust my hon. Friend will not press his motion."

The motion was by leave withdrawn.

* Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—"I move.

'that the allotment of Rs. 4,300 for Town-Planning—Pay of establishments, be reduced by Rs. 100.'

"My object is to draw attention to the superficial manner in which town-planning schemes are prepared. In South Kanara, we have got the town of Mangalore and a number of other smaller towns which are not

[24th March 1926]

[Mr. J. A. Saldanha]

municipal towns, and in none of these towns is there any idea of developing schemes of town-planning, though the population is increasing very rapidly and houses are springing up like mushrooms everywhere without any provision for properly laid roads, without elbow room to move about and without any building regulations. So far as the building regulations are concerned, I was told they were being considered and they were being issued, and it is three years since, and nothing has come out. I have been myself personally carrying on some agitation in this direction of town-planning. Most of the members of the municipality who are elected members are afraid of moving this subject, because in a town-planning scheme, on account of exactions and recoveries of incremental values from owners of lands, it is feared that the burden will fall ultimately on the rate-payers and no municipal councillor would dare to join with me to carry on the campaign of town-planning. I am myself making an earnest attempt at town-planning, but most of my friends are afraid to join the campaign. What they would like to do is to make a road here and there, and leave everything to the municipality. But it is only touching the fringe of the problem of town-planning and improvement of the whole town. Because, by making small improvements here and there with a little money, instead of acquiring lands and making proper roads, there will be no real improvement, and it will take years to do anything or it will never be done. Government should, I think, amend the Act to see that town-planning is carried out much more earnestly by municipalities and by local boards in rising towns. Unless this is done, our towns will spring up in a very haphazard manner, and it will be too late to make improvements, because what is called improvement of a town means a very expensive affair. If town-planning is adopted and towns are built on those lines, such a large expenditure on improvements will not be necessary and later improvements will be easy and less costly. We have got the lesson of Bombay in the matter of improvement schemes. Instead of spending a few thousands in town-planning in olden days, they are now spending lakhs and crores of rupees without success.

"Now, one of the difficulties found in the Town Planning Act is that it does not apply to undeveloped places. The Town Planning Act says that it would apply to an undeveloped area if it can be connected with developed areas. If there are outlying places in the City of Madras which are undeveloped, like those portions adjoining Mylapore and Adyar, the Act could apply. In other places, only improvements can be introduced just like those under the Bombay Improvement Act, to which the Town Planning Act would not apply. If the municipalities do not look ahead and take time by the forelock, and if they now neglect town-planning when the towns are rising, I think it will cost them crores of rupees later on to make improvements and to set matters right when it is too late. These improvements become necessary only when we have not paid sufficient attention to town-planning in due time. Now, we have got a scheme of extending or widening the Broadway. It is a narrow way and it deserves to be called a narrow way, and if you want to broaden it, fancy what it will cost, perhaps a crore of rupees. If the Madras Municipality had been careful about a hundred years ago and adopted town-planning, as they have done in Pondicherry, they would have saved several crores of rupees. Bombay is an example where crores have been spent and where extraordinary taxes are levied on the

[Mr. J. A. Saldanha]

[24th March 1926]

people to meet the cost of improvements. Instead of acquiring lands in olden days at perhaps Rs. 10 per square yard, they have now to pay Rs. 1,000 or even Rs. 2,000 for a square yard. This is all owing to the careless way of developing a town. Now, they want to extend the land by reclamation from the sea and they said it would cost Rs. 7 crores. An eminent officer of this Government to whom I boasted of our Bombay town-planning scheme, and who is not here now, told me that the Bombay scheme would run up to Rs. 14 crores, and his prediction is fulfilled. So if you do not take time by the forelock and prepare schemes on wise town-planning models and do things carefully now, it will cost our municipalities, including the Madras Municipality, many crores of rupees to mend matters by improvement schemes. I therefore appeal to the hon. the Minister to devote much more careful attention than is done now to this point, and insist on the municipalities and unions which are rising into towns to adopt well-considered town-planning methods. The municipalities should take a lesson from what happened in Bombay. I therefore hope that an earnest attempt will be made to adopt town-planning in rising towns and in making improvements to old towns."

* The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL:—"Mr. Deputy President, Sir, the narrow lanes without elbow room referred to by the hon. Member from South Kanara happen to be the lanes of the old town. The present Municipal Council or the Government cannot be held responsible for those places. I do not think that the hon. the Mover seriously means that the schemes prepared under the direction of the Director of Town Planning have been planned without any consideration for the future. For most of the schemes have been prepared after due consideration, after personal inspection of the places and after careful examination of the views recorded by previous town-planning experts. There has been no complaint from any quarter as to the objectionable nature of the schemes prepared under the direction of the Director of Town Planning. He takes care to see that the plans prepared admit of future development, and he is insisting on municipalities paying attention to the future improvement of the town. I confess I do not follow what really the hon. the Mover's attack is. As I said, if the attack is against the lanes, which happened to exist for centuries, if a Broadway happens to be a narrow way, the present Town Planning department cannot be taken to task."

* Mr. J. A. SALDANHA:—"I regret my point was not understood. I think I made myself not clear though in a short speech. I did not blame the Town-Planning Department for any schemes prepared. I admit they are all right but they do not go far. My attack was against the narrow ways of the old people. What I wish to impress is that we should not allow things now to drift, so that difficulty will be felt in the future. I therefore warn Government, municipalities and townspeople against this policy of drift and neglect of making proper schemes at this stage. When I told my friends, municipal councillors, they hint like this:—'it will go against my grain to touch town-planning. Because you are not a municipal councillor you can be doing it. If I preach it, it will cost my seat.' If they want town-planning they will point to that part of the town lying outside the municipal limits or an altogether open maidan. Therefore, though I am not going to attack anybody, I say that such a policy will

[24th March 1926]

[Mr. J. A. Saldanha]

mean that the whole town-planning will be useless and worse than useless. The Act will be one without anything being done under it. Therefore what I say is this: that as this Council and the Government would not be afraid of anything to carry out such schemes, they should take matters well in hand, and insist upon municipalities to submit proper town-planning schemes for their approval and to carry them out.

"At present there is no provision in the Act to make it obligatory on the part of a municipality to carry out such objects. If Government insist that they must submit the scheme and bring pressure to bear on them, then they will do it. There is no pressure now, and though the Ministers go round and make tours, they do not tell them to attend to these things. I attach very much importance to this. It is not a party affair, it is not a question of neglect on the part of the Ministry; it is a matter for future action. So I press my motion, and it should not be considered as a reflection on anybody."

3-30
p.m.

The motion was put and lost.

* Mr. B. RAMACHANDRA REDDI:—"I move

'that the allotment of Rs. 21,28,900 for water-supply and drainage be reduced by Rs. 1,00,000.'

"Sir, at the outset, I would say that I do not intend to cut one lakh of rupees from this allotment, but I wanted it only to be a token motion for two reasons. Firstly because I do not like to stand in the way of other schemes being supplied with sufficient funds, and secondly because I believe in the maxim that discretion is the better part of valour. Even if I am to press it now, I am not going to succeed. (Voices: 'Why?') Therefore, I appeal to the hon. the Minister with regard to the necessity of considering this Gudur water-supply scheme. This scheme has been pending for a very long time. As I have already stated in this House, this place is at the junction of two railways. It is a very important centre, and further the headquarters of the Sub-Collector's division. Also there is a flourishing high school there. It has a population of more than 9,000 and it has got ample facilities for development. But for this scarcity of water-supply for drinking purposes, the town would have been in a flourishing condition by this time. I want to urge on the Government the necessity of considering this question with greater sympathy, providing for this, if not during the current year, at least during the year after the next. At the same time, I will also remind the Government that this is not a new scheme to be thought of. It has been under consideration for a very long time past. A sum of Rs. 30,000 has already been spent on it for constructing wells, and the work has been abandoned then and there. The reason for abandoning it is not explained, and the question of water-supply has not been solved at all. In the present year's budget, as many as eleven schemes have been provided for, but Gudur does not find a place at all. I am sure the hon. the Chief Minister has personal knowledge of this town, and I appeal to him to take some personal interest in the matter and relieve the residents of the town from this great calamity."

* The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL:—"Mr. Deputy President, the cost of the work is estimated at Rs. 1,40,000, and works valued at Rs. 23,000 have already been executed. The portion of the work already executed consists of sinking of suction wells which forms part of the scheme. There yet remains work estimated at Rs. 1,17,000 to be executed. The financial position of the

[The Raja of Panagal]

[24th March 1926]

Gudur Union does not seem to be favourable for financing the entire scheme. Recently, the President of the District Board addressed the Government that in the matter of this water-supply scheme the Government should depart from the usual practice of giving 50 per cent by way of grant and 50 per cent by way of loan and give two-thirds grant. He requested that the District Board Engineer should be allowed to execute the work, and that the repayment of the loan should be extended over a period of thirty years instead of twenty years. So far as the second of these requests is concerned, namely, that the District Board Engineer should be allowed to carry out the work, there can be no objection as the Public Works Department has agreed to allow him to carry out the work, and it is proposed to inform the President of the District Board to this effect. As regards the request for giving two-thirds grant and for the extension of time for the repayment of the loan to thirty years, there seems to be no reason why the usual practice should be departed from. It is said that Gudur is a junction station for Tirupati. There are other junction stations too, such as Pakala, Renigunta and Katpadi. If by being a junction station Gudur can claim two-thirds of the cost of the scheme by way of grant, any other junction station can also claim the concession."

* Mr. B. RAMACHANDRA REDDI :—" On a point of personal explanation, Sir. It is not a question of junction alone that is most important; that is cited only by the way; but the difficulties that are being experienced by the Gudur public are the most important matter to be considered."

* The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL :—" So do the people of many other stations suffer for want of water. I do not see why any departure should be made in the case of Gudur."

* Mr. B. RAMACHANDRA REDDI :—" I withdraw my motion."

The motion was by leave withdrawn.

* Mr. K. SITARAMA REDDI :—" I move

'that the allotment of Rs. 21,74,500 for grants for public health purposes be reduced by Rs. 1.'

" Sir, I do not think any lengthy speechifying is necessary to impress on the hon. the Minister about the importance and the necessity of improvement in respect of rural water-supply. In tabling this motion I wanted to know two points: firstly, whether there is any likelihood of the time fixed for the current year's grants being extended, and, secondly, why in the budget of next year no provision is made for such an important scheme as the improvement of rural water-supply. With regard to the first point, as most of the Members of the House are aware, the grant was made very late in the year, and there was also a condition laid by Government that the taluk board or any other local body should contribute more or less an amount equal to the grant by the Government; and before the local boards could retrench other items of expenditure and provide for this item which was considered by them to be very necessary, the wet season commenced, and no body would think of sinking wells between October and February. If my memory serves me right, this grant was made only in the month of September or so; and for the local boards to be told that these grants would lapse if these works are not finished before March is more or less tantamount

[24th March 1926]

[Mr. K. Sitarama Reddi]

to saying 'we do not make any grants for this year'. I would therefore request that the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government will see his way to extend the time for the current year's grant being spent fully.

" The second point is why there has been no provision made in the next year's budget for this important scheme. I do not think, as I have already stated in my speech during the general discussion of the budget, I can congratulate the Finance Member or the Members of the Finance Committee on the schemes approved of by them for expenditure from Provincial funds. They have provided for items which can well afford to wait. They have provided for court-houses in some places, Judges' residences in some places, quarters for the establishment of a district munsif's court and so on. I suppose these can take their own time, and even if they are considered necessary they can certainly wait, and preference should have been given to this scheme of improvement of rural water-supply. I am glad my hon. Friend from Chingleput, Mr. Ramaswami Mudaliyar, realized the importance of this scheme and waited on His Excellency with a large number of Members, but I do not know what has become of the deputation. I am yet to hear from him or any other Member of the deputation."

* The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL :—" I am afraid, Sir, my hon. Friend from South Arcot is under a misapprehension. I have already stated during the general discussion on the budget that after the ordinary demands are voted, I would move a further demand for grant for the schemes of village communications and village water-supply. During the current year the grant was made, rather late in the year, but the anxiety shown by those who are interested in Local Self-Government was so great that I thought that the whole amount would be spent during the rest of the year. But what is the result? Till now it does not appear that local boards have spent more than Rs. 30,000 or Rs. 40,000. That speaks volumes. The hon. Member has taken my hon. Colleague the Finance Member to task for not providing funds for these schemes. I cannot understand why he should do so."

3-45
p.m.

(Voices :—" He did not give any assurance.")

* The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL :—" I did give the assurance at the time of the general debate. We do propose to move for supplementary grants for water-supply schemes and for making village roads."

The motion was by leave withdrawn.

Diwan Bahadur M. KRISHNAN NAYAR :—" I beg to move

'that the allotment of Rs. 24,100 for compilation of vital statistics—clerical establishments be reduced by Rs. 100.'

" It is only for the purpose of drawing my hon. Friend's attention to the perfunctory, unsatisfactory, and, if I may be permitted to use a very strong word, the scandalously unsatisfactory way (laughter) in which these vital statistics are collected and recorded. After all, the collection of these vital statistics is a very important matter. On the percentage of the births and deaths that are recorded in it are based some important conclusions and upon these conclusions are built some important schemes. So if the foundation on which these conclusions are arrived at is very unsound and if we build our schemes on these conclusions, practically nothing will come out of these schemes. Not only this: it will lead to very dangerous results. After all the

[Mr. M. Krishnan Nayar] [24th March 1926]

money that is spent is spent for the improvement of the health and the sanitary condition of the people. Now let us see the nature of the vital statistics that are collected.

"Sir, I am basing my arguments and statements on the report of the Retrenchment Committee. They state that in very many cases 32 to 93 per cent of these births are not recorded. Not 1, 2, 3 but from 32 to 93 per cent of these births are not recorded and very often more than 50 per cent are omitted. These statements are startling. I wish to read from page 151 of volume I of the Retrenchment Committee's Report. They state:

'From the report of the Director and the figures furnished by him it is clear that not only is the registration of births and deaths perfunctory, misleading and inaccurate but that it is not possible to draw reliable and accurate conclusions from figures which have but a small relation to the facts. In a memorandum on vital statistics prepared by the Director in October 1922, the result of the investigation of vital statistics is set forth. The investigation showed that the omission or the failure to register births varied from 30 to 93 per cent and that in the majority of cases it exceeded 50 per cent. A perusal of these indicates the inaccuracy and unreliability of the figures on which the deductions of the Public Health Department depend.'

"I wish to draw the attention of the hon. the Chief Minister to these remarks so that he may sit upon this department (laughter) and make it do its work. I am sure if he does it everything will be set right in the course of six months, in any case before the budget is presented for the next financial year. I felt that I had only to draw his attention to this and then he would immediately apply his mind to this."

* The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL :—"I do not contend that the vital statistics which are prepared at present are accurate. In a country like India, it is difficult to prepare accurate statistics. Government have been trying their best and taking steps to improve the mode of recording vital statistics. Recently they have arranged with the Revenue Department to allow the Public Health officers to peruse the records prepared by the village officers so that the former may make their suggestions to the District Collectors. The Government have introduced the system of compulsory registration. They have also effected improvement in the subordinate agency of registration. We have to wait and see whether these new rules will not give better results."

* Rao Sahib P. V. GOPALAN :—"I wish to bring to the notice of the hon. the Chief Minister one particular circumstance which seriously affects the health of the people in towns on the West Coast. The hon. Minister is aware of the complicated land problem in Malabar. The Adi-Dravida people unfortunately do not hold any lands there. What happens is this: soon after a death takes place in an Adi-Dravida household he stealthily takes away the corpse without giving any information to the local board or the municipality concerned, and buries the dead body near the sea-shore with the result that in the early morning if you walk along the sea-shore you can see the jackals and dogs eating the legs and hands of the dead body. This is what is actually happening on the West Coast, and if we cannot make proper arrangements in municipalities like Calicut, Cannanore and Tellicherry for the burial of the dead bodies of the depressed classes, the health of the city will be dangerously affected."

* The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL :—"I cannot understand the relevancy of this question to the collection of vital statistics."

24th March 1926]

The hon. the DEPUTY PRESIDENT :—"I suppose the hon. Member did not hear the remark."

* Rao Sahib P. V. GOPALAN :—"I am speaking of what is actually happening. As soon as a man dies the next step is to bury him."

"Sir, I think we must have proper arrangements made to find out how many are the persons whose dead bodies have been removed stealthily and buried on the seashore by the Adi-Dravidas. I think that the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government will take some interest in the health of those people who live in municipal towns or at least in municipal areas and will provide a more liberal grant for finding a burial-ground for the Adi-Dravidas."

The motion was by leave withdrawn.

* Mr. R. VEERIAN :—"May I say a few words?"

* The hon. the DEPUTY PRESIDENT :—"No."

Then Demand XXI—that Government be granted a sum of 33.28 lakhs for Public Health and Vital Statistics—was put and carried and the grant was made.

DEMAND XXII—AGRICULTURE.

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir T. N. SIVAGNANAM PILLAI :—"On the recommendation of His Excellency the Governor, I beg to move
'for a grant not exceeding 15.66 lakhs under Agriculture.'"

* Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—"I beg to move
'that the allotment of Rs. 49,100 for Direction be reduced by Rs. 101.'"

"I move this motion with a view to request the Government to investigate into the causes of reduction in the number of cultivating landowners and increase in the number of non-cultivating landowners and cultivating tenants and suggest measures for improving the economic conditions of agriculturists in the Ceded districts."

"Sir, I wish first of all to point out to the House that the number of people who are depending on agriculture has increased considerably during the last thirty years. According to the Census Report prepared in 1921, those who were supported by land including workers and dependants were 300 lakhs of people out of a population of 428 lakhs in the Presidency. In other words out of every 10,000 people of the province as many as 7,025 were supported by agriculture. Let us compare this number with the corresponding figures of the previous two decades. In 1901 it was 6,831 for every 10,000, while in 1911 the number increased to 6,818 and the present figure, as I have said, is 7,025. If you take the whole agricultural population, that is, the actual workers as well as dependants you will find that out of every 1,000 persons supported by agriculture there were in 1901, 30 people who were non-cultivating landowners. That number rose to 34 in 1911 and to 56 in 1921. Similarly the number of non-cultivating tenants who were only 2 for every 1,000 in 1901 rose to 6 in 1911 and to 32 in 1921. On the other hand the number of cultivating landowners has showed a steady decline. It was 512 in 1901, and then it fell down to 461 in 1911 and 398 in 1921."

[Mr. A. Ranganatha Mudaliyar] [24th March 1926]

"Let us take again the number of people who were actual workers connected with agriculture. Out of every 1,000 such people, the number of noncultivating land-owners was 19 in 1901. That number rose up to 23 in 1911 and to 49 in 1921. As regards non-cultivating tenants there was one for every 1,000 in 1,901 which rose to 4 in 1911 and to 28 in 1921. The cultivating land-owners again, as I have already remarked, have shown a consistent decline. It was 484 in 1901, 426 in 1911 and 381 in 1921.

"Now it behoves the Government to pause and consider why it is that the number of people dependent on agriculture has increased considerably during the last thirty years and at the same time the number of people who actually own land has shown a steady decline while those who have parted with their lands and undertaken to remain as tenants has shown an increase.

p.m. "In other words the Government should have put to themselves the question which the Superintendent of Census Operations for 1921 has done and asked themselves, 'Does this mean that land-owning farmers are forced to relinquish their lands to the non-cultivating money-lenders under whom they are content to remain as tenants as is indicated by the figures?' But alas, the Government seem to have taken no notice of this matter. While this is so for the whole province the matter is still worse so far as the Ceded Districts are concerned. The proportion of population depending on agriculture there, is much larger than that which obtains for the whole Presidency. It was 719 per thousand in 1911 and rose to 746 per thousand in 1921. Similarly the number of people that have parted with their lands has shown an increase. I ask the Government to find out why this unfortunate condition prevails in these districts. Again, Sir, I would refer to the records of the Government to show the miserable condition of these districts economically. Speaking about the distribution and movement of the population the Superintendent of Census, 1921, says with reference to the Ceded districts:—

'Situating in the middle of the peninsula where it gets the full benefit of neither monsoon, this division must always have a struggle to maintain its population. The prosperity of all these districts is immediately affected by even a comparatively small shortage of rainfall, while Bellary and Anantapur especially are seldom free, if not from the reality at least from the haunting apprehension of famine, and from the epidemics which come in famine's train. During the past decade these districts have all lost in population and Bellary especially has been very badly hit. The epidemic of influenza took great toll in these districts than in other parts of the Presidency, and in addition to the abnormal mortality from this cause Bellary and Anantapur were at the end of the decade visited by famine.' (P. 7).

"In another place the same report says that six taluks of Bellary are conspicuous for a great fall in population ranging from 10.2 per cent in Alur to 17.3 per cent in Siruguppa. It is true, Sir, that deficiency of rainfall and lack of irrigation facilities account to a certain extent for the sad plight of these people. But are Government free from responsibility in this matter? I urged upon the hon. Member for Irrigation to provide better facilities for irrigation. Surely the hon. the Minister for Development cannot absolve himself altogether from the responsibility for this state of affairs. I should like to know from him what he has done to tackle this question of constant deterioration of land. As remarked by Sir James Caird, in India 'crop follows crop without intermission so that Indian agriculture becomes a process of exhaustion.' Land certainly does not yield that amount of outturn which the Government have assumed to be the case for the purpose of their assessment. I shall come to that in a minute. According to the old settlement reports—if the Government have taken the trouble to inform themselves of these matters

24th March 1926] [Mr. A. Ranganatha Mudaliyar]

—land bearing an assessment of Rs. 2-8-0 per acre is expected to yield 340 Madras measures or 510 local measures of cholam. Lands bearing an assessment of Rs. 2, 1-8-0 and Re. 1, respectively, are expected to yield 420, 360 and 300 local measures of cholam, respectively. But if you ask practical cultivators you will be struck by the unanimity of opinion of these people that these estimates are an exaggeration. Of course when people say so, it is natural for the Government to turn round and say that they are interested people and that they could not be relied upon. I do not want to base my statement merely on the practical experience of the cultivators, but I would like to ask the Government to turn their attention to their reports from which it will be conclusively seen that the actual outturn of these fields is certainly 33 per cent less than that estimated to be the case in their settlement reports. There is no denying the fact that land is giving less than it did before. What has the Agricultural department done all these years to arrest this continual decrease in outturn? If it is due to deficiency of manure what steps have the Government taken to provide manure on easy terms to the ryots? Is it on account of some defect in the methods of cultivation? If so, what have the Government done to see that there is a proper rotation of crops and that the seeds are of high quality? If the remedies have been found, what have the Government done to bring the knowledge of them to the people by increasing the number of demonstrators for teaching the people from taluk to taluk and firka to firka? If an economic investigation is carried on, it will be found how people really stand, what their indebtedness was thirty years ago, what their property was thirty years ago, how many acres they own now, why they borrowed money and whether they were put to a great disadvantage by borrowing. They should consider how far borrowing was avoidable and how far not. If they go into the question thoroughly they will be struck by the gravity of the situation and compelled to find out a remedy. The hon. Ministers have had six precious years to tackle this problem and I should like to know how they have utilized their opportunity to examine the question that I have presented to the House."

*The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir T. N. SIVAGNANAM PILLAI:—"Sir, my hon. Friend and myself come from a department where we have always been accustomed to swear by statistics. I am glad that this subject has come just after our discussion on Vital statistics; for we are full with the idea that there is something wrong with statistics and the sooner it is rectified the better. Since hearing this and even before hearing this, I have been looking into the question of statistics. In addition to all the arguments put forward by my hon. Friend I may bring to your notice and the notice of the House certain figures which will go to show how far the reliance that we place upon the statistics is bound to receive a severe shock. As it has been said by my hon. Friend Mr. Ranganatha Mudaliyar that Agriculture has suffered I looked into the statistics for 1911 and compared them with the statistics for 1921. It is seen that the percentage employed on Industries has gone down from 15 to 11 whereas Agriculture has gone up by one per cent. If we descend into minor particulars such as the classification of people according to castes we will find this. During the period 1911 to 1921 it is shown that the Devangas decreased from 736 to 540, the Kaikolas decreased from 538 to 480 and the Saliyas decreased from 636 to 471. I wondered what became of the difference in all these castes. When I examined further I found that in 1921 the Scurashtras account for 700

[Sir T. N. Sivagnanam Pillai] [24th March 1926]

people. This community was not classified as a separate community in the preceding years and they have been separately classified in 1921. If you add the Devangas, the Kaikolas, the Saliyas and the Sourashtras for 1921 you will find that their number is a little more or less than the corresponding number for 1911. Coming to another point, you will see that our rural population is thoroughly unlettered. If a person goes to a village with a census schedule and asks a villager, 'In what class shall I put you in?' and the man happens to be an agriculturist owning a small plot of land or cultivating it for another, and at the same time he happens to be driving the motor-car for his master or doing some other work besides, it puzzles him in what class he should classify himself."

* Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—" Under motor drivers obviously. "

* The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir T. N. SIVAGNANAM PILLAI :—" In the census of 1911 he might have classified himself as an agriculturist; in the census of 1921 he might have classified himself as a motor driver, seeing, as our hon. Friend puts it, that the motor-cars have come into prominence. Going deeply into the figures you will find all sorts of complications. Under the circumstances, it is not for a lay department like that of Agriculture to go into the question. We must have an economic enquiry conducted into the matter so that we may have all the statistics that are available and draw correct conclusions. Really what my hon. Friend calls an agricultural question is an economical question. Another question which the hon. Member asked was, what I have done or what the Ministry has done during the last six years for the improvement of agriculture. If the hon. Member only takes the trouble to see the several administration reports that are issued by the department from time to time various items of information will be found which will demonstrate conclusively the importance of the improvements effected by the Development Department. For instance, take the case of paddy. It has been demonstrated at the Aduthurai farm that by sowing a new strain of paddy the production will be increased by about 16 per cent. On a rough calculation this will be adding an extra quantity of food worth Rs. 2 crores. If the population is stationary or if it only keeps pace with the increase of food there would be no difficulty at all. On the other hand, as we all know, the population increases in geometric progression whereas the quantity of food increases only in arithmetical progression."

* Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—" Not in Ceded districts. There the population is going down."

* The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir T. N. SIVAGNANAM PILLAI :—" I take the Presidency as a whole. Therefore what I say now is that we cannot place such implicit reliance upon the figures. If you wish to go into the question deeply what we ought to do will be to take statistics if they are easily reconcilable, and if they are not reconcilable to go into the question and find out the real cause. Incidentally he said that the land was deteriorating and he asked me to say what I had done to improve the fertility of the soil. We have been suggesting to the ryots the use of green manure, the use of oil cake. Now we have found out that there are in three or four villages in the Trichinopoly district phosphatic nodules which will suffice for fertilising the whole of the Madras Presidency for years together."

[24th March 1926]

* Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—" Are they available in other districts? "

* The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir T. N. SIVAGNANAM PILLAI :—" The survey of the whole Presidency goes to show that there are phosphatic nodules in three or four villages on the road from Lalgudi to Ootatur. There are besides gypsum deposits which will be useful for other purposes."

" As regards the demonstrators, we have, within the limited funds placed at our disposal, been able to supply as many demonstrators as possible. Fortunately, with reference to a question put by my hon. Friend I had to say that Bellary had been more favourably treated than any other district; there are three demonstrators and two assistant demonstrators in Bellary though there are other districts which want more badly the services of these people. But as our friend has been insisting upon it from time to time, we have been obliged to show some partiality to the Bellary district."

" He wished also to know why people had gone down in the matter of affluence. One of the causes is that they go on incessantly subdividing holdings. If a father had two acres of land in one generation, in the third generation it dwindles down to 20 or 30 cents. What can a ryot do with such a small holding of a few cents? He cannot apply improved methods of cultivation. He has to stick to the old method of cultivation by country ploughs, which will only scratch the soil but will not go deep into it. Another reason—if there is a decrease at all in the number of agriculturists—is, because many earning classes such as lawyers, doctors and retired public servants have superfluous wealth and they go in for lands whatever the price may be. I may bring to the notice of the House that the people of Melapalsiyam of the Tinnevely district which is inhabited by the Lubbai class go to Penang, Singapore and such other places and come back with huge sums of money. They do not know what they can do with the money. They go in for land whatever the price may be. Of course, I take it that all the remarks made by my hon. Friend Mr. Ranganatha Mudaliyar are more or less suggestions for future improvement and I take them in that light and shall try what is possible in those circumstances."

* Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—" Sir, I thank the hon. the Minister for Development for the tone he has adopted in reply to my motion. He referred to the fact that he and I once upon a time belonged to a particular department and came from that department and that I should know what value I should attach to the statistics of the Government. I shall assure him at once that I agree with him. But the statistics are more on the side of the Government than on the side of the ryot. When that is so, I fail to see how he can adduce that argument to controvert my proposition."

" I shall now refer to the question of profits. It is not very long ago that he retired from service. We know who selects the field for experiment. It is the revenue inspector. He has to take into account the convenience of the Divisional Officer who will not be inclined to move much. The land must be very near the village. It must be a fertile land with good yield. Otherwise, the revenue inspector will be hauled up for selecting a land which was not typical. You may take it from me that the lands are selected with a view to show rather an excessive outturn than a deficient outturn. When such

[Mr. A. Ranganatha Mudaliyar] [24th March 1926]

selections are made, the results would naturally be good. It is not correct to base any argument on that fact. I hope the hon. the Minister would not advance that argument again.

"Sir, it is true that we are suffering from lack of rainfall. But are there not countries in the world where rainfall is as low as it is in our districts? In those countries do the Government do nothing at all to raise crops suited to the soil and to the rains obtainable there? If my information is correct, there are countries where rainfall is deficient as it is in my district; but the Government there manage to have recourse to improved methods of cultivation adopted to the soil. I am not very much conversant with them. They take measures to combat the climatic conditions and to see that the ryots do not suffer more than they need. What measures have the Government here taken? My point is this. I do not want the hon. the Minister or anybody else to go through books and quote statistics and figures. Let them appoint a few peoplet—their own departmental heads. Let them go into the question. Let them be asked to examine one taluk or one district and see whether people are going down in prosperity. The hon. the Minister referred to very good yields. It is all very well to talk here without putting our opinions to the test. What is it that I have been asking? The hon. the Minister mentioned that a committee might be very well appointed to go into this question. I shall be content if he appoints two or three people. I do not want a big committee which will simply go round and do nothing. Let them be his own departmental heads who will go into the question and come to a deliberate and dispassionate judgment of the whole question.

"I have already referred to the question of funds. When speaking on the budget I said that the hon. the Minister had allowed lakhs and lakhs of rupees to lapse every year. I do not know what amount is going to lapse this year. You do not give relief to the people from whom you collect money. What is the good? I will give one simple instance how money is not spent properly. The Government imported a Millet Expert to develop millet-growing in districts like ours. They must have employed him in the tracts where millet had to be improved and where millet was growing on a large scale. They put him in Coimbatore and wanted him to grow our millet there. What is the result? It seems millet grows but there is no ear of corn. This has been going on for the last three years. The Government are spending money in that way. I requested the hon. the Minister to send that gentleman who was intended to develop the millet of our districts to make experiments on our soil. The Government still persist in keeping him in Coimbatore. Perhaps he may not have so many conveniences elsewhere and he has good society in Coimbatore. I have no doubt that from the point of view of the ryot you are wasting money on experiments like that in places where they need not be continued.

"As regards other things I do not want to anticipate what the hon. the Minister has to say. If he would be so good as to really carry on some investigation in this matter and do whatever is then found possible I shall be more than satisfied."

* The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir T. N. SIVAGNANAM PILLAI :—"Mr. Deputy President, in the matter of selecting fields for conducting experiments and finding out the outturn of crops it is now the Agricultural Department that

24th March 1926] [Sir. T. N. Sivagnanam Pillai]

does it. Formerly, the same work was done by the Revenue Department. I should say in fairness to myself that the selection was not made by the revenue inspector for me. I selected the field and had the experiment carried on. It may be that the hon. Member's experience might be different. But so far as I am concerned I can say with a feeling of certainty and with a feeling of pride in this Council that it was I that selected the field and carried on the experiment."

* Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—"I was not referring to any one person. I was referring to the practice which is generally followed and I, as a Divisional Officer, had no need to select the fields. Some time earlier, the Government had done away with that system. Therefore, the hon. the Minister need not contrast his work with mine."

* The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir T. N. SIVAGNANAM PILLAI :—"It was only the other day that my hon. Friend asked me to visit the Bellary district and I went with him and his own knowledge of what took place there would point out to him what extreme care I was taking in getting at the facts so far as the sugarcane and other crops were concerned. We went over to fields at long distances in order to find out for ourselves why a particular field put on a green appearance and another field, a pale appearance, and it must be within his memory that these facts were elicited in order that some improvement might be effected. As regards demonstrators, what he suggests is what we are now following and it must be within his experience."

* Mr. A. CHIDAMBARA NADAR :—"May I know what is the reason for allowing the Millet Expert to remain at Coimbatore?"

* The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir T. N. SIVAGNANAM PILLAI :—"Coimbatore and Salem form an important millet tract and he is stationed at Coimbatore so that he may start the work on the crops in the lands near the Coimbatore Farm. Millets grown in the Ceded districts are also studied. Work in the Ceded districts will be undertaken next year if possible."

* Mr. A. CHIDAMBARA NADAR :—"The hon. Member from Bellary stated that the Millet Expert was not doing anything useful at Coimbatore and the experiment conducted by him was not so successful as it was expected. It would be better to transfer him to a place where millet is being grown such as Ceded districts. I should like that some light should be thrown on that matter."

* Diwan Bahadur M. KRISHNAN NAYAR. :—"Sir, it seems to me from what has been stated by my hon. Friend, Mr. Ranganatha Mudaliyar, that the department is not doing justice to itself and to the people in keeping the Millet Expert in Coimbatore particularly at a time when his services can be usefully employed elsewhere. The hon. the Development Minister will see the desirability of transferring him to a place, say, in the Ceded districts where he can render really useful service to himself, to the department and to the ryots instead of keeping him for scientific experiments at a place where he cannot do very much for the people at large."

* The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir T. N. SIVAGNANAM PILLAI :—"It is as a result of the scientific experiments that we have been enabled to march so long and so well; and those scientific researches are carried on at Coimbatore though it is not now possible to say whether the millets of Ceded

4-30
p.m.

[Sir. T. N. Sivagnanam Pillai] [24th March 1926]

districts could be studied completely in Coimbatore. As a result of a discussion with the hon. Member from Bellary the Government have decided to open a station in the Ceded districts in 1927-28. The expert is doing good work at Coimbatore at present."

* Mr. V. PANDRANG ROW :—"I merely wish to add, Sir, that there is a proposal to post an assistant to the Bellary district by July 1926. He will prepare the ground for the station to be opened in 1927-28."

* Mr. A. CHIDAMBARA NADAR :—"I should like to know, Sir, whether he has done anything at Coimbatore, or in other words whether he has succeeded in doing anything."

* Mr. V. PANDRANG ROW :—"Experiments have been carried on, Sir; but though we cannot say that they have been a success, I do not think it is yet time to say that they have not been successful."

* Mr. A. CHIDAMBARA NADAR :—"Then, what is the use of posting him to Bellary or anywhere?"

* Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—"I think, Sir, that the further information furnished by the Secretary for the Development Department makes the position easier. Of course the expert is meant for improving the millet of my districts. (At this stage Khan Bahadur Haji Abdulla Haji Qasim Sahib Bahadur took the chair.) I think experiments conducted there might easily be applied to areas in other districts, where conditions are more or less similar. As regards the complaint of the hon. the Minister for Development, that I have ignored his visit to my district he has only anticipated me; because when I came to those resolutions, I should have said what my hon. Friend has already said."

The motion was, by leave of the House, withdrawn.

* Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—"Sir, I formally move
'for the reduction of the allotment of Rs 6,500 for Pay of establishments by Rs. 101.'

"Sir, we have got some agricultural stations, but they are all located in black cotton soil. A good portion of the land in some districts consists of red soil and I think those soils have till now not received the attention they are entitled to. I do not know if the information furnished by the hon. the Secretary for the Development Department is meant to convey the idea that an agricultural station in the red soil tract is going to be opened. I am not sure if he meant to convey that opinion."

* Mr. V. PANDRANG ROW :—"A millet station."

* Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—"I request the hon. the Minister to consider the possibility of opening an agricultural station for red soil, for there is at present none of that sort, Sir. A good portion of the districts consists of that soil and that also needs to be improved."

* The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir T. N. SIVAGNANAM PILLAI :—"I am at one with the Mover in considering the necessity for locating a farm there for the red soil in the Bellary district. But the principal difficulty has always been want of funds and greater need in other districts. For the present, we have got under one paddy farm in the Tanjore district, one in the Coimbatore district, and under cotton, we have got some other places,

[24th March 1926] [Sir T. N. Sivagnanam Pillai]

and there is already one farm at Hagari. (A voice: 'Black cotton.') So, I am sorry that considering the needs of other districts, if I give preferential treatment to Bellary, I would be accused of being partial to one of the districts at the expense of some others."

* Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—"I am the last person, Sir, to claim any partial treatment. I only wish to say that help must be rendered as there is need for it. Here is a district which, as I have shown, has been suffering acutely for several years past. Unlike other districts in the Presidency, the population of this district has been going down. What is it due to? The hon. the Development Minister admits it is due to economic causes like the failure of seasons, diminished outturn and so on. It is but part of his duty therefore, Sir, to come to the help of a district like that. Where does the preferential treatment come in, especially when he does this for one who is standing opposite to him? Really, Sir, he is using an argument something which, with all due respect for him, I should say he should not have advanced. There is no question of partiality in this matter. The district is suffering and there is acute need for help; and after all, Government must help a district which is really in need of it."

* The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir T. N. SIVAGNANAM PILLAI :—"I am sorry, Sir, that the word has been misunderstood, or rather I did not use a better word. I must tell him that this answer has been given to me by so many other Members of the Legislative Council, and they always tackle me with the question 'How is it you seem to be a little prone to carry out improvements to the Bellary district? If they ask for sugarcane, you go and see them; if they ask for millet you go and see them. It appears you are not able to see any other plot, because it would interfere with your work in that district and so on.' It was that idea running in my mind at the time which prompted me to use that language, which perhaps I should not have used."

* Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—"Now, Sir, whatever my view may be of the arguments the hon. the Minister has advanced, I do not press my motion."

The motion was by leave withdrawn.

* Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—"Sir, may I, with your permission, move

'for the reduction of the allotment of Rs. 3,45,000 for Demonstration by Rs. 101'

with a view to have more demonstrators appointed for the Bellary district.

"Now, Sir, I should like first of all to tell the House whether or not the people of my district try to profit themselves by the advice given to them by these demonstrators. In this motion, I have not asked the Government to establish farms or laboratories or any such thing. I want only more demonstrators, and my reasons for that request are these: the people of my district are anxious to be guided by the advice of the agricultural demonstrators and to carry on agricultural operations under the guidance and in accordance with the directions of the demonstrators. What more do the Government expect of these people, Sir? The Government are willing to spend lakhs and lakhs of money in putting up huge buildings appointing

[Mr. A. Ranganatha Mudaliyar] [24th March 1926]

costly Deputy Directors and farm managers, and what not, and carrying on experiments which end in nothing after years of labour; but they are not prepared to appoint more demonstrators when people are willing to place their lands practically free at the disposal of the Government and are willing to undertake all the labour necessary to carry on these experiments in accordance with the directions of the officers of the department. In such cases, if you are not prepared to come to the help of the people, I do not know what else a department is for. If I had the time, I think I can prepare a table of the demonstrators for each district and show what place my district occupies in it; but that is not my point. Here are people who are willing to take advantage of any advice that may be tendered to them by the Government. The Government must welcome such an offer and take advantage of it. It is in that view, Sir, that I have ventured to press this on the attention of the hon. the Minister for Development. I am sure, Sir, that he will not let himself be scared away by what others might have said to him half in joke and half in seriousness, and there is nothing behind what they have told him, I am sure."

* The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir T. N. SIVAGNANAM PILLAI:—"My Friend, Mr. A. Ranganatha Mudaliyar, is placing his district, Sir, in a way which will command the sympathy of the officers. Analysing the list of demonstrators that have been distributed to the several districts, I find that as I have already stated before Bellary has got three demonstrators and two assistant demonstrators. If we compare the figures of the other districts, I should say that Bellary has been very generously treated. No doubt, the existing number seems quite inadequate; but everywhere the people apply for demonstrators and the sort of help which my friend volunteers for the Bellary district is also volunteered by several other districts. For instance, it was only the other day that the people of Lalgudi in the Trichinopoly district were found to be very anxious to have a demonstrator or two and I gave them those two demonstrators. The chief difficulty has been both want of funds and want of trained men. As soon as they become available, we will be able to give more demonstrators to Bellary."

* Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR:—"Sir, I should like to know, since he has compared my district with others, another district which has suffered as my district and which is so bad as my district. Lalgudi that he speaks of, Tanjore, Madura, Coimbatore, all these districts need only be mentioned, Sir, to convince the House that there is no common point between these districts which are favourably situated and mine in the famine zone. The hon. the Minister is himself convinced of the difference to the people due to better methods of cultivation. When people take to single plant cultivation, for example, it gives a better outturn than when they persist in the old method. The hon. the Minister witnessed it with his own eyes and he was struck by the difference between a particular plot where there had been single transplantation of paddy and the other tracts where the old methods had been followed. He was convinced also that the demonstrators there were doing some useful work and that their work resulted in very great profit to the people. He would no doubt rejoice to see that these lessons are copied by all of them; but who is to go and give the lessons to those people? That is the point. If you would only give us a few more demonstrators, one for each taluk, it would be possible to go round and get hold of people

[24th March 1926] [Mr. A. Ranganatha Mudaliyar]

who would lend their lands for these experimental purposes and thereby, Sir, the lessons which he is so anxious should be spread among the people would be spread. But I take it, Sir . . ."

* The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir T. N. SIVAGNANAM PILLAI:—"If funds and men are available, we will do it."

* Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR:—"You want men or only funds? If you want men, there are a number of people who are unemployed. I have got a list of them in my hands. I shall find the men, I shall myself advertise for them at my own cost and send the applications to the Government. What is the use of saying that there are no men when really there are many unemployed? I have got a list in my hands, of men who are in need of employment. So, the only argument is lack of funds. If men are not forthcoming . . ."

* Mr. V. PANDRANG ROW:—"Are they trained men?"

Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR:—"I think so; I think they are trained persons."

* Mr. V. PANDRANG ROW:—"We shall be glad to consider the question."

The motion was, by leave of the House, withdrawn.

* Rao Sahib R. SRINIVASAN:—"Sir, I beg to move

'that the allotment of Rs. 500 for Public Exhibition and Fairs be reduced by Rs. 100.'

"It is my impression, Sir, that this sum was not spent as usefully as it ought to be. I think the Government have at present proposed to spend Rs. 500; and I may say that if only the purpose of such shows is served, the people will be ready for a provision of even Rs. 5,000, nay Rs. 50,000. The shows are intended to have an educative value. I think this year or year before last I saw a show in Madras and it was a disgraceful show. Here a dog, a fowl there, a sheep in another place, all were mixed up in a row. A game cock was put here, a dog was there, all badly arranged. The whole thing was so badly arranged as to have the least educative value. In other countries where people take great interest in shows, they really serve an educative purpose. There, various things are exhibited in an attractive manner. If our shows are to be conducted in the manner they used to be, I would rather suggest that we need not waste any more money on them. I should like to know from the hon. the Minister how this amount is proposed to be spent."

* The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir T. N. SIVAGNANAM PILLAI:—"Sir, out of this provision of Rs. 500, Government award medals costing about Rs. 60 for the best bull and the best cow at the Tiruppur cattle show. Rupees 200 was set apart for the poultry show at Ootacamund. It is for these two purposes that this amount is intended. The remainder is proposed to be utilized for unforeseen demands. As regards the suggestion that better shows and more shows must be held, I should like to draw the hon. Member's attention to this fact, that Government used to make a grant to the Ongole cattle show, but that the show ceased to be held since 1918. When the question of revival of the show came up for consideration in 1923, it was the opinion of the Advisory Committee that it was preferable not to hold the show and that at any rate it was not necessary that the Government should move in

[Sir T. N. Sivagnanam Pillai]

[24th March 1926]

the matter, the predominant opinion being that there was more danger to the country than good, the danger being the apprehension of depletion of the best stock in the Ongole area. When the shows were regularly held they served to advertise the excellence of the breed and invited foreign customers from distant lands who took away the best animals. People therefore apprehended that this depleted the stock; and it was feared also that the Ongole breed would become extinct in a short while. Therefore this Government persuaded the Government of India to prohibit the export of cattle from this Presidency. That is the reason why more shows are not held."

* Rao Sahib R. SRINIVASAN :—" Sir, I am sure that it would be of immense benefit to the country if more shows are held. But the way in which they are held is not satisfactory. I may just take the instance of the cattle farm at Hosur. We have in that case a very insufficient area for the purpose. I should think that an extent of 10,000 acres would be required to prove the useful working of the farm. Of course if we go on at the present rate the apprehension of drain of our stock is well-grounded. But my point is that we should produce as much as possible, and increase our stock not only of cattle but also of sheep. If we are not able to reproduce, the little that we have will surely be drained. If that is the excuse of the Government for not holding more shows than at present, I am afraid, Sir, I cannot appreciate it."

* The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir T. N. SIVAGNANAM PILLAI :—" I shall inform my hon. Friend that the Hosur farm contains 1,600 acres and we are rearing 1,000 head of cattle there and also some sheep in fairly large numbers."

* Rao Sahib R. SRINIVASAN :—" May I know whether the sheep are for slaughter or for production of wool? Are they cross-bred?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir T. N. SIVAGNANAM PILLAI :—" Work is done with the object of trying to raise a pure bred flock and to improve the quality and quantity of wool."

The motion was by leave withdrawn.

(At this stage, the hon. the Deputy President took the chair.)

* Mr. K. SITARAMA REDDI :—" I move

'to reduce the allotment of Rs. 1,40,500 for live-stock by Rs. 1.'

" Mr. Deputy President, in tabling this motion, I wanted to suggest that more breeding stations should be opened and that the standard of our live-stock should be maintained properly. The condition of the cattle of the mufassal parts is really pitiable and it is high time that the Government think of improving their condition and thereby help agriculture in a sure and positive way. It is the cattle and their manure that are very necessary for the improvement of agriculture. In this connexion, I want to know why this is treated as an agricultural subject; properly it should come under Veterinary. It is a pity that even in such headquarter institutions as the Veterinary Hospital at Cuddalore and in some of the other taluk stations there are no breeding bulls maintained by the Agricultural Department. I wish that they take up the matter earnestly and see that a sufficient number of breeding bulls are maintained."

[24th March 1926]

* The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir T. N. SIVAGNANAM PILLAI :—" The suggestion will be borne in mind. I must say that I fully sympathise with the hon. Member's object; but as usual the complaint is want of funds. At present we have got breeding stations at Chintaladevi, Guntur and Hosur. Chintaladevi was opened seven years ago exclusively for the Ongole breed, Guntur three years ago for the buffalo breed and Hosur for the Kangayam breed. There is also a lot of cross-breeding going on and this scheme will be the nucleus of future schemes for cattle breeding. As regards the suggestion that particular bulls may be stationed in veterinary institutions, I shall have the matter looked into."

The motion was by leave withdrawn.

* Rao Sahib R. SRINIVASAN :—" Sir, I move

'to reduce the allotment of Rs. 52,300 for Central Farm and College Estate by Rs. 100.'

" Sir, my object is to elicit information as to the work done in this farm and instruction given to the students in it. I understand, Sir, that the students who come to the institution are generally highly educated. This debars the class of population who are generally agriculturists. Such a high standard of education is not really necessary, for a mere capacity to understand even in vernacular, I should say, the instruction given in the farm on agricultural matters will be quite sufficient. I should therefore like to know from the hon. the Minister as to the sort of instruction that is given there and the work done in the farm."

* The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir T. N. SIVAGNANAM PILLAI :—" As for the fact that instruction is not given to less educated men, I should say at once that there are two other schools maintained for that purpose. This Central Farm is maintained for the instruction of people who have got the wish to rise higher in the scale, for agricultural graduates. As to what work is done in that farm, I will refer the hon. Member to the annual reports that are being published. If the hon. Member wants a copy, I shall lend him one. There is also a system of having monthly digests showing the monthly work issued by the Director of Agriculture which give all information as to the improvements made from time to time, especially during the month for which they are issued. The students of the college are taught how to cultivate all kinds of crops, dry crops, garden crops and wet crops. They are also taught how to manure fields, the principles of rotation, the implements that are to be used, how the ploughing is to be done, if satisfactory results are to be obtained, how sowing and weeding have to be attended to. Each student is made responsible for a particular plot. He is given a cultivation sheet, in which his observations are recorded from time to time and also the several improvements made. In fact the training given is a practical one to meet all kinds of difficulties later on in life when he goes out either as a servant of Government or to cultivate his own lands."

* Rao Sahib R. SRINIVASAN :—" May I know whether any attempt has been made to introduce a poultry farm and a honey bee farm in this country?"

* The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir T. N. SIVAGNANAM PILLAI :—" This question will come up before the Council with my answer to it, I hope, shortly."

The motion was by leave withdrawn.

[24th March 1926]

* Diwan Bahadur M. KRISHNAN NAYAR :—" Sir, I move
to reduce the allotment of Rs. 25,500 for Agricultural Schools by
Rs. 100."

" Sir, my only object in moving this motion is this, namely, to plead for the establishment of more agricultural schools. I believe there are only two agricultural schools in the Presidency, one at Taliparamba in Malabar and the other at Anakapalle. I have seen the work of one of these schools, the one in my district, and I am sure that it is doing very good work and I infer with regard to the other school also that the work turned out must be good. As these schools are doing very good work, I should ask my hon. Friend to open more schools of the kind; for two schools for the whole Presidency would practically be of little use."

* Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—" Sir, in supporting the request made by my hon. Friend from Malabar, I should like to draw attention to the necessity of including agriculture within the curriculum of studies for middle schools, especially in the villages. I may draw the attention of the House to the following sentences in the Madras Administration Report for 1924-25. They occur at page 102 :

" There are two agricultural middle schools, one at Taliparamba and one at Anakapalle. The primary object of these schools is to provide, for the sons of cultivators, a course of instruction in the principles of agriculture. The intention is that the persons trained shall return to cultivate the land, so that, eventually, methods of cultivation will improve. But, of the 38 persons who have passed out of these schools from the year 1922-23 onwards, only 10 are known to have returned to the land and 21 are known to be idle of whom 13 definitely hope to get employment under Government. The value of a practical training in improved methods of agriculture does not yet appear to be appreciated. But the Government have not considered that the comparative failure of these schools over the short period for which they have been working is a sufficient reason to discontinue the experiment. Unless facilities for this type of education are provided the public cannot be trained to take an interest in improved methods."

" I beg to point out that the experiments should not be discontinued. We must however find out what the defects in these schools are. I should also like to point out the necessity for the opening of one elementary school for each village. The children of the ryots who go to the schools at present get their head filled with new ideas which are not of much practical use and consequently they emigrate to towns like Bombay and other places. Their mind becomes filled with ideas alien to agriculture under the present conditions. As a result the parents are very much afraid of sending their children to these schools lest they should give up the agricultural profession. For these reasons, the boy should be given such education, as should make him to love the agricultural profession, to take an interest in it so that he may not leave his ancestral pursuits."

" In fact, the whole system of education in our rural schools deserves to be overhauled, and suited to the ancestral pursuits and traditional ideals of the people. But, a question may be asked, where are the teachers who are trained? Where are the men who can make demonstrations? Where are these men? Well, I may draw attention to the fact that Government have given up what is called the certificate classes in the Agricultural College. Now, these certificate classes were useful to such classes of people who need education in agriculture. These people who are trained in the certificate classes receive sufficient education for demonstration purposes and they can also be employed as teachers in the purely agricultural schools or in elementary schools. I see, Sir, that some eight persons are reported to have passed

[24th March 1926]

[Mr. J. A. Saldanha]

the last examination held in regard to this certificate class. Out of them only one or two seem to have found employment. When they entered they were given some hope of obtaining employment under the Government, but most of these passed men of the certificate class have been given no employment. And yet the Government say that they have not got men for demonstrators' posts. Eight men have been stated to have passed, and are therefore certificated men, and they can work as demonstrators. I have much to say, Sir, but I would suggest that the debate may be adjourned now and taken up to-morrow."

The hon. the DEPUTY PRESIDENT :—" You have already taken five minutes, and another five minutes you have got a right to take. So, the House may sit for some time and finish the subject."

* Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—" The subject cannot be finished so soon, Sir, but I can finish my speech. The subject requires a very careful discussion and detailed attention, because we have not come here to offer destructive criticism in regard to a matter which is still in its infancy . . ."

The hon. the DEPUTY PRESIDENT :—" Will the hon. Member kindly finish his speech?"

* Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—" You, Sir, said that the subject might be finished, and I only take exception to that remark. I can and I will finish my speech. I am not an expert in this matter, and I can only give expression to public feeling and public opinion on this point, namely, that things are not going on in the right direction in the matter of agricultural education of the ryots. In this connexion, I may be allowed to refer to a report of an interview with Lord Sinha on this subject, and in the interview he touched this point. He said, 'the present system of education does not run according to the traditional ideals or traditional customs of the people.' The education that is given throws things out of gear and into confusion."

The hon. the DEPUTY PRESIDENT :—" Do you think that the quotation has relevancy to the subject under discussion now?"

* Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—" He spoke about what is called village reconstruction. That is a subject of the highest importance and is connected with agricultural education. Now that the Royal Commission on Agriculture is coming, we must, I think, put our heads together and place our views before the Royal Commission. I think all those Members here who come from the villages are interested in agriculture. And how to improve agriculture is a problem to which we must devote our first-hand attention, and we must bestow on it all the care which it deserves. On agriculture 70 per cent of our people depend, and it is a matter to which very little attention is paid, and we, including myself, are guilty of much neglect on that point. I hope that this matter of agricultural education of our village people on proper lines with a view to make them adopt improved methods will be taken in hand very early and thoroughly by the hon. Minister. As for the Advisory Committees, I do not know what these Advisory Committees are doing. I am not on any Committee. But we have to discuss this question of agricultural education and training of our people more in detail and devote to it much greater attention. Judging from the results of the education imparted in the past, I am afraid that the majority of the pupils who are trained in the agricultural schools have not returned to the fields—this is shown from the

[Mr. J. A. Saldanha]

[24th March 1926]

report I referred to, published by the Government itself. What is the reason, Sir? (At this stage the gong was sounded.) I have placed this motion before the House and I should like to know the views of the hon. the Minister on the points raised."

* The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir T. N. SIVAGNANAM PILLAI:—"There are two other motions which go with this, and they are Nos. 712 and 713. They may all be taken up together and discussed to-morrow."

The House then adjourned to meet again at 11 a.m. the next day.

B. V. KRISHNA AYYAR,
Secretary to the Legislative Council.

APPENDIX.

[Vide answer to question No. 1767 asked by Mr. R. Veerian at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on the 24th March 1926, page 586 supra.]

Names of members belonging to the depressed classes in the taluk and union boards.

Serial number and name of boards.	Name of members of the depressed classes nominated.
Taluk boards—	
1. Tanjore ...	M.R.Ry. A. M. Jesudasan (A.D.).
2. Mayavaram ...	" V. D. Gnanaratnam (A.D.).
3. Mannargudi ...	" P. Sivaswami Voikurai (A.D.).
4. Tiruturaipundi ...	" Muthavelu Pandaram (A.D.).
5. Nannilam ...	" N. Pakkiri Panikkar (A.D.).
6. Negapatam ...	" A. Kundukathan (A.D.).
7. Kumbakonam ...	" Arumugam Munian Samban.
8. Papanasam }	
9. Pattukkottai }	None.
Union boards—	
1. Vallam ...	M.R.Ry. Muthavelu Nainar (Valluvar).
2. Thirukkattupalli...	" A. Thomas (A.D.).
3. Tiruvadi ...	Nil.
4. Tiruturaipundi ...	M.R.Ry. V. Manikkam (A.D.).
5. Muttupet ...	Nil.
6. Vedaranniyam ...	Nil.
7. Pattukkottai ...	Nil.
8. Arantangi ...	Nil.
9. Adirampatnam ...	Nil.
10. Orathanad ...	Nil.
11. Nidamangalam ...	Nil.
12. Nannilam ...	Nil.
13. Kodavasal ...	Nil.
14. Shiyali ...	Nil.
15. Vaidisvarankoyil.	Nil.
16. Kuttalam ...	Nil.
17. Tranquebar ...	M.R.Ry. Isaac Athisayam (A.D.).
18. Swamimalai ...	Nil.
19. Tiruvadamardur.	Nil.

THE MADRAS LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

Thursday, the 25th March 1926.

The House met at 11 o'clock, with Mr. President (the hon. Mr. M. RUTHNASWAMY) in the chair.

PRESENT:

Ramaswami Ayyar, K.C.I.E., The hon. Sir C. P.	Marthandam Pillai, Mr. P. N.
Marjoribanks, C.S.I., C.I.E., The hon. Mr. N. E.	Moidu Sahib, Mr. T. M.
Usman Sahib Bahadur, The hon. Khan	Muhammad Sahib, Mr. T. N.
Bahadur Muhammad	Muttayya Mudaliyar, Mr. C.
Moir, C.S.I., C.I.E., The hon. Mr. T. E.	Narayanaswami Pillai, Mr. T. M.
Raja of Panagal, The hon. the	Natesa Mudaliyar, Rao Bahadur C.
Patro, Kt., The hon. Rao Bahadur Sir A. P.	Noyce, C.S.I., C.B.E., Mr. F.
Sivagnanam Pillai, Kt., The hon. Diwan	Obalesappa, Mr. B.
Bahadur Sir T. N.	Pandrang Row, Mr. V.
Abdulla Ghatala Sahib, Mr.	Prabhakaran Tampan, Mr. K.
Ankinedu Prasad Bahadur, Mr. S. R. Y.	Premayya, Mr. G.
Ari Gowder, Mr. H. B.	Raghuobandra Ballal, Mr. K.
Arpudaswami Udayar, Mr. S.	Raja, Rao Bahadur M. C.
Arumuga Nadar, Mr. P. K. S. A.	Raja of Ramnad.
Bhanoji Rao, Mr. A. V.	Rajan, Mr. P. T.
Boag, Mr. G. T.	Ramachandra Reddi, Mr. B.
Chidambara Nadar, Mr. A.	Raman, Rao Bahadur P.
Devendrudu, Mr. N.	Ramaobari, Rao Sahib K. V.
Ellappa Chettiyar, Rao Sahib S.	Ramaswami Mudaliyar, Mr. A.
Evans, C.S.I., Mr. F. B.	Ranganatha Mudaliyar, Mr. A.
Ghouse Mian Sahib, Mr. Muhammad	Sagnam, Mr. P.
Gopalan, Rao Sahib P. V.	Saldanha, Mr. J. A.
Guruswami, Mr. L. C.	Sarvarayudu, Mr. K.
Haji Qasim Sahib Bahadur, Khan Bahadur	Sesha Reddi, Mr. B. P.
Haji Abd-ul-Jah	Sitarama Reddi, Mr. K.
Heggade, Mr. D. Manjappa	Srinivasan, Rao Sahib R.
Kesava Pillai, C.I.E., Diwan Bahadur P.	Subbarayan, Dr. P.
Khadir Mohiddin Elyas Khan Sahib, Mr.	Subramania Pillai, Mr. K. Chavadi
Khalif-ul-Jah Sahib Bahadur, Khan Bahadur	Sundaramurti, Rao Sahib P. V. S.
P.	Suryanarayanamurti Nayudu, Diwan Bahadur
Krishnan Nayar, Diwan Bahadur M.	K.
Krishnaswami Nayudu, Rao Bahadur K.	Tangavelu Pillai, Rao Sahib T. C.
MacDougall, Kt., Sir Alexander	Veerian, Mr. R.
Madanagopal Nayudu, Mr. R.	Venkatachala Padayachi, Mr. K.
Madhava Raja, Mr. V.	Windle, Capt. E. G.
Madurai, Hon. Lieut.	Wood, Mr. C. E.
Mallesappa, Mr. T.	

[25th March 1926]

I

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

[Order made by the President of the Madras Legislative Council under Standing Order No. 15 on the 4th December 1924.]

1. Starred questions to be put at a meeting of the Council with their answers shall be printed and placed on the Council table an hour before the President takes his seat.

The Secretary shall call out the name of each interpellator in the order in which the names are printed, specify the serial number of his question and make a sufficient pause to give him or any other member a reasonable opportunity of rising in his place and putting a supplementary question. Supplementary questions must be put immediately after the principal questions to which they relate.

2. If a member responsible for a starred question happens to be absent when it is called, it will be open either to him or to any other member to put supplemental questions thereon after the other starred questions for the day have been answered, provided question-time is not thereby exceeded.

3. Questions, not starred, will not be called in Council, but they will be printed with their answers and placed on the table of the House along with the list of starred questions. Oral supplementary questions will not be allowed in regard to unstarred questions.]

STARRED QUESTIONS.

Agriculture.

Recommendations of the Director of Agriculture.

* 1798 Q.—Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR: Will the hon. the Minister for Development be pleased to state the proposals made by the Director of Agriculture for 'the organization of agriculture for profit instead of for subsistence' and further whether he recommended an import duty on manure and even prohibition of export of manure to foreign countries and the orders of the Government, if any, thereon?

A.—No such proposals have been made by the Director of Agriculture nor has he ever recommended an import duty on manure. The question of prohibiting export of certain manures from the country was considered by the Director of Agriculture as well as by the Board of Agriculture and the latter recommended to the Government of India an examination of this question by a committee.

Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR:—"Sir, has the attention of the Government been drawn to the speech of the Director of Agriculture wherein this duty was recommended?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir T. N. SIVAGNANAM PILLAI:—"I do not remember having read it."

Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR:—"Has the committee recommended by the Board of Agriculture been appointed?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir T. N. SIVAGNANAM PILLAI:—"There is already a committee of the Board of Agriculture."

Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR:—"It is said in the answer that the latter recommended to the Government of India an examination of this question by a committee. I am asking whether that committee has been appointed?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir T. N. SIVAGNANAM PILLAI:—"No."

Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR:—"Besides making that recommendation, has the Local Government done any thing at all?"

[25th March 1926]

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir T. N. SIVAGNANAM PILLAI:—"We are awaiting the orders of the Government of India."

Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR:—"How long is it since the reference to the Government of India was made?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir T. N. SIVAGNANAM PILLAI:—"I want notice."

Agricultural staff in Bellary district.

* 1799 Q.—Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR: Will the hon. the Minister for Development be pleased to state whether it is a fact that, for lack of agricultural demonstrators, the ryots of Bellary district are unable to adopt in sufficiently large numbers, improved methods of cultivation, etc., and whether the agricultural staff in the district is proposed to be strengthened soon and, if so, in what way and to what extent?

A.—There are at present five demonstrators working in Bellary district. The Department cannot spare any more at present for work in this district. The need for more demonstrators is felt all over the Presidency and will be satisfied as more men and money become available.

Co-operative Societies.

Number of co-operative societies inspected by Assistant Registrars.

* 1800 Q.—Mr. T. ADINARAYANA CHETTIYAR: Will the hon. the Minister for Development be pleased to state—

(a) the number of co-operative societies audited during the year 1924-25 by each Assistant Registrar;

(b) the number of societies inspected during the year 1924-25 by each Assistant Registrar for conducting inquiries under section 35 of the Co-operative Societies Act;

(c) the total number of co-operative societies inspected during the year 1924-25 by each Assistant Registrar;

(d) the number of co-operative unions inspected during the year 1924-25 by each Assistant Registrar;

(e) the total number of visits made by each Assistant Registrar for the inspection of co-operative societies other than those at headquarters; and

(f) the total travelling allowance drawn by each Assistant Registrar for the year 1924-25?

A.—(a), (b), (d) & (e) The Government have no information.

(c) & (f) The information is furnished below.^a

Education.

Stipends for training students (Women's branch) in Government Training schools, Western Circle.

* 1801 Q.—Mr. J. A. SALDANHA: Will the hon. the Minister for Education be pleased to state—

(a) the amount provided for stipends for training students (Women's branch) in the Government Training schools in the Western Circle in 1924-25 and 1925-26;

^a Printed as Appendix I on page 733 infra.

[25th March 1926]

(b) the several women's Government training schools in the same circle among which stipends were distributed in 1924-25 and 1925-26 and the amount so distributed in each;

(c) the strength of each school and the maximum number of various stipends provided for each of the schools in those years;

(d) in how many cases the maxima of the stipends were allowed and in how many cases less amounts were allowed, and for what reasons; and

(e) whether fines were imposed on those drawing the stipends, or reductions made and if so up to what amount in each year and on what grounds?

A.—(a) & (b)—

Name of the Government Training school in the Western Circle.	Amount provided for under stipends.	
	1924-25.	1925-26.
	RS.	RS.
Government Secondary and Training school for women, Cannanore.	1,714	4,514
Government Training school, Telli-cherry.	11,309	6,662
Government Secondary and Training school for women, Mangalore.	7,973	7,774
Government Secondary and Training school for women, Coimbatore.	7,453	7,956
Government Training school, Calicut.	10,004	14,839
Total ...	38,453	41,745

(c) & (d) A statement^a containing the information is appended.

(e) According to the information available with the Inspectress no fines were imposed on any of the students either in 1924-25 or in 1925-26 nor were stipends withheld.

Mr. R. VEERIAN :—"With reference to clauses (a) to (d), may I know whether they fix the number of stipends in each training school?"

The hon. Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. PATRO :—"The amount is fixed and therefore the number of scholarships available will be limited."

Mr. R. VEERIAN :—"May I know whether the stipends go to particular communities as Muhammadans, Christians, etc.?"

The hon. Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. PATRO :—"They go to those students who come under the rules."

Mr. R. VEERIAN :—"My own information is that in the Coimbatore Training school these stipends go to Indian Christians though there are other women coming forward. May I know whether they fix some such rule so that there may not be any difference in giving these stipends to particular communities?"

The hon. Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. PATRO :—"I think there is nothing done with reference to any particular community. If there is anything and if the attention of the Government is drawn to it, Government will direct their attention to it."

^a Printed as Appendix II on page 734 infra.

25th March 1926]

Registration.

Representation of Indian Christians in the Registration department.

* 1802 Q.—Mr. J. A. SALDANHA : With reference to the return of officers in the services in the Registration department who held permanent appointments on 1st April 1922 and 1st April 1925, will the hon. the Minister for Education and the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) what explanation there is for the increase of Indian Christians by only 1, of Non-Brahmans by only 7, and decrease of Muhammadans by 6 in appointments on Rs. 100 and over, as compared with the increase of Brahman by 52 in the Registration department under the Inspector-General of Registration;

(b) what justification there is for the assertion made in the Council by the hon. Minister that the Indian Christians are over-represented in the Registration department;

(c) whether the calculation of the percentage for adequate communal representation in Government services is based merely on the numerical strength or on the literacy of Indian Christians as compared with that of the total population in the Presidency; and

(d) what steps are being taken to establish in the Registration department the equilibrium sought by Government orders in the interests of the under-represented communities, who have at least advanced in education like the Indian Christians?

A.—(a) The correct figures of officers who held permanent appointments in the Registration department on 1st April 1922 and 1st April 1925 were as follows:—

	On 1st April 1922.	On 1st April 1925.
(i) Brahman	187	229
(ii) Non-Brahman	87	94
(iii) Indian Christians	18	19
(iv) Muhammadan	13	17

The increase under Brahman which is 42 is due to the accrual of increments to officers who were drawing less than Rs. 100 on 31st March 1922. Under Muhammadans there was an increase of four.

(b) The hon. Member is referred to the answer to question No. 431 given at the meeting of 22nd August 1924.

(c) The question is not understood.

(d) The hon. Member is referred to G.O. No. 658, Public, dated the 15th August 1922, and to the answer to question No. 569 given at the meeting of 28th October 1925. The question will be considered by the Committee appointed in G.O. No. 733, Public, dated the 3rd August 1925.

Mr. R. VEERIAN :—"As regards (a), the correct figures of officers who held permanent appointments in the Registration department, I do not find any from the depressed classes. Therefore I wanted to know whether there are anybody holding such permanent appointments in the Registration department or not."

The hon. Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. PATRO :—"Notice, Sir."

[25th March 1926]

Local Boards and Municipal Councils.*Government Order No. 4738, L. & M., dated 23rd December 1925.*

* 1803 Q.—Mr. S. SATYAMURTI: Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether the order of the Government No. 4738, L. & M., dated 23rd December 1925, was issued on a reference by the Chairman of the Municipal Council, Periyakulam;

(b) what the need for that reference was; and

(c) whether the order was issued in connexion with the election of the Chairman of the Municipal Council, Madura?

A.—(a) The answer is in the affirmative.

(b) As the question in issue related to the interpretation of rules having the force of law and might arise in any municipality at any time, the Chairman, Municipal Council, Periyakulam, considered it necessary to bring the matter to the notice of the Government.

(c) The answer is in the negative.

The RAJA OF RAMNAD:—"May I know, Sir, whether the opinion of the Law officers of the Crown was taken in the matter before Government issued this Government Order?"

The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL:—"I think the Drafting department was consulted."

The RAJA OF RAMNAD:—"I have not heard of that expression 'Drafting department'. Probably it is the Law department."

The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL:—"Drafting section of the Law department."

Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR:—"May I know whether the election of the chairman of the council was pending at the time?"

The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL:—"I do not think there was any such question."

The RAJA OF RAMNAD:—"May I know how this question from the Municipal Council of Periyakulam emanated?"

The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL:—"A reference was made from the Municipal Council."

Nominations to Pollachi Taluk Board.

* 1804 Q.—Mr. R. VEERIAN: Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether the memorial submitted by one Adi-Dravida member M. S. Velayutham, son of Chennayan, Kottur Malayandipatnam, Pollachi taluk, on 29th March 1925, has been received by the hon. the Chief Minister in his official capacity praying that the claims for Adi-Dravida representation in the Pollachi Taluk Board, Coimbatore district, may not be ignored;

25th March 1926]

(b) the names of the nominated members to the Pollachi Taluk Board together with the names of the communities to which they belong and the dates on which they were appointed by the President, Coimbatore District Board;

(c) whether Adi-Dravidas were nominated already to Erode, Palladam, Gobichettipalayam, Dharapuram and Tiruppur Taluk Boards by the President of the Coimbatore District Board; and

(d) if so, the names of the candidates together with the names of the sub-sets of the depressed classes to which such candidates belong and the dates of their appointment?

A.—(a) The answer is in the negative.

(b) to (d) The information has been called for.

Mr. R. VEERIAN:—"May I know whether Government cannot do anything until the period of nominations expires with reference to considering the claims of the depressed classes?"

The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL:—"When once a member is nominated, he should continue for the whole period of three years."

Mr. R. VEERIAN:—"My information is that in some cases Government have cancelled the nominations."

The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL:—"Government interfered in one or two cases and objection was taken to it, thereupon the Law officers were consulted."

"They were of opinion that the question was not free from doubt."

Mr. R. VEERIAN:—"Here also, Sir, in the case of Erode and Gobichettipalayam the claims of the depressed classes were not considered. It was brought to the notice of the hon. Minister that there are 18 Goundars and again 4 Goundars are nominated ignoring the claims of the depressed classes. Still if the nomination was made, may I know if it was made contrary to the spirit of the law?"

The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL:—"If the facts are as stated by the hon. Member I must say that the conduct of the President is not in accordance with the spirit of the law. But the question is whether Government could interfere. That is doubtful."

Mr. R. VEERIAN:—"May I point out that the spirit of the law is that due regard ought to be given while making nominations to the unrepresented minority communities. When there were already too many members of a particular community nominations were again made from that community ignoring the claims of the depressed classes. May I know, Sir, whether the Minister thinks that the action of taluk board is right?"

The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL:—"I do not think the hon. Member is right in his question. I already stated that if the facts are as stated, the conduct of the President is not in accordance with the spirit of the law. But the difficulty is whether the Government can interfere with the discretion of the President. According to the advice Government had it is doubtful whether they can interfere."

Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR:—"It may not be directly; but could it not be done indirectly?"

[25th March 1926]

The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL :—"Circulars have been issued asking them to pay attention to the rules prescribed by law."

Mr. R. VEERIAN :—"May I know whether presidents of district boards abide by that rule contained in the Local Boards Act?"

The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL :—"That depends upon the circumstances."

Licences for carrying on weaving with maggams.

* 1805 Q.—Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR: Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government have received a memorial from the proprietors of weaving establishments in Cannanore regarding the notification of the municipality that they should take out licences for carrying on weaving with maggams;

(b) whether it is a fact that no attempt was made by the municipality till recently to bring this weaving also under section 249 of the District Municipalities Act;

(c) whether it is a fact that the High Court of Judicature has decided on 20th October 1925 in Criminal Revision Case No. 187/25 and Revision Petition No. 167/25 that weaving with maggam cannot come under section 249 of the Act;

(d) whether the municipality have now issued a notification that licences should be taken for such maggams and weaving should be carried on under some conditions;

(e) whether the Government have cancelled the resolution of the municipality regarding the matter; and

(f) whether any other municipality in the Presidency has passed such a resolution and whether the Government have taken or intend taking any action in the matter?

A.—(a) Yes.

(b) The Government have no information but according to paragraph 2 of the petition received by the Government it would appear to be so.

(c) Yes.

(d) Yes.

(e) No. The petition has been sent to the Chairman, Municipal Council, Cannanore, for his remarks and the action to be taken by the Government will be considered on receipt of the report from the Chairman.

(f) The Government have no information.

Rao Sahib P. V. GOPALAN :—"With reference to clause (e), may I ask the hon. Minister for Local Self-Government his view of the action of Cannanore Municipal Council in respect of licences for carrying on weaving with maggams?"

The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL :—"I cannot answer that question, Sir."

[25th March 1926]

Public Health.

Water-supply in rural parts.

* 1806 Q.—Mr. R. VEERIAN: With reference to question No. 1121 answered at the meeting dated 16th December 1925, will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) why a sum of Rs. 6.25 lakhs as grant was granted to local bodies to improve the water-supply in rural areas since the sum is applicable for general water-supply;

(b) whether the Government are aware that the water scarcity is being felt only among the depressed classes mostly owing to insufficient number of wells or no wells at all in several places;

(c) if so, what they have done in the matter of providing water-supply in rural parts;

(d) whether the Government are aware that there are no depressed classes representatives in several of the local boards; and

(e) how the Government expect that the water scarcity among the depressed classes will be improved since there are no representatives of the depressed classes?

A.—(a) As the Government considered that the improvement of the water-supply in rural areas was an urgent necessity, a supplementary demand for Rs. 6,25,000 was moved in the Legislative Council in August 1925 to enable the Government to make grants for the purpose to local boards.

(b) & (c) In order that the depressed classes may be provided with a better water-supply, the Government have issued instructions that in utilizing the grants referred to local boards should keep in view the needs of the depressed classes and meet them as far as possible.

(d) The Government have no exact information but it is probable that it is so.

(e) The Government do not consider that the improvement of water-supply among the depressed classes depends solely on the presence of representatives of those classes on local boards.

Mr. R. VEERIAN :—"Sir, with reference to clause (e), there are several wells intended solely for the use of the non-depressed classes in rural parts provided out of public funds. May I know, Sir, whether Government do not think it advisable that local bodies give up one of these wells for the use of the depressed classes so that the local bodies may not say for want of funds that they are not capable of providing wells?"

The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL :—"They have been given funds to take up schemes."

Mr. R. VEERIAN :—"I do not get the direct answer to my question. I only wanted to know whether the Government do not think it advisable to ask the local bodies to give up one of the wells now set apart for the use of the non-depressed classes for the sole use of the depressed classes."

The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL :—"Government will be very glad to give one or more wells for the use of the depressed classes."

[25th March 1926]

Outbreak of plague in Ramnad and Paramagudi.

* 1807 Q.—The RAJA OF RAMNAD: Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

- (a) when plague first broke out at Ramnad and at Paramagudi;
- (b) when the Collector visited these two stations and how many hours he spent in each one of them;
- (c) the total number of cases inoculated in the month of December 1925 on each of the dates commencing from 14th to 26th;
- (d) the total number of persons approximately remaining uninoculated at Ramnad on 13th November 1925;
- (e) on what all dates the various orders of evacuation were issued by the Collector; and
- (f) whether any of those orders were enforced and if not, what are the reasons?

A.—The information has been called for.

The RAJA OF RAMNAD:—"My question is not whether information has been called for on these points. May I know when he expects to be in a position to answer it?"

The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL:—"After the information is received."

The RAJA OF RAMNAD:—"I only want to say that the information called for is very urgent. Owing to the unsatisfactory administration of the plague regulations, hundreds of people are dying daily. Will the hon. Minister kindly expedite getting the information?"

The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL:—"We will try to get it as early as possible."

The RAJA OF RAMNAD:—"Will it be before the Council adjourns?"

The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL:—"It is a difficult question to answer. We will try to get information as early as possible."

The RAJA OF RAMNAD:—"It is quite clear that the hon. Member does not hope to get the information before the Council sitting is over. So, probably he will not be in a position to answer the question till June or August next. So, may I request him to take prompt action on the information that he may be getting with regard to the very unsatisfactory way in which the plague regulations are being carried out?"

The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL:—"It is not quite clear to me at all events that the information will not be received before the meeting is over. But Government have already taken steps to get the information as early as possible. They will remind the authorities from whom the information is expected to expedite sending up the information."

Mr. F. NOYCE:—"I shall have a telegraphic communication sent shortly."

Roads and Communications.*Bridge over the Gundlakamma stream.*

* 1808 Q.—Mr. P. ANJANEYULU: Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

- (a) whether the Government are aware of the inconvenience that is being felt by the public for want of a bridge over the Gundlakamma stream near Velampalli in the Ongole taluk, Guntur district;

* 25th March 1926]

- (b) whether any and what representations have been made in the matter;
- (c) whether plans and estimates were ever prepared for a bridge; and
- (d) if so, why the work was not undertaken?

A.—(a) & (b) In his inspection notes on the condition of the trunk roads in the Guntur district in 1924-25, the Superintending Engineer, Bezwada Circle, recommended the construction of a bridge over the Gundlakamma river. The question of drawing up a general programme of bridges required on trunk roads in the Presidency is engaging the attention of the Government.

- (c) & (d) The Government have no information.

Mr. B. RAMACHANDRA REDDI:—"With reference to the answer to 11-11 clauses (a) and (b), viz. 'The question of drawing up a general programme of bridges required on trunk roads in the Presidency is engaging the attention of the Government', may I know whether any report has been called for?"

The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL:—"No."

Mr. B. RAMACHANDRA REDDI:—"May I know for how long this question has been engaging the attention of Government?"

The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL:—"I should like to have notice."

Village Panchayats.*Honorary organizers of village panchayats.*

* 1809 Q.—Mr. A. CHIDAMBARA NADAR: Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

- (a) the number of honorary organizers of village panchayats existing at present;
- (b) whether any qualification is necessary for the appointment of these officers;
- (c) whether honorary organizers have power to recommend the formation of the panchayats without a mahazar from the people of the village; and
- (d) whether any member from the Nadar community has been appointed as an honorary organizer?

A.—(a) Eighty.

(b) The hon. Member has apparently educational qualifications in view. If so, the answer is in the negative.

(c) No.

(d) Yes.

Mr. A. CHIDAMBARA NADAR:—"May I know whether the honorary organizers of village panchayats are drawing any travelling allowance; if so, on what scale?"

The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL:—"They are not drawing any travelling allowance."

Mr. A. CHIDAMBARA NADAR:—"With reference to the answer to clause (d), may I know how many Nadars have been appointed as honorary organizers?"

[25th March 1926]

The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL:—"I cannot say that. If the hon. Member gives notice, I can get the information."

Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR:—"Is not an allowance given to them for out-of-pocket expenses?"

The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL:—"I do not think they are given any sort of allowance."

Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR:—"These are said to be organizers of panchayats. May I know under what circumstances they can organize panchayats? I ask this because I am told that unless a mahazar is sent up, they cannot organize panchayats."

The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL:—"Yes. When the residents of a village send up a mahazar, then the Registrar-General will issue instructions to the honorary organizer and also to the taluk board president to take steps."

Mr. R. VEERIAN:—"In the case of honorary organizers of co-operative credit societies they do."

The hon. the PRESIDENT:—"Order, order. We are not on co-operative credit societies."

Mr. R. VEERIAN:—"I only wanted to know whether Government will extend the same kind of allowance to these organizers of village panchayats as in the case of organizers of co-operative credit societies. I put the question Sir, in that way, in order to find out from the hon. the Minister in charge whether the same travelling allowance or daily batta will be given to these honorary organizers of village panchayats also."

The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL:—"I said they are not getting any allowance."

Mr. R. VEERIAN:—"My point is that in the case of honorary organizers of co-operative credit societies, the Government give certain amount of travelling allowance and daily batta. Only I want to know whether the same facilities will be awarded in the case of honorary organizers of village panchayats, because these people also do the same kind of work."

The hon. the PRESIDENT:—"Evidently, the Government think it is not necessary."

Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR:—"I am not quite clear as to what was meant by the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government. Is it that the honorary organizer makes a recommendation on the request of the village people, or that he should not go to the village and organize a panchayat unless a mahazar is received in advance from the people?"

The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL:—"No, he may go to the village at any time. There is nothing against his going to the village with a view even to advise the residents of the village to submit a mahazar."

Constitution of village panchayats till 31st December 1925.

* 1810 Q.—Mr. T. ADINABAYANA CHETTIYAR: Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) the number of village panchayats constituted up to 31st December 1925 under Act XV of 1920 in each taluk in this Province;

[25th March 1926]

(b) the amount expended from the Provincial revenues during the last five years for the establishment under this head; and

(c) whether Government contemplate the revision of the Act (XV of 1920) to provide for the compulsory formation of village panchayats?

A.—(a) A statement * is laid on the table.

(b) No amount was spent from Provincial revenue during 1920-21. With effect from 15th December 1921 the Inspector of Municipal Councils and Local Boards was appointed Registrar-General of Panchayats under section 37 of the Madras Village Panchayat Act, 1920. No separate accounts have been kept for the expenditure incurred in the discharge of the functions of the above two posts nor has the expenditure been apportioned between them. The actual expenditure under the combined head has been as follows:—

Year.	Amount.	Year.	Amount.
	RS.		RS.
1921-22 ...	20,115	1923-24 ...	28,096
1922-23 ...	27,537	1924-25 ...	32,076

(c) The attention of the hon. Member is invited to the answer to question No. 1646.

Criminal Tribes.

Registration of the Sugalis of the Tanda under the Criminal Tribes Act.

* 1811 Q.—Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Sugalis of the Tanda near No. 53, Appayyanahalli, Kudligi taluk, were registered under the Criminal Tribes Act and, if so, when and why; and

(b) whether a petition was submitted by the headman of the Tanda praying for the exclusion of the Tanda from the operation of the Criminal Tribes Act, and was rejected by the District Magistrate of Bellary and, if so, on what grounds?

A.—(a) & (b) The Government have no information but have called for it.

Depressed Classes.

Alleged atrocities of Kallars on Adi-Dravidas at Settippatti.

* 1812 Q.—Mr. R. VEERIAN: With reference to question No. 994 answered at the meeting, dated 14th December 1925, will the hon. the Home Member and the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(a) what action was taken by the Government in connexion with the atrocities of Kallars on Adi-Dravidas in Settippatti hamlet;

(b) by whom enquiries were made into the matter and with what results;

(c) whether any beat constables were posted to put down any kind of atrocities that may be committed by one community upon another community; and

(d) whether there is any B Police station near this village?

* Printed as Appendix III on pages 735-36 infra.

[25th March 1926]

A—(a) & (b) The enquiry was made by the Sub-Magistrate of Usilampatti who found that no case had been made out against the Kallars. The Government did not consider that any action was called for in the matter.

(c) No.

(d) Yes; Saptur station which is five miles from the village.

Mr. R. VEERIAN :—"With reference to answer to clauses (a) and (b), may I know whether it is for want of evidence on the part of the depressed classes that no case has been made out against the community mentioned here?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—"Sir, I am unable to answer the question."

Scholarships to depressed classes pupils in Bellary district.

* 1813 Q.—Mr. R. VEERIAN: With reference to question No. 1111 answered at the meeting dated 16th December 1925, will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(a) the reasons for allowing only one scholarship for the depressed class pupil in the whole of Bellary district, only two in the North Arcot district, only three in the Chittoor and Nilgiri districts and only four in the Cuddapah district;

(b) whether circular letters were sent widely to all the heads of educational institutions in the whole presidency by the Commissioner of Labour, asking them to give out the names of students of depressed classes recommending them for scholarships; and

(c) if so, whether they have verified that they have all complied with the desires of the Commissioner of Labour?

A.—(a), (b) & (c) The number of scholarships and fee remissions awarded to the depressed classes pupils is as follows :—

District.	Number of scholarships and fee remissions renewed.	Number of scholarships and fee remissions newly granted.
Bellary	1	...
North Arcot	2	5
Chittoor	2	...
The Nilgiris	3	7
Cuddapah	10	1

The Government have no information on the points raised in the question, but have called for a report.

Mr. R. VEERIAN :—"May I know, Sir, why the Government have not found out before this that only one scholarship was given in the Bellary district, two in North Arcot, two in Chittoor, two in the Nilgiris and ten in Cuddapah, out of the enormous number of school-going population in those districts?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—"I do not understand the question, Sir."

[25th March 1926]

Mr. R. VEERIAN :—"I only wanted to know why the Government have not found out before the fact that only one scholarship has been given in the Bellary district when there is a large school-going population. The Government say they have called for a report. When there are ..."

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—"Order, order. The hon. Member is going to enter into an argument."

The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—"The reason is that no hon. Member of the Legislative Council has called the attention of Government to it before!"

Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—"Is it because that there are no more applications that only one scholarship was given in Bellary?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—"Perhaps it is so."

Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—"On the other hand, I am told that in this district more applications were sent in."

The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—"It is a matter for the head of the department, Sir. I do not think Government deal with these applications."

Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—"I myself saw to it that many applications were sent in. May I know therefore why the Commissioner of Labour has awarded only one scholarship for the whole district?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—"He must have his own reasons as to why he awarded only one scholarship."

Forests.

Use of dried leaves, etc., from forest reserves by the cultivators of Bindoor.

* 1814 Q.—Mr. K. RAGHUCHANDRA BALLAL: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that the Forest department allowed the cultivators in Bindoor division of the Kundapur taluk in South Kanara to use dried leaves, etc., from the forest reserves about six miles away in the interior on their undertaking to guard the said reserves against fire and other accidents;

(b) whether it is a fact that the Forest department levied three pies on each headload of firewood and two pies on each headload of green manure leaf;

(c) whether it is a fact that the said rates have been enhanced to four annas and that firewood is being refused even for payment of fees; and

(d) whether it is a fact that there are no firewood depots of the Forest department for the domestic purposes of the cultivators referred to above?

A.—(a) In 1922-23, three panchayats under the Forest Village System were formed for certain reserves in the Baindur division and the ryots were permitted the use of manure leaves, dead fuel and thorns free of payment on condition that the forests should be protected from fire and other damage.

(b) & (c) No permits are issued for removal of firewood or manure leaf from reserved forests on payment.

(d) Yes.

[25th March 1926]

Labour.*Labour departments in the districts.*

* 1815 Q.—Mr. R. VEERIAN: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

- (a) when the Labour departments were created in the districts in which they are in existence now;
- (b) how many taluks those districts contain in each case;
- (c) whether the activities of the Labour departments are extended throughout the district or only in a particular taluk;
- (d) if so, how many years approximately it takes to finish their activities in a particular taluk with a view to extend them to another taluk;
- (e) for how long the Labour department has been working in Chidambaram taluk, South Arcot district; and
- (f) for how long the Labour department has been working in Saidapet taluk, Chingleput district, and how long it will take to finish the operations in that taluk?

A.—(a) The attention of the hon. Member is invited to the annual administration reports of the Labour department which have been placed on Editors' Table.

(b) The information is given in the appended statement^a.

(c) In the Tanjore district, the operations of the department are carried on throughout the district while in the other districts the special staff is working in selected taluks.

(d) The number of years required for finishing the activities of the department in a particular taluk will depend upon the area of that taluk and the nature and amount of work to be done therein.

(e) Since the year 1921.

(f) Since the year 1920; the Government have no information as to how long it will take to complete the work in the taluk.

Mr. R. VEERIAN:—"With reference to clause (f) in the answer, I find that the Labour department has started working in Saidapet taluk 'since the year 1920.' That means to say nearly six years. Therefore, Sir, may I know whether it will take approximately six years for the Labour department to finish up their activities in one taluk, and whether the depressed classes have to wait for sixty years for the Labour department to conclude their work in the ten other taluks of that district?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—"I am not aware of the facts."

Mr. R. VEERIAN:—"If that is the reason why their activities are not extended to other places, may I ask whether it is impossible for them to do so all at once?"

Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR:—"Is the hon. Member aware that in other districts the department does not take many months to finish its work in a taluk?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—"Yes, I know that."

^a Printed as Appendix IV on page 786 infra.

[25th March 1926]

Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR:—"Then, what are the special reasons if such a long time as five or six years has been taken only in one taluk, the Saidapet taluk?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—"I should like to have notice in order to give a definite reply."

Embarkation of coolies to Federated Malay States in December last.

* 1816 Q.—Mr. K. UPPI SAHIB: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(a) the special reasons for embarking the coolies to Federated Malay States at Negapatam in the middle of December last in dangerously rough sea;

(b) whether it is a fact that almost all of them were exhausted by the time they reached the steamer;

(c) what is the difficulty in embarking the coolies from Madras in monsoon months;

(d) what is the special reason for feeding these coolies with beaten rice and gram just before embarkation; and

(e) whether the medical officer on board the steamer ever complained of the inadvisability of such feeding?

A.—(a) It is presumed that the hon. Member is referring to the S.S. "Takliwa" which sailed on the 13th December 1925. The sea was in no way dangerously rough when the labourers embarked.

(b) No.

(c) The majority of the emigrants who embark at Negapatam are from places south of the port. The depots at Avadi and Mel-

(d) The majority of the emigrants who embark at Negapatam are from places south of the port. The depots at Avadi and Mel-pakkam have not got sufficient accommodation for the emigrants from these districts in addition to those belonging to the northern districts for whose accommodation they are mainly intended.

(e) The emigrants are not so fed. They are given boiled rice, dhall and pepper water two hours before embarkation.

A. (e) Does not arise.

Management of Adi-Dravida schools by Labour Department.

* 1817 Q.—Mr. R. VEERIAN: With reference to question No. 1182, answered at the Council meeting dated 18th December 1925, will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state why Adi-Dravida schools were not taken up under the management of the Labour Department in the districts of Trichinopoly, South Arcot and Guntur when Adi-Dravidas applied for it to the Labour Department?

A.—It is not the policy of the Labour Department to convert aided schools into Government schools by taking them over nor does the Labour Department open or take over schools in cheris in which the school-going population numbers less than 100 and the number of pupils on the rolls is not expected to be above 45. As a general rule, no schools are opened or taken over in taluks in which the operations of the department are not carried on.

[25th March 1926]

Village Establishments.

Travelling allowances for village officers in connexion with His Excellency the Governor's visit to Vellore.

* 1818 Q.—Mr. T. ADINARAYANA CHETTIYAR: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that fourteen village officers in the Vellore taluk of the North Arcot district were ordered to proceed to Arcot in the Walajah taluk, with their menials on 16th December 1925 and to report themselves to the Sub-Inspector of Police at Arcot, in connexion with the visit of His Excellency the Governor of Madras to Vellore on 18th December 1925;

(b) whether the fourteen village officers and their menials proceeded to Arcot accordingly and did 'bandobust' duty there as ordered by the authorities;

(c) whether these village officers and the menials were paid their travelling allowances and, if so, who paid the amounts and how much was paid; and

(d) if they have not been paid, whether Government now intend to pay the same?

A.—(a) to (d) The Government have no information but are making enquiries.

Irrigation.

Water-supply for raising double crops on single-crop wet lands.

* 1819 Q.—Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR: Will the hon. the Law Member and the hon. the Member for Revenue be please—

(a) whether, with reference to my supplementary question, he gave his answer to question No. 1094 on the 16th day of December, 1925, as the Government have considered the desirability of dispensing with the taluk. tions for water in all districts for raising double crops on single lands as has been done in the case of the district of Bellary and Yer, I find what result; and

(b) if the Government have not yet considered the question, Sir, may they intend considering it now as regards Coimbatore district? department

A.—(a) No.

(b) The question will be considered.

Compensation for improvements in lands acquired by Government.

* 1820 Q.—Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR: Will the hon. the Law Member and the hon. the Minister for Education be pleased to state—

(a) whether the several lands were granted to ryots in Salem and Coimbatore districts about a decade ago and more in some cases on condition that they should be given up whenever required by the Government;

(b) whether any of the lands are now being acquired by the Government for the Mettur reservoir scheme;

(c) whether the ryots have dug wells and have made other costly improvements in these lands;

[25th March 1926]

(d) whether the Government propose to give any compensation for these improvements at least as a matter of equity or whether they propose to take away these lands without giving anything; and

(e) whether it is a fact that on some of these lands the Government hold mortgages for loans granted to make improvements in these lands and, if so, what the Government propose to do in such cases?

A.—(a) Yes.

(b) Yes.

(c) In some cases.

(d) The Government do not propose to give compensation.

(e) Possibly in some cases. The question will be considered when it arises.

Proposed reservoir for conservation of Gundal river water.

* 1821 Q.—Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR: Will the hon. the Law Member and the hon. the Minister for Development be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Gundal river supplies water to some channels and a large number of tanks in Kollegal taluk of the Coimbatore district and, if so, what is the total ayacut under all the schemes connected with this river;

(b) whether scarcity of water is felt every year in several lands irrigated under the river;

(c) whether the proposals have been made to build a reservoir to conserve the water of this river and, if so, at what stage that scheme is at present; and

(d) whether applications have been made for the grant of an extensive area of land for coffee cultivation in the catchment area of this river and whether that has been rejected more than once and, if so, whether an application has again been made to the present Chief Conservator of Forests and, if so, in what stage that petition is at present?

A.—(a) The river is a source of supply to several tanks and channels. The Government have not got figures of the total ayacut under them.

(b) The supply is sometimes deficient.

(c) The proposals for a new channel from the Gundal river will be taken up for consideration after orders have been passed on the Habbehalla scheme.

(d) Yes. The matter is under the consideration of the Government.

Improvement of irrigation facilities in North Arcot district.

* 1822 Q.—Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR: Will the hon. the Law Member and the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that the yield of wet lands in the North Arcot district has been very much reduced recently and what remissions of kist, if any, have been granted in each taluk for every year from 1920 to 1925, both inclusive;

[25th March 1926]

(b) whether it is a fact that several tanks have been either newly built or repaired in the Mysore State and whether that has reduced and in some parts of the year removed the possibility of any water flowing in the Palar, which is the chief source of water for irrigation purposes in that district; and

(c) whether any scheme has been decided upon or is in contemplation to improve the irrigation facilities in North Arcot district?

A.—(a) The Government are not aware that the yield of wet lands in North Arcot district has been very much reduced recently. They have no figures for the remissions granted in each taluk. Figures for the district are given in the annual jamabandi reports which are placed on the Editors' Table.

(b) The Government are not aware that the supply in the Palar has been materially affected by recent works in Mysore.

(c) The Melmoyal tank is being restored and proposals are in preparation for the improvement of the head works of the channel which supplies the Kaveripakkam tank.

UNSTARRED QUESTIONS.

Industries.

Working of the South Kanara District Advancement Association.

1323 Q.—Mr. D. MANJAYYA HEGGADE: Will the hon. the Minister for Development be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government grant the South Kanara District Advancement Association financial or any other kind of aid; and

(b) whether the Government control or supervise in any manner the working of the association?

A.—(a) No.

(b) No.

Education.

Extension of the Ceded Districts College.

1824 Q.—Mr. G. RAMESWARA RAO: Will the hon. the Minister for Education be pleased to state—

(a) whether the extension of the Ceded Districts College has been decided on by the Government; and

(b) whether the work is included in the budget 1926-27?

A.—(a) & (b) The hon. Member is referred to the proposals in the Budget Estimates for 1926-27 which are subject to the vote of the Legislative Council.

Construction of a new building for Anantapur Municipal High School.

1825 Q.—Mr. G. RAMESWARA RAO: Will the hon. the Minister for Education be pleased to state—

(a) whether steps are being taken to construct a new building for the Municipal High School at Anantapur;

[25th March 1926]

(b) at what stage the matter is at present; and

(c) whether any amount has been allotted in the budget for 1926-27 for the purpose?

A.—(a) & (b) The attention of the hon. Member is invited to the answer to question No. 1012 at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on the 14th December 1925. Proposals for the construction of a building for the school have not yet reached Government.

(c) No.

Local Boards and Municipal Councils.

Enhancement of taxes by municipalities and local boards.

1826 Q.—Mr. G. RAMESWARA RAO: Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether enhancements of taxes were made by any municipality or local board in the Presidency when the persons aggrieved appealed to such municipality or local board; and

(b) if so, the names of the municipalities and local boards which used such powers of enhancement within the last three years and what is the additional revenue which accrued to the municipalities and boards in each case and in each of the years?

A.—(a) & (b) The Government have no information.

Institution of union boards in South Kanara.

1827 Q.—Mr. D. MANJAYYA HEGGADE: Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state whether the Government contemplate the institution of union boards in all the headquarters of the taluk boards of South Kanara where there are no municipalities?

A.—Proposals for the constitution of Kasaragod as a union have been called for from the President, District Board, South Kanara. The case of Udipi is under consideration. The question of constituting Puttur, Coondapoor and Karkal as unions has been considered and dropped as local opinion was adverse to the proposal.

Land Revenue.

Land revenue in North Arcot and other districts.

1828 Q.—Mr. B. RAMACHANDRA REDDI: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) the amounts of land revenue collected in the districts of North Arcot, Chingleput and South Arcot during the official years 1922-23, 1923-24 and 1924-25;

(b) the amounts of land-cess first adjusted to local boards in those years by monthly instalments;

(c) the actual amount of cesses collected in those years;

(d) the demand under land revenue with separate figures for cesses of those years;

[25th March 1926]

(e) whether it is a fact that in 1924-25 a sum of about Rs. 18,000 was debited to the local boards in the Chingleput district in February 1925 as adjustment of land-cess for 1923-24;

(f) whether it is a fact that again in the year 1925-26 a sum of about Rs. 43,000 was similarly debited to the local boards in the Chingleput district as adjustment of land-cess in October 1925 for 1924-25; and

(g) the cause of these sudden debits?

A.—(a) The information is given in the following statement:—

District.	1922-23.	1923-24.	1924-25.
	RS.	RS.	RS.
	IN LAKHS.	IN LAKHS.	IN LAKHS.
North Arcot ...	35.30	28.38	29.67
Chingleput ...	22.80	23.96	23.29
South Arcot ...	52.87	52.72	53.80

(b), (c) & (e) The Government have not this information.

(d) The demand under land revenue is given below:—

District.	1922-23.	1923-24.	1924-25.
	RS.	RS.	RS.
	IN LAKHS.	IN LAKHS.	IN LAKHS.
North Arcot ...	38.31	35.07	33.96
Chingleput ...	24.66	24.91	24.66
South Arcot ...	55.63	55.31	56.16

Figures for the demand under cesses for the official years are not available.

(f) & (g) A sum of Rs. 18,335 was debited to the District Board in October 1925 in adjustment of land-cess with reference to the actual collections in 1924-25. Instructions for regulating the monthly advance payments so as to minimize final adjustments are under consideration.

Grievances of the landholders of Uppinangadi taluk.

1829 Q.—Mr. D. MANJAYYA HEGGADE: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue and the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government have received a copy of the resolutions passed at a public meeting of the landholders of Uppinangadi taluk of South Kanara, held on the 25th October 1925, in the Higher Elementary School, Sullia, under the presidentship of Mr. J. A. Saldanha, M.L.C., to consider the various grievances of the ryots connected with reserve forests and re-settlement;

(b) if so, whether the Government propose to take any action on the same?

A.—(a) & (b) The Government have not received any such communication.

25th March 1926]

Civil Justice.

Allowances to shorthand writers of District and Sessions Courts.

1830 Q.—Mr. K. SITARAMA REDDIYAR: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that shorthand writers of District and Sessions Courts in certain districts are paid shorthand allowances of forty rupees and thirty rupees for their qualifications in Advanced (new Higher) and Intermediate (new Lower) grades respectively, and shorthand writers who possess the same qualifications and who do the same work are paid shorthand allowances of twenty-five rupees and fifteen rupees respectively in certain other districts;

(b) if the answer to question (a) is in the affirmative, why this difference was made and is continued; and

(c) whether the Government will sanction a uniform rate of allowance to all shorthand writers of all District and Sessions Courts?

A.—(a), (b) & (c) Under the latest orders there are only two rates of shorthand allowances admissible, one on Rs. 25 given to those who pass the higher grade examination and the other on Rs. 15 allowed to those who pass the lower grade examination. But prior to the introduction of the above rates, three rates were prevailing in district courts, namely, Rs. 15, Rs. 30 and Rs. 40 for Elementary, Intermediate and Advanced grades, respectively. The incumbents who were drawing these rates prior to their revision have been permitted to continue to draw them.

[Note.—An asterisk (*) at the beginning of a speech indicates revision by the Member.]

II

COMMUNICATION TO THE COUNCIL.

The Secretary laid on the table a copy of G.O. No. 225, Finance, dated 17th March 1926, showing the further action taken by Government on the recommendations of the Madras Retrenchment Committee.

III

MOTIONS ON THE BUDGET FOR 1926-27.

DEMAND XXII—AGRICULTURE—cont.

*The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir T. N. SIVAGNANAM PILLAI:—“Sir, yesterday, after Mr. Krishnan Nayar had moved his motion and Mr. Saldanha had spoken on it, the House adjourned. The other two motions, viz., Nos. 712 and 713 on the paper, also refer to agricultural schools, and although these motions are not moved, I may say that the whole subject connected with these three proposed cuts is intended to be an exhortation to the Government to open more agricultural schools and to include certain subjects as sericulture, especially in the curricula of lower, middle, high schools and secondary schools. From the hon. Member, Mr. Krishnan Nayar, we heard yesterday that he inspected the Taliparamba Agricultural School himself, and that he

* Printed separately.

[Sir T. N. Sivagnanam Pillai] [25th March 1926]

was satisfied with the way in which the institution was being conducted, and he also hoped that the other school that was established at Anakapalle was following a similar course. I am glad that the hon. Member bore testimony to the good work done by the department. With the finances that we have at present, we have been able to establish two schools, one at Taliparamba and the other at Anakapalle. I must also bring to the notice of the Council that I am grateful to my hon. Colleague M-1."

* Diwan Bahadur M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—"What does M-1 mean?"

* The hon. the PRESIDENT:—"It is an official jargon."

* The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir T. N. SIVAGNANAM PILLAI:—"I mean my hon. Colleague, the Raja of Panagal. He has kindly come forward to establish an agricultural school at Kalahasti. It is a very costly business, and with his usual generosity he has given the entire extent of land required for the school and farm to be attached and also agreed to bear the cost of some of the buildings required for the establishment of that school. (Cheers.) And it is the intention of Government to open more schools in the several linguistic areas as soon as we are in position to find funds."

* The RAJA OF RAMNAD:—"When does the hon. Minister expect to find funds?"

* The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir T. N. SIVAGNANAM PILLAI:—"There is a question involved in these three outs, which is how far the nature of instruction imparted in these schools meets the real needs of the country. There is a report by the acting Director of Agriculture that his inspection showed that the two existing schools do not meet a real want. Here, as against the acting Director's report, we have the personal observation of my hon. Friend, Mr. Krishnan Nayar, and I may also add my personal testimony to it, because when I visited these two schools I found there was nothing wrong with them and that they deserve to be continued. However, in deference to the wishes of the acting Director, the matter was placed before the Advisory Committee, and they have decided that the present two schools must be continued, only that buildings and land may not be further acquired for that purpose. The whole thing would arise upon the decision which the Royal Commission on Agriculture might take on this subject. So for the present, without taking further steps we propose to continue what we have been doing in the past and await the decision of the Royal Commission on Agriculture."

11-30
a.m.

* Diwan Bahadur M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—"I am very glad that the recommendation of the acting Director of Agriculture for closing these two agricultural schools has been turned down by the Advisory Committee. I am rather surprised that the acting Director should have thought fit to make this recommendation. I thought that a person who is only in temporary charge of a department should reserve such important questions for decision for the return of the permanent incumbent. I know the views of the permanent Director, Mr. Anstead, and I should be surprised if he agrees with the views of the acting Director. (The hon. Sir T. N. Sivagnanam Pillai: 'He does not.') I am very glad he does not. From my inspection of the Taliparamba school, I was very much pleased with the way in which it is conducted. I am also glad to learn that the Minister has formed a very favourable impression of the working of the Taliparamba school. I have not seen the Anakapalle school. But as the hon. the Minister said, the

25th March 1926]

[Mr. M. Krishnan Nayar]

Royal Commission on Agriculture will be in the country very soon, and we know also that the Viceroy who will take charge of his exalted office in the ensuing week is a person who has a great deal of interest in agriculture. So I hope as a result of the recommendations of the Royal Commission on Agriculture and also when more funds are available, more schools will be started.

"I withdraw the motion."

The motion was by leave withdrawn.

* Mr. J. A. SALDANHA:—"I move

'that the allotment of Rs. 14,98,800 for Agriculture be reduced by 100'

in order to urge on the Government to abolish the appointment of Directors of Industries and Agriculture, to have one appointment of Director of Development for Agriculture and Industrial development, and to appoint experts in engineering, textile and other lines. Before dwelling upon this recommendation of mine, I must bring to the notice of this House the difficulty of providing myself with materials for argument. That difficulty arises mainly from the neglect of Government to place before us their reports of different departments. For instance, take the report of the department of Industries in Madras. I received this copy which I have in my hand only yesterday and that too after sending an urgent message to send me a copy. This shows the indifference of Government for publicity in these matters. I may bring to the notice of this House that this report is dated 24th August 1925. It was sent by Mr. Thomas, the Director of Industries. Then the Government reviewed it—it must have been printed soon after and before the Government reviewed it—it was reviewed by Government on 19th October 1925, i.e., more than five months ago. The review of Government consists of three or four pages only. It was placed on the Editors' Table about 15 days ago. I wrote to the Press for a copy only about 12 days ago, and yet the Superintendent, Government Press, writes to me in his letter of yesterday that he sends a copy as a special case because I asked for it urgently; otherwise he says it would take time to collect all the requisitions from the different Members of the Legislative Council and then distribute copies in the ordinary course. I should have got it ten days or so ago; otherwise it will be quite useless. What I want to urge is that before this Budget we should at least have the reports of the previous year, not of this year, but of the year ending March 1925. Is it creditable to this Government and is it worthy of this House that we cannot get the reports for the year ending March 1925 of the departments of Government before the budget discussion? On what basis can you discuss or criticise the budget? If we cannot get these reports in time, it shows that the Government is probably not at all anxious that we should base our criticism on some proper material. Without such material, when we attack the Government, they attribute it to malice prepense. This results in a severe censure of the Government, their not supplying material for proper discussion. Now, this is a report of agricultural operations carried on some time ago, and it contains very meagre material. And I make this suggestion. This suggestion is made after my study of the activities of the Agricultural, Co-operative, and other departments. My firm conviction is that what you want is more of expert advice and more of earnestness than more of Directors. There is a surfeit of Directors, Director of Agriculture, Director of Industries, Director

[Mr. J. A. Saldanha]

[25th March 1926]

of Fisheries, and then Deputy Directors and so on. What they do in the way of direction I am at a loss to understand. The hon. the Minister has succumbed to the very charming manner of Mr. Wood who has been urging upon him an anti-national policy. Government have succumbed to the policy which has been dictated to them by certain Members of this House and especially by Mr. Wood the other day. Are you going to support foreign manufactures to the neglect and prejudice of indigenous industries? That is just what the King-Emperor asked at the Industries Fair held in Birmingham. Are you going to purchase American typewriters to the prejudice of the home industry? Are you not discouraging home industries by getting machinery from outside? I ask: are you not going to encourage indigenous industries because they may not be of the best kind, and you can get from foreigners' products and manufactures of a superior kind? So I urge the necessity for improving the indigenous industries."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT:—"But how will the appointment of combined Director of Industries and Agriculture promote this policy of the hon. Member?"

* Mr. J. A. SALDANHA:—"We want a Director to serve as an administrative officer, to co-ordinate the activities of the different departments, to pass the travelling allowance bills, etc., to act as a sort of post office for submitting reports of the experts to the Government."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT:—"Why not have a post office straight away?"

* Mr. J. A. SALDANHA:—"I would rather have it. (Laughter.) I would have the reports of the experts direct. The Director is simply for co-ordinating the activities, passing travelling allowance bills and so on. I am sure that the new policy is declared with some ulterior object in view. The jam factory at Coonoor is to be closed because it cannot compete with the Australian preserved fruits. The result is our indigenous industries cannot prosper. Surely our Minister could urge that a bounty be granted or that a tariff duty be imposed in order to encourage our indigenous industries."

"I shall urge another point. What is the use of this industrial concern to us from an educative point of view? I suggested several times in this House—never mind what I have been urging privately—that these industrial concerns of Government should be of an educative value. In the factories at Coonoor and other places—never mind their working at a loss—a large number of apprentices could be trained to learn the art of preserving fruits and other things."

* The RAJA OF RAMNAD:—"Is the Leader of the Opposition in order in raising this question on his motion?" (Cries of 'Order, order'.)

* Mr. J. A. SALDANHA:—"The Raja of Ramnad was fortunately chatting when I was serious."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT:—"Is it 'fortunately' that the hon. Member said?"

* Mr. J. A. SALDANHA:—"Fortunately for him and unfortunately for myself. My point is this. These Directors have very little to do; they are not experts. The Agricultural Director could attend to all the work, and we can very well do away with the other Directors. The Bombay Government has done away with the Director of Industries. In Bombay for a long time they had a Director of Agriculture, a very capable Director, an Indian Civil

25th March 1926]

[Mr. J. A. Saldanha]

Service officer. I do not object to have one Director if we want one at all. He will have much less to do according to the policy enunciated in the report. I cannot, I must say, understand the purport of the report very clearly. My suspicion is that Government having closed the jam factory, will next close the soap factory and so on. In reply to a letter I wrote to the Government I got this letter: 'In reply to your letter, etc., I am directed to inform you that it is uncertain how long Government is to continue the Chaliyam factory. The question whether this should not be closed has been engaging the attention of the Government,' and so on. Chaliyam is mentioned because of the canning industry carried on there. A large number of people in India do not know how to preserve fish by canning which is a cheap method. Preserving in glass bottles is a very expensive process."

"Therefore the preservation of fruit or the canning of fish is a very important art for us to learn. But it is a very difficult matter I admit. I would suggest that as large a number of apprentices as possible should be trained by the Government in various factories which are existing at present for the promotion of these industries." 11-45 a.m.

* The hon. the PRESIDENT:—"Is the hon. Member talking about the combined appointment of Director of Agriculture and Industries or is he talking about the development of industries in this Province. Which is he talking about?"

* Mr. J. A. SALDANHA:—"After all, Sir, what we require is expert advice for the starting of industrial concerns and for the promotion of industrial education. In order to achieve these objects we do not require a lot of Directors, such as the Director of Industries, Director of Agriculture and Director of Fisheries and so on, especially when we are closing all the factories. What we want is that industrial education should be more widely spread among the masses. For this purpose we do not require so many Directors. I suppose we can very well get rid of even the hon. the Minister for Development. What I am suggesting is only a thin end of the wedge."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT:—"Order, order. The hon. Member must confine himself to the combined appointment of Director of Agriculture and Industries."

* Mr. J. A. SALDANHA:—"What I submit is that in the Public Works Department there is the Secretary who deals with the reports of experts without an intermediary officer called the Director and that the same may be followed by the Development Secretary. Hence it is, I say, that we do not want so many Directors but only one Director purely as an administrative officer in charge of these departments. On the other hand, what we require is a larger number of teachers, more demonstrators, more schools and more farms. The abolition of the posts of so many directors will effect a large saving in our expenditure which can very well be utilized for purposes mentioned above. If this department should usefully function, it should be more in the way of giving expert advice and of diffusing education among the people. Now we have to go all the way to Bangalore for getting expert advice. At present the Madras Government are paying something like Rs. 10,000 to the Indian Institute of Science at Bangalore. The minimum that we have to pay for getting expert advice is Rs. 40."

[Mr. J. A. Saldanha] [25th March 1926]

"Now, I ask what is the profit to the nation at large by the existence of these appointments of Directors? It is true that my hon. Friend the Minister for Education was very much pleased with the education given in one of the existing industrial schools. But from the report I learn that more than half the number of boys are idling away their time."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT:—"Is the hon. Member going into the Education Department?"

* Mr. J. A. SALDANHA:—"Industrial education which is under the Director of Industries. In conclusion, I submit, Sir, that we should have more experimental stations, more expert advice and more schools rather than a large number of Directors."

* Mr. A. CHIDAMBARA NADAR:—"I have given notice of a similar motion."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT:—"The hon. Member can speak upon it now."

* Mr. A. CHIDAMBARA NADAR:—"May I move that motion now?"

* The hon. the PRESIDENT:—"Yes, yes."

* Mr. A. CHIDAMBARA NADAR:—"I beg to move

'that the allotment of Rs. 15.66 lakhs for Agriculture be reduced by Rs. 1,000.'

"Sir, the hon. Member from South Kanara wanted to have the posts of Directors of Agriculture and Industries combined. I go a step further. I want to have the three departments of Agriculture, Co-operation and Industries combined into one. This question was raised last year at the time of the budget debate but it was not pressed. I think the necessity for combining these three departments into one was not felt so much then as it is now. It is becoming clear day by day that these three departments should be combined into one in order to improve the condition of the ryots economically, agriculturally and industrially, because men who had been in the department and who are likely to know something of these departments come forward and say that these departments should be combined into one. So, Sir, the necessity for combining these departments into one is becoming more and more essential. It must be accepted at the same time that the Co-operative department has done some appreciable work, for we find that the number of co-operative societies has increased day by day and the activities of the department are becoming varied. And on account of the increase in number and the varied activities of the department we are going to have a Joint Registrar. Yet, I want to know whether there is any improvement in the condition of the ryots? I must say, Sir, there is no improvement not only among the ryots but also in the working of the co-operative societies, for if we consider the income of these societies it comes to nothing. As a matter of fact, most of the societies are not working in proper order. What is this due to? I must say that it is due to the economically poor condition of the ryots. Most of the ryots in this Presidency are small landholders and they depend for their maintenance on the income from lands. In spite of so many farms established in different places and the phosphatic nodules which are going to be introduced, we find there has been no improvement in the produce of the land. With regard to the income from the land it is in the same level as it was some years before. The present

25th March 1926] [Mr. A. Chidambara Nadar]

condition of the society is such that people are put to a lot of expenditure in their mode of living, so much so they have been unable to maintain themselves from the income of the land alone, on which they solely depend. In these circumstances the ryots are forced to borrow money wherever and whenever they could, and when they find that there is an avenue, namely, the Co-operative society, open to them, they rush to it and borrow as much money as they can. The result is not so favourable as might be expected.

"With regard to the Agricultural Department, as I said before, in spite of so many improvements alleged to have taken place in it, we do not find that it has been able to impress upon the minds of the people the use of the department. So I submit that the condition of the people has not in any way been improved.

"With regard to the Industries department, I may say that it is practically unknown to the people that there is such a thing as the Industries Department. The result is that these departments, working separately, have not been able to achieve very good results, for it is rather difficult to impress upon the minds of the people what each department is doing. I believe officers of each department are visiting villages at different times and are suggesting their own method of improvement. So, Sir, it would be better if the activities of these departments were combined so that only one set of officers might be able to visit the villages, enter into the feelings of the people there and suggest means of improving their condition economically, agriculturally and industrially. Suppose a ryot has run badly into debt, if there is a single departmental officer to go to him, he will be able to suggest all the possible means of improving his income. He may ask him to go to a co-operative society and take a loan and at the same time suggest him the means of meeting his loan and also perhaps teach him something with regard to industries so that he may utilise the spare hours left to him in that direction. In these circumstances I move that these departments may be combined into one. Perhaps it may not be possible to achieve the desired results immediately or within the next few years. It must be done slowly and the best method of doing it will be to introduce such subjects as co-operation, book-keeping, banking and small industries in the Agricultural College. I hope the hon. the Minister for Development will take those suggestions into consideration and give us a sympathetic answer."

* The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir T. N. SIVAGANANAM PILLAI:—"Sir, I shall begin my observations first on the speech of my hon. Friend Mr. Saldanha. The first charge that he made against the Government in general, and this department in particular was that there had been a lot of delay in publishing the annual reports. That is a matter on which I am asking the Development Secretary to reply, because it is more a matter of office routine than one of policy. But I must observe that the hon. Member had the advantage of the administration reports issued by the Departments of Industries, Agriculture and Co-operation. For the last two years these reports were published and were with him at the time when he had the budget of this year for criticism. It might be that there might have been good reasons for delaying the publication of the report of the Department of Industries for this year; but I should like to know of what benefit the other published reports had been to the hon. Member. For if he had read them carefully, many of the points on which he dwelt here would have been answered already. It would not have been necessary to go into such elementary questions as

12
noon.

[Sir T. N. Sivagnanam Pillai] [25th March 1926]

to what these three departments had been doing in the past. The object of the departments as explained in the several published reports will be to convince the general public for what purpose they were created, and how far they have satisfied the aspirations which they had and the expectations which the general public had. I find that not only he, but also the other hon. Member Mr. Chidambara Nadar has, I am sorry to say, not studied the several published reports to any advantage. If they had done so, they would have seen the obvious advantages of the carrying on of these three departments. Take the Agricultural Department, for example."

* Mr. J. A. SALDANHA:—"As a matter of personal explanation, Sir. I did not say that I was against the departments. I only said that I did not want these Directors."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT:—"Where is the personal explanation of the hon. Member? I think the hon. Minister is referring to Mr. Chidambara Nadar's motion. Is the hon. Member, Mr. Saldanha, making a personal explanation on behalf of the hon. Member Mr. Chidambara Nadar?"

* Mr. J. A. SALDANHA:—"Sir, I thought he was referring to me as not having read the reports. I know that the departments are doing good work. I only questioned the necessity of so many directors and a registrar to boot."

* The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir T. N. SIVAGNANAM PILLAI:—"Take the case of the Agricultural department. In the first instance the Director of Agriculture has been crying hoarse over the several improvements that have been made from time to time. Besides, he is publishing monthly digests which give information on the various improvements that have been made. The problem has been engaging the attention of the deputy directors and the other officers of the department. For example, the researches carried on in the Aduthurai and Coimbatore farms have resulted in the discovery of a new strain of paddy which will yield about 16 per cent more than the old strain. I have already given this information in reply to another speech made yesterday. If the hon. Members realize that the result of the discovery would be a production of 116 kalams of paddy where only 100 kalams were produced before, and that if the process is adopted by the whole country it would mean a valuable addition of food worth about two crores of rupees, the great value of the department would not be questioned. Is this not proof that the Agricultural department has been doing its level best to make its existence beneficial to the people? Coming to the co-operative societies, there also the hon. Member dealt lightly with the question of co-operative societies. The Registrar of Co-operative Societies has been taking great pains to enlighten the general public as to what improvements he has made and how far they are for the benefit of the people. If only the last annual report had been read it would show that about four crores of rupees—I am sorry I have not got the exact figures—have been given as loans. The number of societies has vastly increased. In the matter of land mortgage banks four new institutions have been started with a view to reclaim the persons hopelessly in debt. As regards Industries we have done a good deal to find out the course of the sub-soil water and make arrangements to pump it out for irrigating the fields. Moreover, we have brought into operation certain new and improved machinery for pumping well water for irrigating the dry

25th March 1926] [Sir T. N. Sivagnanam Pillai]

fields. If you take all these together it will be easily seen what an amount of advantage is given by these improvements caused by the three departments.

"My hon. Friend Mr. Saldanha wanted that the two departments might be amalgamated, and the hon. Member Mr. Chidambara Nadar said that all the three departments might be amalgamated together under one Director only. Here also, I am put to the painful necessity of remarking that if these hon. Members had had even a cursory glance through the administration reports of these departments they would have seen the amount of beneficial work that the directors have been carrying on and how if they were taken away they would be leaving a gap which cannot be filled at all. All these three officers are experts in their own way. In the Department of Agriculture what is the meaning of having a department without a director? That will be having a body without the head. As regards the Departments of Industries and Co-operation, have these two hon. Members the slightest conception—I am sorry I have to use harsh language because the circumstances of the case require it. I hope I am using parliamentary language. Have these hon. gentlemen an elementary and rudimentary idea of what is being done in the co-operative field? If I take up that subject, I am afraid I shall have to take up much of the time of the House. These three directors really serve a useful purpose and they cannot be replaced.

"As regards the suggestion that these departments might be combined together under one director I may say that each is a separate department by itself requiring technical knowledge of a high order in the head of the department. It will be absolutely impossible for the Director of Agriculture to carry on the work of the Director of Industries, nor will it be possible, for example, for the Director of Industries to carry on the work of the Registrar of Co-operative Societies. Some of the hon. Members may be ignorant as to whether the three officers have got full work now. Anybody may step into their offices any day and verify it for themselves. Or they can judge for themselves from the various reports that have been submitted how hard-worked these officers are. Every one of them has been complaining to me that the work is pressing very hard and asking for extra assistance. Otherwise they have been saying that they would not be able to discharge their responsibilities. They would break down as some of their predecessors did. Even, if by some fortunate circumstance we are able to find an officer who can run all the three departments together—I say it is not possible—but even if it were possible to do so, naturally he can do the work for himself and we may not be quite sure of finding a suitable successor to take up that appointment. I may also add for the information of the hon. Members that the question was once considered and given up as impracticable. The really co-ordinating head is the Minister and he helps to co-ordinate the working of the three departments together. Even the heads of the departments meet together on occasions such as the festivals and fairs and discuss the ways and means of co-ordinating their work. Also the deputy directors of agriculture, the deputy registrars of co-operative societies, and the corresponding officers of the Industries department meet together and discuss their programme. They do not allow the things to stagnate. Taking all these matters into consideration, I do not think that ~~any~~ on made out for the abolition of the posts of the directors or the post of the registrar

[Sir T. N. Sivagnanam Pillai] [25th March 1926]

of co-operative societies. No case has been made out either for amalgamating their duties. As regards the delay in the publication of the reports, my hon. Friend will speak."

2-15
p.m. * Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—" Sir, I do not know if you felt, as I did, that much of what fell from the hon. Minister was beside the issues raised by the two hon. Members. The question now before the House is whether or not it is advantageous to the people that these three departments, which for all practical purposes are run separately, should not be co-ordinated if not at least amalgamated with one another. That is, I think, the real point at issue. I am not here with any readymade scheme to be presented to the hon. Minister for Development. I shall place before him the various difficulties in regard to the existing state of things. When I want to start a seed union on a co-operative basis in any place, I find that I cannot effectively start the society without a considerable amount of help from the Agricultural department. As a matter of fact, the Agricultural department is doing that work on its own account. As soon as a society is started it has to get the seed from one or other of the various agricultural farms of the Agricultural department. If the Agricultural department does this work of its own accord, then the farm does not ask for ready money and waits for some time to realize the amount. On the other hand, if the co-operative societies purchase the seed, the Agricultural department does not part with the seeds except for ready money. This is, for instance, one of the difficulties due to the two departments working more or less independently of each other. Take again the case of the weaving society in Bellary which is run on co-operative lines for the purpose of weaving cumblis. It is on the decline because the weavers there have not enough wool. They cannot provide wool from their own resources because of the various restrictions on grazing facilities, etc. The Industries department can do something to improve the wool industry. They can find out the place where wool can be obtained and wool of good quality. They can import wool for the benefit of the people; they can find a market for the finished goods. The co-operative society at Kuditini is languishing for lack of support from the Industries department. This is the difficulty we are labouring under. What are the Government doing to co-ordinate the work of all these departments? The departments should not work in an isolated fashion; they can work well only if all their activities are co-ordinated with one another. We are asking to know how far you have proceeded in that direction."

* Mr. V. PANDRANG ROW :—" Sir, my business will be not to deal with the main question raised by these motions, viz., the advisability of amalgamating the posts of the three directors into one, but with the delay in the publication of the Government review of the administration report of the Industries department and with a few other amusing irrelevancies which need not have been raised at all during the course of the debate. The delay in reviewing the administration report which the hon. Member, Mr. Saldanha complained of, is not one of the Development department because I find the report is dated 24th August and the review of the Government is dated 19th October. That is less than two months. If the review and the report had been published and distributed in good time after the 19th October I dare say the hon. Member would have had sufficient time to prepare himself for the budget discussion. I am unable to say now why there was delay in issuing the review of the Government. The delay might be in the Press. I do not

25th March 1926]

[Mr. V. Pandrang Row]

know where the delay occurred. All I can say is that I shall inquire into the cause of the delay. I do not think the hon. Member, Mr. Saldanha, has suffered very much by the delay. His complaint of lack of material is hardly justified by the nature of the speech he delivered; he has ranged from China to Peru and referred to the tariff duty, the Jam factory and the policy followed by the Industries department though the motion itself is to discuss a specific point, viz., the abolition of the post of one director or two. The hon. Member from South Kanara has charged the hon. Minister with having succumbed to the voice of the charmer, the charmer in this case being the hon. Member Mr. Wood, and that the policy which was announced at the end of the general discussion of the budget was dictated more or less by the demands made by the hon. Member. There is evidently a misapprehension here, because the policy that was announced at the end of the general discussion on the budget was only a reiteration of the policy announced before Mr. Wood came to this House and before the hon. Minister had any chance of being beguiled by his charming words. It was a policy which the Government declared in their review of the administration report of the previous year, i.e., 1923-24. When the facts are known, the hon. Member from South Kanara will be the first to admit this. Whether the Government are right or wrong in coming to that decision, Mr. Wood had nothing to do with the enunciation of the policy.

"The hon. Member from South Kanara also referred to the analogy of the Public Works Secretariat and he wanted that the Secretary of the Development department should follow the example of the Public Works Secretariat, viz., that the experts' report must be considered in the Secretariat without the intermediation of any Director. I believe I am correctly stating his position. But as I understood the position in the Public Works Secretariat as was explained the other day in this House, there is to be a Chief Engineer and he is to continue; he is to be the head of the department and to deal with the technical aspects of subjects which come up before the Government. It is not proposed to abolish his post. On the other hand, the Public Works Secretariat is prohibited from criticizing the technical aspects of matters which come up before the Government. In other words, the practice followed in the Public Works Secretariat is exactly the opposite of what the hon. Member wants."

* The RAJA of RAMNAD :—" May I ask whether the Director of Industries is an expert ? "

* Mr. V. PANDRANG ROW :—" He is not one in the particular sense that he is able to carry on and manage an industry himself. He is an expert in the sense that he knows business methods and the organization of industries. I think what the hon. Member Mr. Saldanha quoted is not in point and it cannot be relied upon as an argument for abolishing either of the directors' posts. We have the need of an expert in each of the departments of Agriculture and Industries. The analogy quoted being the only strong argument brought forward by the hon. Member, I need not perhaps dilate further on that point."

"The hon. Member from Bellary pointed out certain practical difficulties which have been experienced. He confined himself to his own part of the country but I dare say that he does not wish it to be understood that such difficulties are not experienced elsewhere. He mentioned certain practical

[Mr. V. Pandrang Row]

[25th March 1926]

difficulties which, according to him, can be traced to the want of co-ordination between the Co-operative, the Industries and the Agricultural departments. He instanced the case of a co-operative society for seed distribution and the complaint seems to be that the Agricultural department which has to supply seed to private persons did not supply seed to the co-operative society on credit. I think I am correctly stating his complaint"

* Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—"What I said was that the co-operative society could not get seed from the Agricultural department on credit."

* Mr. V. PANDRANG ROW :—"I am not interested in what may be. If the hon. Member would say what actually happens I shall be very glad and willing to have it inquired into. I cannot possibly deal with what may be. The hon. Member assumed that the co-operative societies for seed distribution will not get credit. I think the hon. Member will give the Department of Agriculture some credit for common sense."

* Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—"I shall bring the question again."

* Mr. V. PANDRANG ROW :—"He brought forward another instance, the rather bad condition and somewhat poor state of the cumbli industry. This matter has been inquired into by the Government very carefully and for the present what has been decided is that the Government should start a mill in the Bellary jail and after the result of the experiment is known the Government should take up the question of improving the condition of the workers in the cumbli industry either by constituting a co-operative society or by some other means. All I need say is that the question has not been lost sight of. Even if the complaints had been well founded, I do not think that they would constitute a sufficient reason for the motion, viz., to abolish the post of the Director of Agriculture, or the Registrar of Co-operative Societies or the Director of Industries, because these complaints of an individual nature are inseparable from any kind of administration which is human. There may be here and there some reason for complaint, but that, I believe, is not a sufficient argument to change the whole system of administration and to throw an impossible burden on the shoulders of one man which three men are now finding it difficult to bear."

* Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—"I do not wish to withdraw the motion, as I am keenly interested in the matter. I was charged with ignorance of the working of the departments. I have been reading the older reports of these departments. I have a large number of these reports and I go through them in my leisure moments. I take very keen interest in agricultural and co-operative matters; so much so I was once invited by the Bombay Government to be present at a conference held at a long distance in connexion with agriculture and co-operative societies. When the Government asked the permission of the High Court to send me to that conference, the High Court expressed the surprise that a Judicial Officer took so much interest in the matter. However, they are matters on which I am keenly interested as they are most important for relieving the distress in our country and for improving the economic condition of the people. Then as to the reports themselves, it is not only the reports of the Industries department but also those of the Excise department which has not been made available"

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—"The hon. Member will confine himself to the reports of the Department of Industries."

[25th March 1926]

* Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—"I think that the Superintendent of the Government Press is responsible for the delay in sending not only this report but other reports also. The fact that the report which was reviewed in October last should not be available to the Members of the Legislative Council till the end of the Budget debate requires an explanation. I think it is a great discredit that we should not have materials for criticising the Government until after the whole show is over. I am not going to discuss the policy of the Department of Industries. The Government are gradually retiring from their activities and a number of duties are being got rid of."

"The Director of Industries will have little work to do. What I want to drive home is this, that we want more experts and one director for all these departments. I do not want the abolition of all these departments; they should all exist there but they should be administered by one officer. For such a purpose, it is not necessary to have an expert at all. I do not know whether Mr. Thomas, a man of great ability, is an expert in industries or in any industry for the matter of that. I think he must be gradually gaining experience for becoming an expert. That is not what we want. We want an officer like him to combine in his functions the administration of all the departments and place the views of the different experts before the Government. I do not say that the Secretary of the Development Department should deal with them directly. He can have the advice of the various departmental experts placed before him by one officer. The Bombay Government have abolished the post of Director of Industries, though perhaps they needed him there more than we want him here if one were wanted at all. We want a common officer for all these departments with expert officers under him, more teachers, more farm managers, more demonstrators, more schools and more men to attend to the industrial concerns that we have got for the use of the people and for training apprentices. As this is a subject of the greatest importance to the public, I want to press this motion."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—"Is Mr. Chidambara Nadar withdrawing his motion?"

* Mr. A. CHIDAMBARA NADAR :—"But I want to say a few words, Sir."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—"I will first get Mr. Saldanha's motion out of the way."

The motion was put and the House divided thus :

Ayes.

- | | |
|---------------------------|---------------------------------|
| 1. Mr. B. P. Sesha Reddi. | 3. Mr. A. Ranganatha Mudaliyar. |
| 2. " A. Chidambara Nadar. | 4. " J. A. Saldanha. |

Noes.

- | | |
|--|---------------------------------------|
| 1. The hon. Sir C. P. Ramaswami Ayyar. | 11. Mr. F. Noyce. |
| 2. The hon. Mr. N. E. Marjoribanks. | 12. " Abdullah Ghatala Sahib. |
| 3. The hon. Khan Bahadur Muhammad Usman Sahib Bahadur. | 13. " S. Arpudaswami Udayar. |
| 4. The hon. Mr. T. E. Moir. | 14. Rao Sahib T. C. Tangavelu Pillai. |
| 5. The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir T. N. Sivagnanam Pillai. | 15. Mr. K. Prabhakaran Tampar. |
| 6. The hon. Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. Patro. | 16. Capt. E. G. Windle. |
| 7. The hon. the Raja of Panagal. | 17. Sir Alexander MacDougall. |
| 8. Mr. F. B. Evans. | 18. Mr. H. B. Ari Gowder. |
| 9. " G. T. Boag. | 19. " P. K. S. A. Arumuga Nadar. |
| 10. " V. Pandrang Row. | 20. " A. V. Bhanaji Rao. |
| | 21. " N. Devendradu. |
| | 22. " A. Ramaswami Mudaliyar. |

[25th March 1926]

Noes—cont.

- | | |
|---|--|
| 23. Rao Sahib P. V. Gopalan. | 38. Diwan Bahadur K. Suryanarayanamurti Nayudu. |
| 24. Rao Bahadur K. Krishnaswami Nayudu. | 39. Rao Sahib P. V. S. Sundaramurti. |
| 25. Mr. R. Madanagopal Nayudu. | 40. Mr. K. Venkatachala Padayachi. |
| 26. Hony. Lieut. Madurai. | 41. „ T. M. Narayanaswami Pillai. |
| 27. Mr. P. N. Marthandam Pillai. | 42. „ B. Ramachandra Reddi. |
| 28. „ C. Muttayya Mudaliyar. | 43. Khan Bahadur Haji Abd-ul-lah Haji Qasim Sahib Bahadur. |
| 29. „ B. Obalesappa. | 44. Mr. Muhammad Ghouse Mian Sahib. |
| 30. „ G. Premayya. | 45. Khan Bahadur P. Khalif-ul-lah Sahib Bahadur. |
| 31. „ P. Sagaram. | 46. Mr. T. M. Moida Sahib. |
| 32. Diwan Bahadur M. Kriebnan Nayar. | 47. „ T. N. Muhammad Sahib. |
| 33. Rao Bahadur P. Raman. | 48. „ T. Mallesappa. |
| 34. Mr. K. Sarvarayudu. | |
| 35. „ K. Sitarama Reddi. | |
| 36. „ Chavadi K. Subramaniya Pillai. | |
| 37. „ R. Veerian. | |

Neutral.

The Raja of Ramnad.

The motion was lost. Ayes 4. Noes 48. Neutral 1.

* Mr. A. CHIDAMBARA NADAR :—“ Sir, I have been told that I do not know the rudimentary principles of co-operation, agriculture, industries and so on.”

* The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir T. N. SIVAGNANAM PILLAI :—“ I thought the hon. Member has already spoken.”

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—“ The hon. Member is replying.”

* Mr. A. CHIDAMBARA NADAR :—“ Sir, whether the words used by the hon. the Minister for Development are parliamentary or not, what do they amount to? They amount to this, that Honourable Members come here without knowing and without understanding subjects and make speeches in an irresponsible manner. I must assure the hon. the Minister that I know too much of these departments. I am a landowner in my own way. I am interested in agriculture, and I have come across officers of the department from the hon. the Minister downwards to the agricultural demonstrator.”

* The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir T. N. SIVAGNANAM PILLAI :—“ I thought that it was parliamentary language that I used.”

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—“ He does not object to the language. He objects to the argument.”

* Mr. A. CHIDAMBARA NADAR :—“ I have come across many of the officers of the department, Sir; but I must say that I have not derived much benefit from them. Once I was told to purchase a plough for Rs 75. Now it is lying idle. Sometimes the suggestions given by these departmental officers are useless.”

“ Then Sir, with regard to co-operation, I know something of the working of this department in my district. So far as the work among Kallars is concerned, it is in a very pitiable state. Many societies have become bankrupt. It is high time to devote some time to these societies in the Madura district.”

“ With regard to the department of Industries, Sir, it is also in a pitiable condition. The hon. Minister said something of the pumping and boring instruments. There are boring instruments and pumping machines, but the difficulty is in introducing these things. For boring instruments you

25th March 1926]

[Mr. A. Chidambara Nadar]

will have to pay a deposit of Rs. 150. How can the poor ryots afford to pay Rs. 150 for bringing the boring instruments? So also with regard to pumping machines. To go in for these machines is very difficult. Small landholders cannot afford to go in for such costly things. So, Sir, if at all the Agricultural Department could do anything for the ryots, it must be in the reformation of the methods now used by the ryots.

“ Again, Sir, the hon. the Minister stated that the Director of Agriculture is crying hoarse and everything is published in his report. I do not know whether his work stops there. It is not enough to cry hoarse and publish everything in reports. Perhaps the Aduturai farm gives a yield of 16 per cent more than the old strain but I do not know how far such farms are going to be introduced elsewhere. We do not know the manure or the cost incurred in taking to such cultivation. We do not know how far it is going to prove a practical thing.

“ With regard to Co-operative department, Sir, I should like to add a few more words. The hon. the Minister stated that the number of societies has been doubled and land mortgage banks have been established to redeem people who have run into irredeemable debts. As I said before, most of the societies may in course of time become bankrupt and the people perhaps may run into such irredeemable debts which the land mortgage banks will take over; and perhaps these things will continue for ever and the people will be growing poorer and poorer day by day. With these words, Sir, I do not want to press my motion.”

The motion was by leave withdrawn

* Diwan Bahadur M. KRISHNAN NAYAR :—“ Sir, I move my motion, viz—
‘ that the allotment of Rs. 15.66 lakhs for Agriculture be reduced by Rs. 100.’

“ Sir, I shall be very brief

(At this stage, Mr. A. Ramaswami Mudaliyar took the chair.)

“ The object of my motion is, Sir, to plead for a larger allotment of money for the Agricultural department, Agriculture, Sir, is a growing department and it requires larger and larger amounts year after year. To allot a small sum to the department year after year is not only making it practically stationary but, having regard to the nature of the department, making it retrograde also. In order that this department may not be a stationary one, in order that this department may not be a retrograde one, it is highly essential that larger and larger amounts should be allotted for expenditure in this department. After all that is said and done and that may be said and done hereafter, agriculture must continue to be the staple and the most important industry in this country. I believe about 68 per cent of the population in this country depend for their livelihood upon agriculture and work in agriculture. So, having regard to the large percentage of population that depends for their livelihood upon agriculture, it is very necessary that this most important industry of the country should be developed. I do not blame either the department or the hon. Minister in charge of Agriculture. I know they are doing their very best to develop it. But have they been able to produce any impression in the country as a whole? I do not deny that the department could have impressed some particular localities with their experiments. The question however is, has the hon.

12-45
p.m.

[Mr. M. Krishnan Nayar] [25th March 1926]

Minister been able to produce any impression on the country taken as a whole? If only hon. Members here would appeal to their personal experience, they will have only one answer to the question and that is in the negative. Just to illustrate my remark. My hon. Friend stated yesterday that in the case of the Aduturai farm it has been realized that the yield has increased by 16 per cent. I would ask him whether the agricultural population as a whole of the Presidency, or even the ryots of the whole of the district of Tanjore have been able to realize this fact. My complaint is that it is not possible for the department for want of funds to carry this knowledge to the agricultural population of the whole Presidency. In order that this may be done, it is necessary to have a large number of Agricultural Inspectors and others acquainted with the details of agriculture who can go into the interior direct to the agricultural population, speak to them in their own language, take them into their confidence, infuse confidence into them. Our ryots, I should say, Sir, are keen businessmen as a rule, and, if they are once convinced that the experiments are beneficial to them, they will not be slow to adopt them. How can the experiments that are now carried on by the department be brought to the notice of the people if the department is not supplied with the necessary funds? Again the hon. Minister said yesterday that phosphatic nodules have been found to exist in some portions of the Trichinopoly district. We know that green manure is fast disappearing in the country and that it becomes necessary day after day, more and more to use artificial manure. Do the population of districts like Ganjam, Malabar or South Kanara know of the existence of these nodules in the Trichinopoly district; even if they know, can they make use of them? It is essential that the department should dig up the nodules, transport them to the remotest corners of the presidency and sell them to the people. Of course, the cost of digging and of transport can be realized by the sale proceeds. How can the department do this unless it is supplied with the necessary funds.

"Sir, the subject is so wide and of so great importance that it is not possible to resist the temptation to speak at length. But, for want of time, I would stop here with the earnest request that the Government, particularly the Finance Member—I am sorry that I do not see him here nor the Finance Secretary—should devote a large portion of the remission granted by the Central Government for the needs of this department rather than merge it in the general fund and devote it for payment of the debts."

* The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir T. N. SIVAGNANAM PILLAI:—"Sir, I am entirely at one with the hon. Member in this respect and feel with him that the task is great but the resources small. I expect—it is my own personal opinion—that as a result of the deliberation which would be bestowed on the subject of agriculture when the Royal Commission on Agriculture comes here, arrangements will be made for the expenditure of more money on this important subject which furnishes the means of living for almost the whole population. At present it is the want of money that stands in the way and we have only to cut our coats according to our cloth. I may say that in 1924-25 we had spent Rs. 14 lakhs and for the next year, 1926-27, we expect to spend Rs. 16 lakhs."

* Diwan Bahadur M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—"Practically the same amount as in the current year."

25th March 1926]

* The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir T. N. SIVAGNANAM PILLAI:—"On the main point, I am at one with the hon. Member; but as regards certain observations made by him, I should like to offer some explanation. The country is no doubt very large and the department is doing, with the limited finances at its disposal its best to propagate the knowledge that it gains by means of its experiments. So far as the Aduturai farm is concerned, the question of its yield of 16 per cent over and above the normal is a thing which has been brought prominently to the notice of the public in the monthly digest which is being circulated all over the Presidency."

* Diwan Bahadur M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—"In English?"

* The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir T. N. SIVAGNANAM PILLAI:—"Yes, in English. If any Member wishes to have a copy of it, it will be specially sent to him. As regards phosphatic nodules, I have taken the trouble to bring and stock them in my own room and I would invite hon. Members like Mr. Krishnan Nayar who are interested in the subject to see what is meant by phosphatic nodules and how they are applied for the fertilization of the soil. All that could be done by means of publication is being done; as for instance in the case of the Aduturai G. B. 24 paddy seeds, much of the quantity that has been harvested have been sold to several people both in the district and outside who wanted to take it for experimental purposes. We of course reserved only as much as was needed for cultivation in the subsequent year and sold the remainder."

"I think after these observations, my hon. Friend will not press the motion."

* Diwan Bahadur M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—"Sir, I wish that the hon. Minister had taken my remarks a little more seriously than he has done. Instead of light-heartedly saying that his room is full of these nodules, pamphlets and monthlies and asking those who are interested in the subject like myself to go to his room to have a look at them, I wish he had entered into the spirit of my observations. I could have criticised the department if I wanted it; but I did not and I purposely refrained from doing so. I could have effectively exposed the administration of my hon. Friend, the Minister, but I refrained from doing so deliberately. My complaint was that this knowledge with reference to the nodules and with reference to the increased yield at the Aduturai farm has not reached the people. My hon. Friend replied that this knowledge is published in the pamphlets which could be had in his room. He is not able to make this knowledge accessible to the population. I wish that it should be spread in districts like South Kanara in Kanarese, in Malabar in Malayalam, in the Telugu districts and in the Tamil districts similarly in their vernaculars. The ryots in these parts are absolutely ignorant of what these nodules are and as to the experiments carried on in the Aduturai farm. It is not enough if Mr. Krishnan Nayar and other Members of this Council could go to the hon. the Minister's room and satisfy themselves with the contents of the pamphlets stored up in it. It is necessary that the cultivating ryots who are ignorant of the English language should know of them. What, Sir, is the use of publishing them in magazines and pamphlets in English? It is necessary that they should be in the vernaculars and not only that but, as I said, the Inspectors ought to go to the people, instil into them the results of the experiments and so popularize the results."

[25th March 1926]

* The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir T. N. SIVAGNANAM PILLAI:—"I never meant to be offensive, Sir. I think I have toned down my speech considerably merely to carry information and nothing else."

* Diwan Bahadur M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—"I should then remark, Sir, as to the inappropriateness of his invitation to me and others to go to his room for information. I do not wish, however, to press the motion. I should like to withdraw."

The motion was by leave withdrawn.

Mr. A. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR (Chairman):—"The time allotted for the demand having expired, I shall put the demand to the House."

The demand was put and carried and the grant made.

DEMAND XXIII—CIVIL VETERINARY SERVICES.

* The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir T. N. SIVAGNANAM PILLAI:—"Sir, I move

'that the Government be granted a sum not exceeding Rs. 6 51 lakhs under Civil Veterinary Services.'

* Mr. K. SITARAMA REDDI:—"Sir, I move

'to reduce the allotment of Rs. 2,65,100 for touring establishments by Re. 1.'

"Sir, it will be noticed that there is a similar motion tabled by me numbered 727 in the notice paper which is intended to raise the same question, namely, the necessity of opening more hospitals and dispensaries. With your permission, Sir, I should like to speak a few words on the subject. The question about the touring establishments suggested itself to me on account of an incident which took place during my tour in the district. On one occasion, a veterinary touring officer was staying with me in my camp. His programme, he told me, had been arranged about two months previous to his date of arrival at a certain village and in spite of the fact that he was camping for two days in that village, and the fact that his services would be available to the villagers was tom-tommed by the toti in the village, no one brought any cattle for treatment by him. I knew then that there was in that particular village rinderpest raging. I refer to this only to show that in the case of touring establishments, the villager does not appreciate the value of their work and it does not appeal to anybody. The reason is that diseases pertaining to cattle as is the case with human diseases have each its own freaks and they do not wait till the arrival of the veterinary officer. My suggestion therefore is that instead of keeping the touring establishment it would be better to have regular hospitals and dispensaries wherever possible. I am not able now to say anything as to touring work done by these touring establishments. But I take it that taking into account the arduous nature of the tours, their work must naturally be smaller than the work done by the regular establishments. Moreover, the necessity for veterinary aid permanently stationed in fixed places is being keenly felt in the rural parts of the district; and may I suggest in this connexion that if the finances necessary are not forthcoming, the hon. the Minister may as well help the local boards that are willing to start such dispensaries. Under the present Act, an expenditure by the local boards on this account is not legitimate, but I know that there is a feeling

25th March 1926]

[Mr. K. Sitarama Reddi]

in the country that if the Agricultural or Veterinary department is not able to extend its help, the local bodies that realize the need may as well be allowed to provide such institutions, of course with the help of the Government. For instance, at Cuddalore I know there was a regular hospital which was managed by the district board till some two or three years ago. It has now been taken by the Government, and I do not think that it is any the more flourishing for the change. I do not mean to criticize, but I only mean to suggest that the institution has not fared much better at the hands of the Government. I may also say that it may be a financial relief if at any rate these local boards which are willing to start the institutions are given liberal help by the Government."

* Mr. B. RAMACHANDRA REDDI:—"Mr. Chairman, I have given notice of a motion which is identical with the one that has just now been moved by the hon. Member, Mr. Sitarama Reddi, and I take this opportunity of making some more observations on points that have not been touched upon by the hon. Member who has preceded me. In this Presidency the number of touring establishments and dispensaries are very few, and this is a fact known to everybody. I will only exemplify that fact by saying that there is one veterinary assistant for every 700 square miles, and to treat 1½ lakhs of cattle. Year after year it has been agitated on the floor of this House that a greater number of dispensaries are needed and that a greater number of touring assistants should be appointed. But year after year we are confronted with this woeful tale 'No money and no further increment in the number of these establishments.' In the present year's budget we have seen that an increase of only six touring establishments has been made, and only nine dispensaries have been provided for, more than what used to be the case hitherto. And in the estimates that have been put forward at page 319 of the Civil Budget Estimate, for hospitals and dispensaries a sum of Rs. 2,16,900 has been provided in the budget under discussion, whereas the revised estimate was for Rs. 1,92,000. And for touring establishments, the revised estimate is Rs. 2,74,500 and the budget estimate is Rs. 2,65,100. Now in the former case there is an addition of Rs. 24,900 whereas in the latter case there is a reduction of Rs. 9,400. Taking the two together it means, Sir, that only Rs. 15,500 have been provided for in this year's budget for the increase of these touring establishments and dispensaries. And now, during the budget discussion last year I pointed out to this House that the touring establishments were not doing as much work as the regular dispensaries are doing. I have given figures to show that the touring establishments are doing only half as much work as the dispensaries are doing. It is time that the touring establishments are slowly reduced giving place to regular dispensaries run with proper equipment provided for them. During this year, as we see, only 15 posts have been provided for, whether it is in the touring establishment cadre or whether it is in the regular dispensaries. These 15 posts will not, after all, go to any extent to relieve the suffering that is now in existence all over the Presidency, to relieve the poor cattle that are dying without any proper treatment at all. This is a department that is included under the Development Department. But no real development is to be seen in the working of this branch. It is regrettable that this sort of lack of sympathy towards this department is an unhappy thing. And, in addition to this, Sir, the equipment that is now available in the regular line dispensaries is inadequate. I may point out

[Mr. B. Ramachandra Reddi] [25th March 1926]

that the up-to-date surgical apparatus is not provided at all in the dispensaries, at least in the headquarters dispensaries. I am informed, and I say that subject to correction, that even in the headquarters hospital at Madras itself there is not even an operation table. I do not know whether I can call it a shameful matter and whether it is one to be brought before this House at all. A couple of years back, Sir, to come to more tangible instances I was assured in this House that a dispensary would be opened in Kavali in the Nellore district. All these two years I have been waiting with the greatest patience at my command and after all nothing tangible seems to have come out at all till now. There is a great need for the establishment of dispensaries and appointment of more touring billets in my district which is known to be a cattle centre. I hope that the hon. the Minister will kindly bestow more consideration on this matter and try to get more and more funds for the purpose of developing this department, and I am sure if it does not develop at all, whether it be in its resources or in its activities, it is a misnomer to call it a subject under the Development Department. It is no more useful to take shelter under the hackneyed argument that the hon. the Finance Member does not give room. Of course that is an argument which has come to be advanced often in this House and it is really an unhappy thing that this House is bored from time to time with that argument. I hope the hon. Minister will not forget the observations that have been just now made by my humble self and look to the establishment of more dispensaries and provide more money at least in the revised estimate for the coming year."

* Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—" Mr. Chairman, Sir, I beg to make the motion standing in my name, and that is No. 725." Sir, two of the speakers who have preceded me have referred to the unsatisfactory nature of the work—that is inevitable I may say to some extent—that is at present done by the touring veterinary officers. I shall crave the permission of the House just to explain how this system is working at present. There are officers at the rate of one touring assistant for two or more taluks. This touring assistant, I do not know if he is given a permanent peon now, but at any rate, until recently had no permanent peon of his own. The idea was that as soon as he went to a village he should meet the village reddy of the place, get himself acquainted with him, and through his good offices secure a peon at so many annas per day. With the help of that peon and of the village officer, he was expected to advertise his arrival and presence in the village not only to people of that village but to people of the adjoining villages as well. Now, Sir, all this is bound to take time. You may take it that to reach the villages close by, within a distance of 3, 4 or 5 miles, it may take two or three days. And people living in more distant villages may not know of his arrival even after a week or more. Now, Sir, assuming that immediately after the arrival of this assistant in a particular place, people do come with their diseased animals for treatment, I say it is not possible for him to treat the animals in any satisfactory way, and the reason is this. He cannot stay at anyone place for more than ten days. If he prolongs his stay for more than ten days, the Government will not allow him travelling allowance for the excess number of days. And so, p or

^a To reduce the allotment of Rs. 2,16,900 for hospitals and dispensaries by Rs. 100. (To open two more dispensaries in the Bellary district by utilizing the services of some of the touring assistants in the district.)

25th March 1926] [Mr. A. Ranganatha Mudaliyar]

as he is, he cannot possibly stay in a place for more than ten days. And even if the people of the village he is camping in come for treatment, they cannot hope to have treatment for more than ten days. But if we turn to the registers of the several dispensaries, we will find, I think, that the average period necessary for the successful treatment of an animal is a fortnight. So that the present period of stay of the touring officer falls short of that average by four days. And in the case of the villages further off from the place he is staying in, they may not have even five days for the treatment. And it may be that people who come to know of his arrival late may come to his camp only to know that he has left that place for some other place. They cannot be expected to go after him from place to place and get treatment for the animals suffering from one disease or another. If, on the other hand, this officer is made to stay at a particular place, and if they have got animals which are really in need of treatment, they will take the trouble of bringing these animals to the headquarters with the certainty of the animals being attended to by him. So, I think, Sir, by having dispensaries established at particular places, a larger number of animals will be attended to than can be or is being done at present. There may be the question of cost. Under the scheme I have suggested, Sir, I do not think the Government will be put to any extra cost. By having a dispensary in a particular place, you may have to pay rent, and for the service of a compounder. But as against that, you have the savings due to the elimination of the travelling allowance which these touring officers are now drawing, and if they have a permanent peon there will be the saving of the travelling allowance to the peon also. It will be seen on a comparison that the savings in the one case will be more or less equal to the extra expenditure necessary in the other arrangement. So, I think, Sir, that the Government need not have more than one or two officers as touring assistants for each district. I suggest they may be kept in reserve—one or two officers—because they may be required to meet any emergency. Suppose there is an outbreak of some epidemic or other, then you can indent upon these reserve officers to go and attend to a disease in a particular place. Otherwise, the number in excess of this his reserve force may well be utilized, I think, in the opening of dispensaries. So far as my district is concerned, for which I have given the motion, I think places without rent may also be found for the location of these dispensaries."

* The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir T. N. SIVAGANANAM PILLAI :—" Sir, till recently the policy was one of appointing a number of touring veterinary assistants and establishing certain veterinary institutions and appointing certain people there. The subject of touring veterinary assistants had elicited the observations of Mr. Ranganatha Mudaliyar and Mr. Ramachandra Reddi and in deference to their wishes the question was placed before the advisory committee and they came to the conclusion that as a sort of experiment the system of permanent veterinary assistants at important places might be tried. That will be tried in the Kistna district next year (1927-28) and I dare say it will be found successful because subsequent to the passing of the advisory committee's resolution I have come across any number of people who had all one word to say that it was more in the interests of the people that veterinary institutions should be established rather than touring inspectors appointed. For all the arguments of Mr. Ranganatha Mudaliyar I think it would be better to wait till next year. My ambition

1-15
p.m.

[Sir T. N. Sivagnanam Pillai] [25th March 1926]

is to have one veterinary institution for each taluk of the district and if we have funds there will be no difficulty at all. My friend, Mr. Ramachandra Reddi, vaxed eloquent on that matter and wanted to brush aside the question of finance. Being without money I do not know how it will be possible for me or to anybody else to undertake a task of that magnitude."

* Mr. B. RAMACHANDRA REDDI :—" I will be the last man to think that the Minister is committed to the Finance Department."

* The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir T. N. SIVAGNANAM PILLAI :—" In the absence of funds it will be absolutely impossible to establish more institutions than what I have done in the past. One important suggestion was made by my hon. Friend Mr. Sitarama Reddiyar, i.e., if the local boards would kindly come to the help of the Veterinary Department many more institutions could be established. I welcome the suggestion and I dare say that my hon. Colleague, the Chief Minister, will also note that suggestion and help me with funds for the opening of more institutions at other places with the help of local bodies. After these observations I hope my hon. Friend would find that it is not want of sympathy about which he regrets very much but it is want of money that is very substantial. He also said that one operation table was missing or was not in existence. I do not know whether this information was obtained by him very recently or long ago. If it had been a long time past I would have welcomed information of that kind being communicated to me so that I could have taken the necessary action. Now, that it has been brought to my notice I will see that there is no defect at all in the headquarter institution of the Presidency. As regards Kavali I must say that a veterinary institution has been opened there. About the argument of touring veterinary assistants I need not say anything as the posts will gradually be abolished. In this connexion, if I may venture to throw out a suggestion to the Members of the Legislative Council, it is this: that during the year when non-official work is being done, when resolutions are being discussed, if these also form subjects of discussions and certain definite resolutions are framed it would strengthen our hands at the time of the framing of the budget. I think that is a matter well known to them and I think they will carry them out."

* Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—" I do not understand what the hon. Minister is driving at."

* The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir T. N. SIVAGNANAM PILLAI :—" My point is that if resolutions are passed in the Legislative Council it would be found more useful to me and I will find myself in a better position to include all these subjects in the budget."

Mr. Sitarama Reddiyar's motion was by leave withdrawn.

* Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—" Sir, those who have been watching the debate on subjects connected with the Development Department would have been struck by the number of times the Minister has said that he could not promote one thing or the other for want of money. Sir, his speeches conclusively show that he is quite satisfied with the necessity for the development of his department in more than one direction. He knows that the people are vitally concerned in regard to these matters and that they are in need of relief which should not be and ought not to be delayed more than can be helped. It behoves us, therefore, Sir, to request the hon. Minister

[25th March 1926] [Mr. A. Ranganatha Mudaliyar]

to take us into his confidence and tell us what attempts he has made to secure the money which he is the first to acknowledge he needs most urgently. What attempts did he make and what response did he receive? Was he satisfied with the explanations that may have been offered him for more money not being found? I think he was not satisfied. If he were, I do not think, Sir, he would have appealed to this House that they should have supported him by passing resolutions and that they should have strengthened his hands so that he might have put up a better fight and got more money. I do not want to enter further in this as these are constitutional matters about which I was warned not to go into too much details. I would leave it to the Minister to tell us all about it. If he does not tell us any of these things, I think he has no reason to complain and say that he could not do more because he failed to secure more funds. I think the Act unsatisfactory as it might be, does not leave the Minister quite helpless. I think he has got remedies under the Act and under the rules framed under it by which he could have achieved what he wanted."

The CHAIRMAN (Mr. A. Ramaswami Mudaliyar) :—" Does the hon. Member wish to withdraw his motion?"

* Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—" If the hon. Minister has anything to say, I would like to hear."

The CHAIRMAN (Mr. A. Ramaswami Mudaliyar) :—" The hon. Minister has nothing to add."

* Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—" Let it be voted upon, Sir."

When the Chairman was putting the motion to the House Mr. Ranganatha Mudaliyar asked permission to withdraw. It was allowed and the motion was by leave withdrawn.

* Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—" I beg to move

'that the allotment of Rs. 1,20,800 for pay of establishments be reduced by Rs. 100.'

"My object is to urge that the pay of the assistants is too low and higher appointments are too few. If there is one thing needed, Sir, to show with what neglect this assistant, Veterinary Department, is treated by Government, it is this, viz., the fixing of the pay of the veterinary surgeons. With regard to the staff of the touring inspectors previous speakers have dwelt upon it and I do not propose to take the time of the Council again. At present I will invite the attention of the House to the very low pay that is given to these officers. To realize that hon. Members should make a comparison of their pay with the pay of the officers of similar rank in other departments. The veterinary assistants are paid Rs. 60—4—120 and in the higher grade Rs. 125—5—175. The number of veterinary assistants is about 16 and the number of Inspectors is 10. Now, let us see the pay of the corresponding officials. The grade of the sub-assistant surgeons is well known to all of us. Sub-assistant surgeons generally do serve in hospitals as assistants to the surgeon or the assistant surgeon and their pay is Rs. 75—175 with a maximum pay of Rs. 200 whereas the minimum pay of the veterinary assistants is Rs. 60 and the maximum is only Rs. 175. Compare this to this class of officers. The veterinary assistant is a sort of officer who stands by himself. He is not an assistant to anybody. He is in charge of an office and of a department in a taluk. He is a sort of an independent officer standing alone by

[Mr. J. A. Saldanha]

[25th March 1926]

himself. Whereas the sub-assistant surgeon is working under the direction of some other official, and his pay starts at Rs. 75 and reaches the maximum of Rs. 200 and the veterinary assistant starts much lower and the maximum also is lower. Then, under Agriculture in page 472 you see the agricultural demonstrators start at Rs. 85 with a maximum of Rs. 250. Then take the sub-inspectors of police, they start with Rs. 65 and very large number of them rise as inspectors and the field of promotion is wider. Then take the health officers. They start on Rs. 200 and have a maximum of Rs. 600. When you compare the health officers to the veterinary assistant surgeons, you will see the veterinary assistants receive longer training than the District Health officer. In the Forest department, Assistant Conservators start on Rs. 250. We are all conversant with the work of these worthy officers, the veterinary assistants. They are in sole charge of an office; they deal with a wide area, a whole taluk; they have to go at any moment's notice from their headquarters to the different places where epidemics like rinderpest are reported to have broken out and render necessary relief, so that they have to be touring officers; they have therefore multifarious duties. The veterinary assistant is also called upon by people to attend cases in their houses. It is not always easy to take sickly cattle, etc., to the hospital, and in such cases the officers have to go to the stables or cowsheds to attend cases. These officers have submitted memorials to Government and recorded resolutions at their conferences for increase of pay. I think they have made out a good case for increase of pay, as proposed in their several memorials.

"Besides, there is one other point. The hon. Minister had already pleaded at great length want of money for every proposal brought forward, and all the Ministers say the same thing, want of money. Money must be found for these nation building departments somehow or other, and I am sure money for these officers can be found by curtailing the number of appointments at the top who are of little use to the people. Money could surely be found from within the present allotment for the whole Department of Agriculture. These are the officers who are needed more by the people than the higher officers, who are more or less useless from the point of view of the people. I am glad that the hon. the Minister did not tell us in this instance that he is going to wait for the Royal Commission on Agriculture. Whatever it may do, the Royal Commission is not however going to bring additional money to the hon. Minister. The Royal Commission has been urged as the ground for waiting on many other cases. Those high officers, Directors and Deputy Directors, tour round and get their allowances, and give little benefit to the people. I am sure the hon. Minister if he makes an earnest attempt, will be able to find the money for these veterinary assistants out of the total allotment for the department. I hope that this appeal of mine will find an echo from all parts of this House."

* The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir T. N. SIVAGNANAM PILLAI:—"The present pay of veterinary assistants, viz., Rs. 60-4-120; 125-5-175, is considered to be too low. That was a scale which after mature consideration was sanctioned only in the year 1921, and subsequent to that nothing has transpired which would urge upon the Government the necessity of making any change. The hon. Member compared the veterinary assistants to the holders of similar offices in the Medical, Public Health, Agriculture, Fisheries, and other departments. So far as I could see, there is not much in the comparison that has been made. I wish to bring to the hon. Member's notice what they

25th March 1926]

[Sir T. N. Sivagnanam Pillai]

are paying in other Presidencies to similar officers. I find that in Bengal they start at Rs. 50 and stop with Rs. 100; in the United Provinces the pay is from Rs. 45 to Rs. 90."

* Mr. J. A. SALDANHA:—"Their grade may be different, and there may be scope for higher appointments."

* The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir T. N. SIVAGNANAM PILLAI:—"In Bombay the pay is from Rs. 60 to Rs. 140. So, compared with their brethren in other parts of India, I should say that they are not paid anything lower than what ought to be paid to them. As regards the higher appointments, we have got six persons on Rs. 250 and above. These may be considered small, but in course of time with the usual increase in other sections, these also would increase, and I do not think there is anything further upon which I have to speak."

* Mr. B. RAMACHANDRA REDDI:—"Before this is put to the vote, I want some information, about the figures in the budget which are puzzling me. On pages 321 and 322 we find the pay of veterinary assistants given as Rs. 60-120 and Rs. 150-200; on page 472 their scale is put as Rs. 60-4-120 and Rs. 125-5-175. I want to know how these figures are to be reconciled."

* The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir T. N. SIVAGNANAM PILLAI:—"Rupees 175 is the correct figure. Their present scale is Rs. 60-4-120 and 125-5-175."

* Mr. B. RAMACHANDRA REDDI:—"Am I to take it that the figures on pages 321 and 322 are incorrect?"

* Mr. V. PANDRANG ROW:—"The figures given in the budget for the department represent the pay of some men on the old scale, called veterinary inspectors. But that class is practically going to be obsolete. In future the selection grade will consist of men on the scale of Rs. 125-5-175. Now, 15 men are getting Rs. 150-200, because they were employed at the time of the revision of pay on the old scale of veterinary inspectors."

* Mr. J. A. SALDANHA:—"Sir, I have to make one or two observations on this point. Because the scale was fixed in 1921, it is said there is no ground for increasing the pay. 'Nothing has transpired,' is what the hon. the Minister said. Much has transpired since 1921, and I believe it is a long period since the scale was fixed, and since then this department has come prominently to the notice of this House and of the public. The speeches of several hon. Members have shown the amount of good work they do, and how much need is felt by the people for the services of these veterinary officers. Therefore, it seems to me that there are sufficient grounds for giving them higher salaries. Comparing these appointments with what is going on in other Presidencies is somewhat misleading. It is necessary to take the whole cadre for purposes of comparison. The ground of complaint is not only that the pay is low, but the scope for promotion is very limited in this Presidency. They are, I think, only ten appointments at the top from Rs. 125 to Rs. 175, as against 160 appointments in the lower grade, and you can fancy, Sir, the difficulties which these people have for getting into the higher grade. Therefore, I have urged that there should be a large number of appointments in the higher grade. Now, practically the majority of the people have no chance of rising at all to the higher grade in the present state of things. We have not been told what is the number of higher appointments and what is the maximum pay there, and what scope there is for

[Mr. J. A. Saldanha] [25th March 1926]

promotion to what are called superior appointments. These superior appointments are practically denied to them. I do not think there is any chance for them in the Provincial Service."

* Mr. V. PANDRANG ROW:—"The number of appointments on the selection grade is 15 for a cadre of about Rs. 200."

* Mr. J. A. SALDANHA:—"Is that sufficient? Only 15 appointments for about 200 people, even if they are appointments to which they can rise. This compares very badly with what is obtaining in other departments where there is more scope for promotion to Provincial Service appointments. For instance, take the number of deputy collectors in the Revenue Department which are open to tahsildars, and the number of assistant surgeons in the Medical Department and of health inspectors in the Public Health Department, which give scope for promotion. I am not of course very much for increasing the cost of establishment at all. But I think that the treatment given to these veterinary assistants is bad, and I have urged this matter so that hereafter their cause may be taken into proper consideration. That is the appeal I make to the hon. the Minister in withdrawing my motion."

The motion was by leave withdrawn.

Demand XXIII—Civil Veterinary Services—was then put and passed, and the grant was made.

The House adjourned for lunch at 1-4 p.m.

After Lunch (2-45 p.m.).

DEMAND XXIV—CO-OPERATIVE SOCIETIES

(The hon. the Deputy President took the Chair.)

* The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir T. N. SIVAGNANAM PILLAI:—"Mr. Deputy President, on the recommendation of His Excellency the Governor, I move
'for a grant not exceeding Rs. 7-36 lakhs for expenditure under "Co-operative Societies".'"

* Mr. A. CHIDAMBARA NADAR:—"I beg to move that
'the allotment of Rs. 18,000 for pay of officers be reduced by Rs. 100.'"

"Sir, with regard to the co-operative department, I have stated in my previous motion how this department is working and it is not in any way improving the condition of the ryots in the villages. When such is the case, a joint registrar's post is being created with a monthly salary of Rs. 1,000. I understand that the Registrar has already a personal assistant who is in the cadre of Deputy Registrar, and also a manager who is in the cadre of assistant registrar. When there are already two officers in the cadre of deputy and assistant registrars, to assist the Registrar I find no necessity for a Joint Registrar. So, I move the motion."

* The hon. Sir T. N. SIVAGNANAM PILLAI:—"Sir, the hon. the Mover has said that there is no improvement in the conditions so far as the ryot population is concerned by the work turned out by the co-operative section and also that while there is a personal assistant, a deputy registrar and a manager who is an assistant registrar, it is not necessary to have the services

[25th March 1926] [Sir. T. N. Sivagnanam Pillai]

of a joint registrar. In reply I have only to say that the work of the Registrar has become very very heavy and that unless substantial relief is given to him he will be unable to carry on the duties of his office with credit to himself or even satisfactorily discharge his liabilities. He tells me, and I believe him, that if the help that he needs is not given to him, there would be a complete breakdown so far as his health is concerned and also so far as the other works are concerned. He tells me also that he finds it difficult even to carry on his routine work of the office. Now that deputy registrars have been appointed, he has to supervise the work of the districts, and therefore the proposal to create a new post appears very essential. And as regards the allocation of duties between the Joint Registrar and himself, he says that the new Joint Registrar will take a definite part of his duties, of course subject to his general control and he will also relieve the Registrar of important duties connected with the financing of the movement, and inspection of the work of the deputy and assistant registrars. Till now, we have been confining our attention to co-operative credit societies. Of late we have taken up the work also of non-credit section. That means an enormous amount of work, and it is highly necessary that if the Registrar is not to be mulcted in financial loss as the Act lays the whole responsibility on himself, it is necessary that we should grant him this help."

* Mr. J. A. SALDANHA:—"Of what cadre the new officer will be? Is he beyond the financial control of this House?"

* Mr. V. PANDRANG ROW:—"The appointment is open to either a Provincial Service officer or a junior officer of the Indian Civil Service, the pay to be Rs. 1,000 to 1,200. If a junior member of the Indian Civil Service is appointed, he will get his grade pay plus Presidency allowance. The post is provided in the budget estimate of this year, and it has to be voted upon. At present the post is proposed to be temporarily sanctioned for a period of one year, and after experience is gained, the question of continuing it will be considered."

* Mr. J. A. SALDANHA:—"Who will be appointed, a Provincial Service officer or an I.C.S. officer?"

* Mr. V. PANDRANG ROW:—"It is open to the Government to appoint a member of either Service, but it does not arise for consideration till the Council passes the budget."

* Mr. J. A. SALDANHA:—"Sir, I for one will completely bear out the statement that the Registrar is really over-worked, because personally I had to see him on many points in connexion with, not credit societies but co-operative, agricultural and industrial societies. It is one of the objects to which I have been devoting my attention for a long time and hope to devote the same attention hereafter too. Though my hon. Friend the Minister attacks me and many others here with ignorance of the subject, I think I can at least assure him that I have been taking some sort of interest in these matters, though not of practical value, in starting co-operative credit societies. But my present object is to devote as much time as possible to starting co-operative, agricultural and other societies. One defect in the constitution of the Registrars in India and especially in this Presidency is that the Registrar is overburdened with an amount of detail which should be left to the people themselves. He should give only the necessary assistance, leaving the societies to start in their own way, provided they do not undertake financial risks of a fraudulent character or of a character which will ruin the society in

[Mr. J. A. Saldanha] [25th March 1926]

the future. That is the only one important matter on which the officer on the spot may refer to the Registrar. But as to the organization itself, I think leaders of society or community are sufficiently advanced to look after themselves and to see what sort of help is needed and how a society is to be started. There is an amount of literature which is available not only in connexion with the societies in England or in India but also in the Continent of Europe where the societies have developed to a very great extent on the initiative of the people themselves and with very little interference from the authorities. I think that now the deputy registrars have been assisting the Registrar and there are also a number of assistant registrars; the advisory portion of the work should be left entirely to them and the Registrar should not call for papers or reports or deal with this work. What happens now is this. When deputy registrars and assistant registrars in the case of co-operative societies submit their proposals with all the details to the Registrar, all sorts of questions are raised which interfere with the initiative. Personally, I think this initiative as to organization and as to development should be left to the organizers themselves. I think, if the Registrar is overburdened, it is not his own fault. The Act places such duties upon him, and I think it is necessary that the Act should be amended on the lines suggested. So, I do not see any reason for the appointment of a Joint Registrar."

* Mr. V. PANDRANG ROW :—" It is an All-India Act."

* Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—" This Government is quite authorized to amend the Act when it wants with the previous sanction of the Governor-General. So, what is needed is more of autonomy, more of encouragement and more of self-reliance on the part of the people; only the local official, Assistant Registrar or Deputy Registrar, should be allowed to interfere when there is a risk of cheating people or of other malpractices on the part of the directors or secretary. These are matters which the local official can deal with. I do not see why everything should be submitted by the deputy registrars and assistant registrars to the Registrar? There is a feeling and, properly too, that there is too much of interference of the Registrar and of the officials with the starting of these societies. Let us take an instance—I shall not refer to a particular society—there are a number of people, leaders of communities who want to organize parish societies, agricultural societies. They meet together and then call upon the Assistant Registrar. The rules have to be framed, and the matter is kept pending with the Deputy Registrar and the Assistant Registrar for several months. It must be borne in mind that the leaders of the community are themselves quite capable of drawing up these rules.

3 p.m.

"In this way a lot of time is wasted and very often several months pass before a society is started. Meantime people lose heart and the whole thing ends in a fiasco. So, what I would urge is that assistant registrars and deputy registrars should relieve themselves of very many interferences with the people. There are certain matters in which time should not at all be lost. I think people have a sufficient knowledge of the working of these co-operative societies and therefore they may be allowed to shift for themselves and start societies without any paternal or maternal interference. (Laughter). A large number of my friends who have a good deal to do with the starting of co-operative societies will bear me out in this matter. Very often these officers say that if a particular society is started it will interfere

25th March 1926] [Mr. J. A. Saldanha]

with the working of another society. There are people who want to start societies in different places and I ask why should they be prevented from doing so?"

Mr. A. RAVASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—" On a point of order, Sir. How is this relevant to the appointment of a Joint Registrar?"

* Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—" It is in this way relevant because these Deputy Registrars and Assistant Registrars come and interfere very often with the people. I have worked for the starting of co-operative societies not only in this Presidency but also in Bombay. Whenever I came during vacation to my native place I used to advise my friends to start co-operative societies and had also given them advice as to how they should work those societies. I have got a good deal of experience in this matter, and I have found that there has been too much interference on the part of officials. I think the Assistant Registrar and Deputy Registrar can be very well relieved of this work and people left well alone for themselves. The creation of this appointment will only add to the number of heads of departments to which I called attention this morning, namely, Director, Deputy Director, Registrars and so on, who will poke their nose unnecessarily in matters concerning the starting of co-operative societies. So, Sir, I think that people may be allowed to shift for themselves, and if that is done it will give very good results. The only thing that is needed is that there should be provision for the control of these societies by a proper auditor. If this is done it will prevent many irregularities which may arise in the working of these societies."

* The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir T. N. SIVAGNANAM PILLAI :—" I am entirely at one with my hon. Friend Mr. Saldanha in the matter of starting co-operative societies. If there has been any serious interference, and if my hon. Friend is able to bring instances where the Assistant Registrar has unnecessarily interfered to my notice, then the matter will be enquired into."

* Mr. A. CHIDAMBARA NADAR :—" Sir, there is some force in the argument put forward by my hon. Friend from South Kanara. There is too much of interference in the department by the higher officials. The hon. the Minister instead of meeting that argument says that instances should be brought to his notice. I hope he will bestow some consideration over the matter and see that such interferences do not take place in future. However I shall be glad to withdraw my motion if the hon. the Minister for Development gives me an undertaking that an Indian will be appointed for the post under discussion."

The hon. the DEPUTY PRESIDENT :—" Is the hon. Minister prepared to give that assurance?"

* The hon. Mr. T. E. MOIR :—" May I point out, Sir, that the discretion to appoint a particular man is vested in His Excellency the Governor? Therefore it is not possible for any Member of this Government to give any assurance about such appointments."

* Mr. A. CHIDAMBARA NADAR :—" The hon. the Minister may recommend an Indian?"

* The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir T. N. SIVAGNANAM PILLAI :—" The observations will be noted."

The motion was by leave withdrawn.

[25th March 1926]

* Mr. R. VEERIAN :—" Sir, I beg to move
'that the allotment of Rs. 7.36 lakhs for co-operative societies be reduced by Rs. 100.'

"I should like to point out to the hon. the Minister in charge of Development that there are only ten Honorary Assistant Registrars in the whole Presidency and it was only after I made representations to him he appointed a few more candidates and that only lasted for a year, and not more than that, as any other appointment. I think they make the appointments in the month of June or July."

(A voice :—" May '.)

* Mr. R. VEERIAN :—" I am glad for the correction. They make the appointments in May. The Assistant Registrar takes the initiative and recommends persons to the Registrar and the latter approves of them, and afterwards forwards their names to the Development Minister who finally appoints them as Honorary Assistant Registrars.

"From the statistics that I have before me I find that we have got some 174 co-operative credit societies run by the department and 1,024 societies run by the Labour department. In South Arcot there are no societies at all run by the department. Let me mention the number of societies run by the Co-operative department in the various districts—

Anantapur ... 20	Gōdāvari, East. ... 9	Malabar ... 9
North Arcot ... 25	Gōdāvari, West. ... 7	Nellore ... 80
South Arcot ... 19	Guntur ... 38	Ramnad ... 28
Bellary ... 6	South Kanara ... 3	Salem ... 16
Chingleput ... 84	Kistna ... 23	Tanjore ... 2
Chittoor ... 17	Kurnool ... 82	Tinnevely ... 42
Coimbatore ... 44	Madras ... 47	Trichinopoly ... 16
Cuddapah ... 81	Madura ... 10	Vizagapatam ... 1
Ganjām ... 5		

"Sir, the societies run or started by the Labour department or under their supervision are nil in Anantapur, so also in North Arcot and various other places."

Mr. A. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—" The societies started by the Labour department do not come under this motion. So I want to know how they are relevant to our present motion."

* Mr. R. VEERIAN :—" I have very constantly pointed out the absence of Honorary Assistant Registrars belonging to the depressed classes. It is only to bring that fact into prominence that I am raising this question in connexion with this motion. If my hon. Friend had waited for a little while he would have understood the reason why I raised that question here."

Mr. A. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—" It is not a question of understanding my hon. Friend. I know it is a very difficult matter. I merely pointed out that that question should not be brought under this motion as the Labour department is in charge of the hon. the Home Member."

* Mr. R. VEERIAN :—" Well, I already pointed out there are several societies run by the Labour department, and I am not going to deal with them now."

25th March 1926]

[Mr. R. Veerian]

"What I want to point out is the qualification that these Honorary Assistant Registrars should possess. They must have some previous connexion with the co-operative movements or societies, and they must also be capable of starting societies. They must also be able to utilize their time in touring throughout the districts in order to teach to the people the advantages of co-operative societies. What do I find here? In some districts there are no co-operative credit societies at all. If Honorary Assistant Registrars were to be appointed from among the depressed classes, I am sure they will mix freely with the depressed classes and teach them all the advantages of co-operative societies. There is no use of appointing people who already hold lot of honorary appointments, namely, the membership of a union board, or the membership of a taluk board or municipal council and so on, or who have got lot of private engagements. They must be people who can afford to spare their time out of sympathy and interest and for the sake of humanity. There is no use of appointing persons who hold lot of honorary appointments. It will be just like the Tamil proverb அறுக்கமாட்டாதவன் கையில ஐம்பத்தெட்டு அறுவாராம் which means—what is the use of giving 58 sickles to a man who is unable to use even one? When Government appoint persons as members of district board or taluk board or municipal council they give one and the same man membership in each board. I do not object to Government giving a man any number of appointments. But in this case the appointments are all honorary, and persons who are already holding various positions will not be useful inasmuch as they will not be able to devote their time to this work."

"Sir, I only wanted to say that the hon. Minister would try his best to see that as many candidates as possible from the depressed classes were appointed as Honorary Assistant Registrars. He cannot say that there are no suitable candidates among the depressed classes because all these societies should be run either by the president or the secretary among themselves and I have given a list of names of members belonging to the depressed classes who will be able to discharge their duties as Honorary Assistant Registrars satisfactorily if they are appointed as such. If these appointments were given to the members of the depressed classes they will be able to teach their fellowmen the advantages of co-operative societies, so that there may be many societies for them."

"I hope, Sir, that the hon. Minister will not hereafter find any difficulty in appointing suitable candidates. I have already given a list of names but only very few of them are selected. I hope that at least this year many of them will be appointed. It is not a question of appointing those persons whose names I have given; I shall be content if members of the depressed classes are appointed."

* The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir T. N. SIVAGNANAM PILLAI :—" Sir, I am very sorry that the hon. Member, Mr. Veerian, has missed the whole point in the appointment of Honorary Assistant Registrars. The principle that we follow is that the gentleman should be recommended by the union in which he is a member of the governing body and he should have certain other qualifications besides. I have appointed all the members of the depressed classes who have been recommended by the unions of which they are members of the governing bodies. If any gentleman in the list given by my hon. Friend succeed in getting into the governing body of a union and if the union

[Sir T. N. Sivagnanam Pillai] [25th March 1926]

recommends him I shall have the greatest pleasure in appointing him. Without the consent of the governing body it will be absolutely impossible for me to make any appointments. But in a few instances, out of regard to the hon. Member, Mr. Veerian, I have been obliged to go a little out of the way."

* Mr. V. PANDRANG ROW :—"I wish only to mention, Sir, that the provision for co-operative inspectors employed in the Labour department is included here, and if the hon. Member, Mr. Veerian, wants to mention anything regarding them, this is the time for him to do so."

* Mr. R. VEERIAN :—"The hon. Minister said that the candidate must have some connexion with the governing body of a union, but I have come across instances where the members appointed from other communities have no connexion with the governing body."

The motion was by leave withdrawn.

The demand was put to the House and carried and the grant was made.

DEMAND XXV—CINCHONA.

* The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—"Sir, the recommendation of His Excellency the Governor, I beg to move

'that Government be granted a sum not exceeding Rs. 1.36 lakhs for Cinchona.'"

* Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—"Sir, I beg to move

'that the allotment of Rs. 900 for pay of establishments be reduced by Rs. 100.'

"I want to urge on the Government the necessity of distributing quinine free or at the old cheap rates. It is one of the departments that is now earning a profit. Last year the profit was Rs. 3,28,115. Next financial year it is expected to yield a profit of about two lakhs. I am not entering into the question whether the estimate of the profits is correct or not. I only want to mention that the Government while making such huge profits from this department are callous to the needs of the poor people, especially in the malarial tracts. Formerly quinine used to be sold in 'pice packets'. Though now also they are called 'pice packets' their real cost is nine pies. This increase in cost hits hard on the poor man. In going through the jungles of South Kanara, in the remote corners of this world which are malaria-ridden, much difficulty is experienced in getting quinine. For example, I met a man who was shivering with fever and when I asked him why he should not go to the post office and take quinine, he laughed at my question and said that the post office was six or seven miles off and that it was very difficult to walk through the jungles. Several such cases have come to my notice. Fancy the difficulty of walking six or seven miles through a jungle for the sake of getting quinine! Besides the post office some more agencies should be formed for the sale of quinine. The village panchayats the village munsifs, the other revenue officials such as the tahsildar and the deputy collector who tour round the districts and the missionaries can be made to serve as agencies. They might have quinine with them to distribute freely or at cheap rates. (Mr. K. Prabhakaran Tampan : 'Members of Legislative Council also). Of course my friend suggests that Members of Legislative Council also might be made to serve as such agencies. They are expected to

25th March 1926]

[Mr. J. A. Saldanha]

tour round the constituency; I do not know whether all of them travel; but I do a great deal of travel to study the condition of the people. It is a very good suggestion that came from the hon. Member for Malabar. He has also got large jungles (laughter). It will be very useful if he goes round the estates with some quinine for free distribution. I have urged this point off and on by putting questions and the reply that I have received is that the matter is under the consideration of Government. I wonder why such a simple matter as that should be under the consideration of the Government for months and months and years and years. On these matters, Government should decide quickly and in a generous manner also."

* The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—"Sir, I should like to say that the Cinchona department has been commercialized and we are running it on business principles. A business concern cannot consistently be run on charitable lines. Under the circumstances, giving quinine free to anybody and everybody is impossible. On the other hand, we might certainly see that quinine is given to all those who are in real need of it. I understand that Government have under consideration the free distribution of quinine in malarial areas. The Director of Public Health has been asked to specify the malarial tracts where quinine could be distributed free. When they receive the report from the Director, Government will consider the question of distributing quinine free in malarial areas. Besides this quinine is also distributed free in dispensaries which are now-a-days opened in large numbers. Under these circumstances, I hope the hon. Member will not press his motion."

* Diwan Bahadur M. KRISHNAN NAYAR :—"Sir, I am glad to hear from the hon. Member that Government have adopted or are going to adopt the method of free distribution of quinine in malarial areas. The proposals of my hon. Friend, Mr. Saldanha, are worthy of serious consideration by the hon. the Home Member. He stated that the department has been commercialized, and at the end also stated that the free distribution of quinine in malarial areas was under consideration by the Government. There is nothing inconsistent with business principles in having commercialized this department and adopting the suggestions of my hon. Friend if Government do not want to gain large profits or if they do not want any profits at all. Three suggestions were made by my hon. Friend. One was that quinine should be distributed free in malarial areas, the second was that the price of quinine should be reduced, and the third was that the agencies for the distribution of quinine should be increased. For the latter two suggestions, the hon. the Home Member has not replied. There must be other agencies which are easily accessible to the people besides the post offices to sell or give free quinine. With regard to the other suggestion that quinine should be reduced in price, I do not suggest that the Government should lose by the free distribution of quinine. But the profit may be minimised. I hope my hon. Friend will bear these suggestions in mind and give effect to them."

* The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—"As I have said already, Government are waiting for the report of the Director of Public Health. When the report is received Government will consider very carefully the question of the distribution of quinine free in malarial areas. At that time the question of the agency through which it is distributed will also be considered. But the lowering of the price of quinine will not be

[Mr. Muhammad Usman Sahib] [25th March 1926]

quite consistent with the policy of Government in distributing quinine free in malarial areas. At present I am unable to give any undertaking until the Director of Public Health submits his report. But I am prepared to consider sympathetically the hon. Member's suggestion with regard to the free distribution of quinine in malarial areas."

* Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—" Sir, on behalf of the people of the malarial areas I wish to express my hearty thanks for the assurance of the hon. the Home Member. As to the rural dispensaries about which so much is made I am afraid they are only increasing very, very slowly. They are situated at long distances and it is unlikely that many doctors will come forward to establish dispensaries in those jungle tracts for obvious reasons. In South Kanara and Malabar as in many other places what are called villages are not collections of houses in particular places; but each village is composed of various houses at long distances from one another. The houses do not aggregate in one particular area, as it is the case in the delta villages. The area covered by the village will be five or six miles round. The difficulty is whether doctors establishing dispensaries in those places can make it accessible to all the people distributed over a great area."

3-30
p.m.

"What I suggest, and I am sure that hon. Members on that side will agree with me, is that agencies other than rural dispensaries and post offices, should be found. The village officers are easily accessible to the people. They know the people and they must be given freedom to sell quinine cheaply and distribute it freely. There is danger—the Government is aware—of profiteering on the part of shopkeepers. They purchase large quantities of quinine. The village officers may be allowed to sell quinine in large quantities. People who own dispensaries and shops make a large profit by selling quinine. Not more than a certain quantity should be given to each individual. I think that such control should be exercised. Large firms appreciate and carry out the policy of combining charity with business. A lot of charity is done by large firms to their labourers."

The motion was by leave withdrawn.

The demand was put to the House and carried and the grant made.

DEMAND XXVI—INDUSTRIES.

* The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir T. N. SIVAGNANAM PILLAI :—" Sir, on the recommendation of His Excellency the Governor, I beg to move

'for a grant not exceeding Rs. 11.26 lakhs for expenditure under Industries.'

* Mr. R. VEERIAN :—" Sir, I move

'that the allotment of Rs. 54,300 for other establishments be reduced by Rs. 100.'

"My object is to raise the question of the unsatisfactory way in which the defective measures, weights and scales are used in dealing with the public by the vendors without any check whatever. This matter of having defective measures affects not only the poor classes of people but also the rich classes. I have travelled to several places but I am not going to say what I found in those places. I wish to confine myself for the present to two districts—Salem and Coimbatore. In Erode there is a *shandi*. There I found especially women—they are very clever—having defective measures concealed between

25th March 1926]

[Mr. R. Veerian]

their thighs. The vendors sit near the rice basket with defective measures concealed between their thighs. I asked one vendor to sit in another place and I was able to find it out then. I am not vested with police powers. There were no police there. The vendor said that he would go from that place. I found out afterwards that he did not do so. I thought there ought to be some understanding between the police and the vendors. I know for certain that the local bodies can frame rules and appoint a person to supervise these things. They can get a standard measure from the office of the Tahsildar, entrust it to the Supervisor, and ask him to check the measures. In other local areas the matter is much worse. The Tahsildar is not able to cope with this work and these things are allowed to continue on *shandi* days without being rectified. It seriously affects as I said not only the poor classes of people but also the rich classes. The Coimbatore municipality passed a resolution to appoint a person to check the measures. We got standard measures and weights and entrusted them to the officer in charge to check the measures. In the matter of weights also the vendors do the same thing. Even in the shops where they sell cloth they do not use proper yard scales. I hope the hon. the Minister will do something to rectify the serious defect and see that the vendors do possess always standard measures and weights on any account."

* The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir T. N. SIVAGNANAM PILLAI :—" The hon. Member referred to Salem and Erode. He said that in one place the police did not do their duty, and in another place the local bodies did not do their duty. I am sorry I have no jurisdiction either over the police or the municipality."

The motion was by leave withdrawn.

* Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—" Sir, I move

'that the allotment of Rs. 1,04,800 for Direction be reduced by Rs. 101.'

"I move it with a view to request the hon. the Minister for Development to appoint a committee or other agency to enquire into the causes of decline in the number of those dependent on weaving and other industries in the Ceded districts and to suggest measures for improving their economic condition. If the hon. the Minister will be so good as to refer to the Census Report for which he does not seem to have much of admiration, he will find that the percentage of population living by industries is gradually on the decline. It has fallen down. I asked a question regarding this matter and as a matter of supplementary information on the subject I informed the hon. the Minister for Development that the number of weavers was 166,000 in 1901, and the number was 120,000 in 1911. In 1921 it was much less. You will see that within the course of 30 years according to the Census Report, the number has come down by more than half. The hon. Minister was so good as to say that he would go into the matter. I suppose he referred the matter to the Director of Industries. The Director was so good as to ask me to let him know wherefrom I got the information. I furnished him the source from which I got the information which I had placed before the House. That was in January 1925. I do not know what subsequently transpired, whether any enquiry was made in the matter and if so, what results were arrived at."

[25th March 1926]

Mr. R. MADANAGOPAL NAYUDU :—"Mr. President, Sir, I wish to draw the attention of the hon. Minister to something which took place in Mopada. Two people wanted help to start cottage industries and they applied for a loan. Provision is made in section 5 (1) of the State Aid to Industries Act for giving loans to cottage industries. The words 'cottage industries' do not seem to find a place in the Act and the Government, after application had been put in, passed an order on the 3rd February that 'cottage industries' would refer to industries in which people do work at home and in which middlemen are not profited to the least extent. The interests of many persons who can really do some work are affected by this definition of 'cottage industries'. I may tell you that there is a street in Madras where khaddar is being sold. We wanted to see that number of persons who earned a living by weaving cloths in their own houses, are helped. Though the Act is quite clear on the matter and though I understand the loan can be granted, the Government have ordered on the 3rd February refusing aid to these people. I request the hon. the Minister to reconsider the Government Order and see that help is rendered to these people. A number of people are maintaining themselves by this industry. It may be that cloth woven may go directly to the buyers in Madras or in some other place. No middlemen are profited by this industry. Therefore I would urge upon the hon. Minister to see that the help is given under the Act to persons living by these industries."

* Mr. V. PANDRANG ROW :—"Mr. Deputy President, Sir, the hon. Member from Bellary wanted to know what had happened to the question raised by him regarding the decline of the weaver class in Bellary. As he is aware, the Director of Industries held an enquiry in that matter. The hon. Member evidently does not know the result of the enquiry. I shall be very glad to give him a copy of the report of the Director of Industries. I do not want to read the report here. Unless I read the whole of it, it might leave misleading impressions on the House."

"With regard to the question raised by the hon. Member, Mr. Madanagopal Nayudu, the Government are of opinion that cottage industries, as defined in the Act, cannot be taken to include industries which are run in the fashion referred to by the hon. Member, where money-lenders or merchants act as capitalists and employ labourers who work in their own homes while the whole profit goes to the capitalists. The term 'cottage industries' must be taken to be limited to industries where only the workman is benefited and nobody else such as capitalists, etc."

* Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—"Sir, I am not surprised at the summary way in which this question has been treated. Here is a very serious matter brought to the notice of the Government. I say that a large section of the population dependent on home industries has gone down to less than half and that even those who are left are not at all in a thriving state. The Government say they have conducted an enquiry but that no conclusions were arrived at. I am glad that they are willing to give me a copy of that report. I shall take it and go through it. Meanwhile, may I ask the Government what they propose to do now on the report?"

Mr. R. MADANAGOPAL NAYUDU :—"Sir, so far as my information goes, no money-lenders are profited. Money is got on behalf of the people

[25th March 1926] [Mr. R. Madanagopal Nayudu]

I referred to and it is distributed to them. The profits go to the persons who ask for these loans and not to any other capitalist."

* Mr. V. PANDRANG ROW :—"Sir, the Government did not take any action on that report except simply to peruse it. As regards the question raised by Mr. Madanagopal Nayudu, I do not think these two gentlemen from Mopada were money-lenders at all. I was only dealing with it as a general question. I did not say anything relating to those particular gentlemen. I said 'money-lenders or merchants'. I have not said that any application was received from either."

* Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—"Sir, the other day during the general discussion of the budget estimates, I raised the question of aiding industries, and the reply was given to me that the State Aid to Industries Act applied to cottage or nascent industries. If it is not so effective as to enable Government to come at this critical stage to the help of a large number of weaving and other industries, that Act ought to be amended. Surely there can be nothing in an Act that cannot be changed at all. On a broader question of policy, in the present condition of things brought about by the exchange and currency questions that tell against us, by the stringency of the money market which Government have referred to in their report more than once and by other difficulties that work against our interests, I think Government ought to devise a measure for the relief of these industries. There is no doubt that what takes place in Bellary, to the same extent or more or less to some extent, takes place elsewhere too. I have already brought to the notice of this Council the distressful condition of our industries in South Kanara. They are not nascent industries; but they are in a distressful condition. Cannot Government devise some measure, whether it be this Government or the Government of India on the recommendation of this Government? Surely, this question must be tackled. Our industries cannot be allowed to go to ruin. If the sufferings of the people increase, unemployment also increases. Already there are many people out of employ on account of retrenchment in the different departments. This by itself has raised a very serious question. Every one of us know what unemployment means in the districts as well as in the city. In this city itself, there have been many firms which have become bankrupt, and the insolvency Court of Madras is full of applications of this sort and the receivers make a very good profit in the districts on account of these Insolvency proceedings against a large number of persons (Laughter). I have been told that at the end of the financial year or before June many more firms will go into liquidation all over the Presidency and I have also been told that this state of things applies to the rest of India. I am sure that the hon. the Finance Member, who has great sympathy for our people, with the noble heart that he has, will appreciate our difficulties and will join the hon. the Minister for Development in devising some measure to relieve the distress prevailing throughout the Presidency. Bellary cries and the people of Bellary have a very good advocate in my friend Mr. Ranganatha Mudaliyar; but the cries come from other places also and I will echo the distressful cry of the South Kanara district. In Malabar also the same thing happens. I went to Cannanore the other day and I heard about the same distress there about the weaving industry, and it has been accentuated on account of the tax levied by the municipality. This matter, I think, is already before the Courts. The municipality having no other resources to come to its rescue, resorts to

[Mr. J. A. Saldanha]

[25th March 1926]

taxation on the ground that hand looms are dangerous and can be taxed. What sympathy can we expect from the municipal chairman, born and bred up in service who has little sympathy for the poor people or from the revenue servants. There is want of sympathy on the part of the authorities combined with indifference. Here is a cry raised—and my friend from Bellary never raises a cry without sufficient grounds for it—and I am raising a cry, and the Development Secretary and Minister treat them with indifference. I earnestly hope that this question will be taken up very earnestly and not treated in an offhand manner as it has always been treated."

* Mr. V. PANDRANG ROW :—"On a point of personal explanation, Sir. I wish to assure the Member from South Kanara that I never treated them with indifference and that any suggestion that emanates from them will receive our immediate attention."

* Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—"But, Sir, his words do not bear him out. We judge the hon. the Minister by the sort of sympathy he expresses, and by his readiness to do something. I am sure the hon. Members will join together to help the Government—and I shall be glad to collect some volunteers in my district—if only the Government care to enquire into the matter. I am sure the hon. Member from Malabar will also join me in this move. Only Government should show some readiness to help. The way in which they treat us is not only indifferent but it almost amounts to cruelty. I do not know the reason for their treating us in this manner. It is really very galling to us. As the hon. the Leader of the House showed the other day, the House has recognized the fact that Government have treated us so far with a good amount of care and it has been a matter of gratification to us—I acknowledge this along with others—and the hon. the Finance Member has been very careful in this matter and giving a patient hearing to our complaints. But when it comes to our own Minister, after I appealed to him and to the Secretary who is also joining him in everything that he says, and shown how they have been treating these matters, where is the exposition of the policy of the Government? I want some more light to be thrown on the policy of the Government."

* Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—"I am sorry, Sir, I cannot see my way to withdraw the resolution. Any Government, Sir, which has the welfare of its subjects at heart would surely have taken some action in this matter and tried to find out what the causes for this decline are and see what they could do to remedy such of them as were capable of being remedied. Taking the textile industry, Sir, which includes weaving and spinning, the number of weavers and spinners in 1901 were 65,000; now they number only 19,000. Can the Government sit quiet and look with complacency on such a decline from 65,000 to 19,000 in these twenty years? The number dependent on all industries was then 167,000 and it has now come down to 77,000. There must be something wrong. Is it that the figures are not correct, or is it that the people have migrated to foreign parts? Where did they go to and why? Is it not a matter for explanation? I am very sorry, Sir, that the Government have not given any encouragement in this matter and I leave the question to be voted upon and let the Government have the joy of deciding the question any way they like."

The motion was put to the House and lost.

[25th March 1926]

* Diwan Bahadur M. KRISHNAN NAYAR :—"Sir, I move the motion that stands in my name, namely,

'that the allotment of Rs. 1,04,800 for Direction be reduced by Rs. 100'

"The object of my motion, Sir, is to draw the attention of the Government and also of this House to the policy underlying the appointment of Director of Industries and the desirability of changing that policy. At present those who are appointed as Director of Industries are members of the Indian Civil Service. Probably it is superfluous for me to say that I have nothing to say against the estimable gentlemen who have occupied this responsible position during the last few years. On the other hand, some of them are my personal friends and all of them are men of capacity, character and integrity and have bestowed considerable attention upon the department as the head of which they were appointed. My point is this, namely, that the present system leads to no continuity of policy leads to lack of efficiency and also to want of economy. Just to take one or two instances. Within the last few years, there have been, to my knowledge—if my memory does not fail me—about four or five officers of the Indian Civil Service who have been at the head of this department. Some time ago Mr. Innes, now Sir Charles Innes, was the head of that department. He was bestowing considerable attention upon the work of this department and by the time he studied its needs and was in a position to handle the department more or less efficiently, he was transferred from the sphere of his work and was called away to Calcutta and Delhi where he adorns a high and responsible position now. He was succeeded—I am not referring to these officers in the order of dates—immediately or some time after by my friend Mr. Campbell who is now the Chief Secretary. He was at the head of the department for some time and again by the time he studied the work of the department and picked up the threads of the work, he was transferred to the Board of Revenue and subsequently to the Secretariat as Chief Secretary; so that all his experience and study were lost to the Government and to the people. Subsequently, my friend Mr. Cotton was appointed as Director of Industries. He too bestowed considerable attention, and I personally know more of his work than of his predecessor. By the time he became efficient, he was sent away as the Resident in Travancore and Cochin and subsequently as Agent to the Governor-General for the South Indian States. That is the position. Subsequent to that, Sir, Mr. Thomas was appointed as the Director of Industries and he has been presiding over the destinies of this department for the last two or three years.

"I dare say that by this time he must have learnt everything connected with this department, at any rate, such things as would enable him to administer the department with efficiency. I learn from the newspapers now, that he is going on leave and he is to be succeeded by Sir T. Vijayaraghava Achariyar. I do not know how long he will be permitted to be in the department. If this policy goes on, practically the department, the Government, and the country will not be benefited. It leads as I said to lack of efficiency, high expenditure and other similar defects. My suggestion is therefore to appoint a professional man, an expert as the Director of Industries. Of course, his pay will not necessarily be so high as the pay of the senior members of the Civil Service. There will also be a continuity of policy. As matters stand, the continuity of policy in the case of this department depends more or less on the Deputy Director. It is not

4 p.m.

[Mr. M. Krishna Nayar]

[25th March 1926]

desirable that a subordinate officer as he happens to be should be left in charge of the policy of the department. If an expert is appointed, he will be holding the place till his retirement. In point of efficiency, in point of economy and in fact in many other ways it will be advisable. In support of my suggestion, I have the high authority of the Retrenchment Committee, presided over by Sir Charles Todhunter. My hon. Friend, Mr. Usman, was also a member of that committee. In fact the suggestion that I have made and the grounds that I have urged in its support are exactly those made in that report. The Committee have devoted considerable attention to the subject and I may read a few sentences from and not the whole of paragraph 230 at page 100 of their report:

"These requirements can, in the opinion of the Committee, appropriately be applied to the post of the Director also as it seems to them undesirable that continuity of the work and policy should depend on the Deputy Director and not on the head of the department. An example of the lack of continuity has been supplied to them in the case of the district organisation which had twice been radically altered in the space of two years. Other instances of a similar nature has come to the notice of the Committee none of which has tended to secure continuity or even as a rule economy. The difficulty that has been experienced and the results that have ensued from the frequent changes in the personnel of the department seem to necessitate a change in the policy in regard to this office. The Committee therefore recommend that the post of Director should be held by an officer of the department and not by a member of the Indian Civil Service. Such an officer would require a personal assistant capable of dealing with statistics, staff and accounts and intelligence. The substitution of an officer of the department on a salary in the neighbourhood of Rs. 1,500 would not only tend to efficiency and continuity but would result in a saving of practically Rs. 25,000 per annum."

* The hon. Mr. T. E. MOIR:—"I think there must be something wrong, Sir, as obviously Rs. 25,000 works out to more than Rs. 2,000 a month."

* Diwan Bahadur M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—"Probably, my hon. Friend does not know of the circumstances which induced the committee to come to this conclusion. It is not likely that they mentioned this as a haphazard figure."

* The hon. Mr. T. E. MOIR:—"It cannot possibly be on the pay of the individual officer."

* Diwan Bahadur M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—"Certainly I can understand that, Sir. The pay of the individual officer I believe changes from time to time. I do not know whether the pay that was paid to Mr. Innes, Mr. Campbell, Mr. Cotton and Mr. Thomas were all the same. They have a scale of pay and probably some allowances also. I am perfectly at one with the hon. Member in saying that the entire amount of Rs. 25,000 cannot be on the pay alone of the officer."

"As I understand that Sir Vijayaraghava Achariyar has already been appointed, all my observations will apply to him also. He is not a professional man, he is not a permanent man of the department. He will be here only as a stop gap and when he grows sufficiently high in the service, he will be sent up. Now that the appointment has been made, I hope that the observations which I have now made will be borne in mind and the suggestion of the Retrenchment Committee will be considered and adopted."

* Mr. C. E. WOOD:—"Sir, I would like to endorse some of the views of my hon. Friend Mr. Krishnan Nayar, in this matter and I think I must do so as having been a member of the Retrenchment Committee to which he referred. I think the point which the Retrenchment Committee wished to make was that there must be continuity in this office. I do not think there

25th March 1926]

[Mr. C. E. Wood]

was any feeling that the Indian Civil Service was not fit to hold the appointment because after all, it is an appointment for a good administrator rather than for a specialist. And I think the feeling was that there could not be continuity if appointments were made from the Indian Civil Service because as the holder of the appointment becomes more senior in the service, his pay gets to be more than the post warrants and that therefore it is necessary to look outside the Indian Civil Service if there is to be continuity. There is however one thing which I do not agree with. My hon. Friend has just said—I might have misunderstood him—that the post should be held by a professional man and an expert. It is quite impossible to have an expert who is an expert in all the matters that come before the Industries department. Therefore I think that provided we have a good administrator, we should leave the expert part of the business to the expert staff. My authority for that is the Report of the Indian Industrial Commission which made a great point of that. In paragraph 311, the Commission refers to the appointment of the Director of Industries and said that he must be a man of special qualifications, which include in the first place 'business sense, the capacity of appreciating the technical features of industry and their bearing on commercial possibilities and the ability to form conclusions as to the commercial soundness of a scheme worked out by the technical expert.' The Commission then went on to say that these qualifications were found in the Indian Civil Service frequently and finished that paragraph by saying that if a properly qualified industrialist was not forthcoming the balance of advantages in these cases was in favour of the selection of a Director from one or other of the existing services. But in paragraph 213, the Commission points out that the department would require in most of the provinces a large staff of officers with special qualifications, experts. It is the staff, in my opinion, that should consist of experts and not the Director."

* The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir T. N. SIVAGNANAM PILLAI:—"In making the present appointment of Sir T. Vijayaraghava Achariyar as the Director of Industries, attention was paid to the report of the Retrenchment Committee as well as to the Report of the Industrial Commission, and it is after taking stock of all the circumstances of the case that we found it necessary to appoint Sir T. Vijayaraghava Achariyar. Although technically it may be said that he is not a professional expert for the reasons given in the Industrial Commission's report, I think he comes up to that standard, and there are other reasons also which led to the appointment. It is not necessary for me to go into them. However, the observation of my hon. Friend Mr. Krishnan Nayar, will appear in the proceedings of the Council and they will have their due weight."

* Mr. K. Chavadi SUBRAHMANYA PILLAI:—"Mr. Deputy President, Sir, I am very glad to associate myself with all that has been said by my hon. Friend, Mr. Krishnan Nayar. My idea in supporting a Motion of this sort is not to reduce a pie out of the allotment, but simply to know whether the amount that is spent is usefully spent in making this department a channel for developing industries and for maintaining in a state of efficiency such industries as show signs of decline. I should like to state that industry is one of the indispensable items which require special attention of the Government. For the development of industries I would suggest that it is preferable to appoint professional experts rather than Indian Civil Service officers. It is only these experts who are expected to know what concern is

[Mr. K. Chavadi Subrahmanya Pillai] [25th March 1926]

profitable and useful to the general public and to know the way to manufacture things so as to be able to make the Indian product compete in the market. It is industry which has brought many nations to a flourishing condition. I therefore request the hon. Minister for Development to devote his special attention to industry and develop it and to do this by placing a real expert at the head."

* The hon. Mr. T. E. Moir :—" Sir, on this much disputed and recurring question of how the selection of the head of departments such as our Industries department should be made, I have really very little to add to what has fallen from the lips of the hon. Member behind me, Mr. Wood. I think there is a tendency, as he pointed out, to confuse sometimes the two issues of the expert or specialist, and the question of continuity. They are entirely different aspects of the case. And Mr. Wood has pointed out so far as the value of an expert goes, it must necessarily be somewhat limited. For example, the advice of a textile expert might be of little value in some question on practical engineering and in the same way the advice of an engineer might be of very little value on a question of weaving practice. But I quite admit that it is assistance to any one who is the head of a department such as the department of Industries, if he does combine with the other essential qualities a certain experience of an industry of some kind or other. But even assuming that you would be more likely to secure continuity by the appointment of an expert simply on the ground that he is permanently attached to the particular department and that it is most unlikely that his services will be transferred from that department to another, that does not really cover the whole ground at issue. Now, there are services in this country which do confer on those serving in them much larger administrative experience and outlook than a mere functioning in a special appointment. Although I quite agree that it is desirable that an officer who is appointed to such a post merely on the ground that he has administrative capacity should serve as long as possible or at any rate for a considerable period, I think that that argument itself can be over-stressed. It is true, as was pointed out by the hon. Member from Malabar, that we have had a succession of four or five distinguished officers holding this post during the last few years. But after all, there is this aspect of the matter to be considered. Each of these officers did bring to this post a very considerable knowledge of the conditions of this country and of its people, and that experience is necessarily much wider I think than any of our specialists could profess to possess. But apart from that, I do think that if the records of the department were examined, it would be found that each of these officers in his turn had contributed something of value to the department, to its organisation or to its lines of enquiry and investigation; and that is something in a department of this kind which is continually having to meet changed conditions and changing demands. I do not think it is really disputed that the department has had at its disposal the services of a series of men who were in a position to render services of that kind and to bring varied and different knowledge to bear upon its problems. It is true, as Mr. Krishnan Nayar has pointed out, that the officers at the head of this department have recently been those belonging to the Indian Civil Service. But it is not always so. We have had other officers who are not members of the Civil Service, and we are now going to have as head of the department an Indian member of the Provincial Civil Service, and in his case

25th March 1926]

[Mr. T. E. Moir]

too, I think we may reasonably hope that he in his turn will bring to the consideration of the problems of the department new experience and knowledge and that if and when the time comes when, as my hon. Friend suggests, he may move to another sphere, we shall equally find in his case that he has from his experience and knowledge been able to contribute something valuable and considerable to the needs of the department. We are, I think, specially justified in anticipating this, because, as all Members of this House know, Sir P. Vijayaraghava Acharya has in the last two years had opportunities of studying industrial questions and other matters bearing on this department which few men in the whole of India have enjoyed. And I think we may hope that from that experience the Department of Industries in Madras will derive great benefit."

* Diwan Bahadur M. KRISHNAN NAYAR :—" Sir, I wish to say one or two words by way of reply. My Friend, the hon. Mr. Moir, stated that each of these Civil Service officers who was the head of this department had contributed materially to the benefit of that department, by his knowledge, study and experience. I do not for a moment dispute that proposition. In fact I myself referred, I believe, at some length to the benefit which this department derived from their experience, their toil and their work. So that, that observation, namely that, the department had benefit from these officers, does not in any way disprove the truth of what I stated, or in any way minimise the force of what I said. Then, my Friend further stated that no doubt expert knowledge was necessary, but administrative experience, skill and efficiency were also necessary. There again, I do not differ from him. Certainly administrative experience and efficiency are necessary, but they are not at all inconsistent with professional skill. Of course I perfectly agree with what my hon. Friend Mr. Wood and my hon. Friend Mr. Moir stated, namely, that even if an expert is to be appointed in the matter, it is not possible to have an expert who has a knowledge of all branches in the department. Perfectly true. I agree that it is absolutely impossible to have such an officer. But a person who has a general knowledge of all industries and has special knowledge of any one particular industry, can be found. And generally I find that departments of Industries are manned in other places by engineers because engineering will be of great assistance to the head of this Industries' Department. So that what I would advocate is the appointment of an officer who has studied some special branch of industry with a general knowledge of industries. So that what my Friends have been stating is certainly not inconsistent with what I say. Then my hon. Friend Mr. Moir stated with reference to the appointment of Sir T. Vijayaraghava Acharya that he hopes that that gentleman's experience and work also will be of benefit to this department. I have not the slightest doubt that it will be. And he stated further that his recent experience will be of considerable value. He was not specific about it, but apparently he refers to the work done and experience gained at Wembley in London in connexion with the Empire Exhibition. Certainly this experience will be of considerable value. If my memory does not fail me, I believe he has some knowledge of this department because when Sir Charles Innes was Director Mr. Vijayaraghava Acharya was his deputy, I believe. So that he has had some special experience of the particular needs of the department over which he is now asked to preside. All these things do not disprove the truth or minimise the force of what I said. In this connexion I am sorry to observe, Sir, that this

[Mr. M. Krishnan Nayar]

[25th March 1926]

morning a report was placed in our hands showing to what extent the recommendations of the Retrenchment Committee in the various departments have been carried out. So far as the Industries Department is concerned, I find no reference to this aspect at all. It refers to some minor matters which do not govern the policy I have stated."

* Mr. V. PANDRANG ROW :—" This is only a supplemental list."

* Diwan Bahadur M. KRISHNAN NAYAR :—" In this portion certainly there is no reference or connexion to what I said. And if in the complete list this policy has been adopted, this would not have been the reply. So that this is certainly not dealt with in that."

* The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir T. N. SIVAGNANAM PILLAI :—" This is the second instalment."

* Diwan Bahadur M. KRISHNAN NAYAR :—" So, in the first instalment this has not been referred to, nor is it referred to in the second. In the third instalment I hope this policy will be carried out. With these observations I wish to withdraw the motion."

* Mr. C. E. WOOD :—" On a point of personal explanation, Sir, may I rise to say a word? I would like to make it quite clear that I was not in any way attempting to suggest any interference with the present appointment, the appointment that has just been made, because I think everybody must realize that to secure a suitable man who will fill the place with the qualifications laid down in the report of the Indian Industrial Commission will take considerable time. All that I am trying to press is that Government should admit that the recommendations of the Indian Industrial Commission are what they accept as what must be the aim in the future."

The motion was by leave withdrawn.

* Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—" Sir, I beg to move

*'the reduction of the allotment of Rs. 1,74,500 for Industrial schools—
Grants-in-aid by Rs. 100.'*

(To urge for more generous aid to industrial schools in every district and taluk centre.)

"I would draw the attention of hon. Members to the report of the Department of Industries, Madras, for 1925. I do not suppose anybody has got it because I received it as a special case. There are older reports which are more or less on the same lines. I may only mention to you, Sir, that the aid given by Government to industrial schools is not quite adequate and generous enough. I find figures given in this report which show that out of the total receipts of Rs. 4 lakhs and odd which these industrial schools working in some centres have, the amount of teaching and special grants—I think these grants are given by the Government—is only Rs. 68,000. It is not even one-sixth or one-seventh of the actual expenditure."

* The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir T. N. SIVAGNANAM PILLAI :—" It is 50 per cent."

* Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—" Here according to the figures given, I find that the total receipts amount to Rs. 4,20,000 and teaching and special grants amount only to Rs. 68,000."

[25th March 1926]

* The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir T. N. SIVAGNANAM PILLAI :—" I can give the hon. Member the figures worked out."

* Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—" Very well, Sir. Reference is also made here at page 63 to the difficulties of some of these institutions. The report says :

'Many of the schools suffered from scarcity of funds during the year and in particular the finances of such of the institutions . . . have been hard hit by the heavy depreciation on the continental exchanges which in a number of cases has resulted in the stoppage of contributions from abroad I regret that the amount at my disposal for distribution in the form of maintenance grants was so small as to preclude my coming to the rescue of the institutions in one or two very critical cases.'

"I would appeal that in regard to these institutions which we have and which after all are not too many for a Presidency like ours which is very backward in industries, Government should be more generous, and especially when there was distress in some of the institutions where the Director could not come to their rescue, I think Government ought to have helped him with some contribution. It might also be mentioned that in the case of missionary institutions the practice is not what my hon. Friends talked about in the matter of admission of non-Christians into those institutions. The idea appears to be generally current that, as most schools are maintained by missionary bodies all over the country, these schools are not open to non-Christian pupils. This is far from the truth. The missionaries are ready to admit not only Christians but persons of any persuasion—in fact Hindus of any caste, and Muhammadans are freely admitted. Having regard to the cosmopolitan character of the institutions—and there are institutions which are purely Hindu like the Women's Home of Service at Mylapore and a number of others—Government, I think, ought to be more generous in helping these institutions, because they save the Government an amount of expenditure which would otherwise be laid on the public exchequer. There is of course a good deal of what may be called a generous sentiment expressed as to the development of industries in this country, but practically the total amount spent for this purpose and especially in the case of aided schools does not at all come up to the expectations formed from the existence of this Department of Industries itself. As I have said, we have got a very costly department as such but the expenditure for the really nation-building purposes is very small, I mean the amount spent for nation-building and industrial purposes and for purposes of spreading education is not at all commensurate with the heavy expenditure over the staff and the establishment of the department as a whole."

* The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir T. N. SIVAGNANAM PILLAI :—" This question was gone into very fully by the Industrial and Technical Education Committee sometime back. They recommended that a greater measure of assistance to these industrial schools should be given and the recommendation was accepted. I will just quote a few figures to show how far we have carried out the recommendations. In 1923-24 it was Rs. 67,500; next year it was Rs. 1,05,400; the third year it was Rs. 1,58,000 and for the fourth year Rs. 1,74,000. These figures will clearly show that there is no delay. Incidentally I may also say that in connexion with the new industrial school that is to be opened at Bezvada we are giving maintenance grant and building grant. There are also proposals in consideration to open a new industrial school either in the West coast or in the Ceded districts."

The motion was by leave withdrawn.

[25th March 1926]

* Mr. A. CHIDAMBARA NADAR :—“ I beg to move

‘ that the allotment of Rs. 1,800 for Investments in Government commercial undertakings be reduced by Rs. 1,000. ’

“ Sir, these Government commercial undertakings have neither been useful to the people nor profitable to Government. The Kerala Soap Institute is working at a loss. The profit that is credited to the institute this year is one which ought to have been credited for the year 1923-24, I think. That is what is stated in the budget memorandum so far as I can see. Then, the Russellkonda Saw Mill is temporarily closed with a loss of twenty thousand rupees. I hope it will be permanently closed. The Fruit Preserving institute is also working at a loss and it is unable to compete with foreign goods. I think, Sir, it is high time that a committee consisting of a majority of non-officials be constituted to enquire into these questions and put these commercial undertakings on a sound basis.”

* Mr. V. PANDRANG ROW :—“ Sir, the question of commercial undertakings by Government is one which is surrounded with many difficulties because of the limitations by which we have circumscribed ourselves. The policy of the Government being that we should first of all demonstrate that an article not hitherto manufactured in the Presidency could be produced at a standard level so far as quality is concerned, once this is established it has to be decided whether Government should undertake the manufacture of that article on a commercial scale or leave it to private enterprise. When Government undertake the commercial manufacture of any particular article and prove that it is successful, Government must then abandon it by transferring it to any private firm or person who is prepared to take it up. This policy which has been followed clearly shows that the commercial undertakings of the department cannot generally be worked at a profit. It is obvious that you have to part with an undertaking when it is bringing money as was done in the case of the Pencil factory which was proving satisfactory and earning a profit or when it is felt that the undertaking is hopeless as in the case of the Glue factory and recently in the case of the Fruit Preserving Institute at Coonoor. It is obvious in these circumstances that the final result will more often be loss rather than profit. But if you look to this side of the question by itself and your despair leads you to abandon the whole business as hopeless, it will only lead to this, that the department can do nothing to promote the growth of new industries or the development of existing ones. In other words the task which Government have undertaken is purely an experimental one. It is obvious that when you take up experimental work there must occasionally be failure and loss. The task of pioneering the industries which the department has to do is certainly by no means a light one and unless this House is prepared to give the department a chance of doing its best undeterred by losses in this concern or that, it will be impossible for the department to fulfil one of its main objects, viz., the promotion of industrial development.”

* Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—“ I would ask for some light being thrown on this aspect of the commercial undertakings. There are several industries like carpentry, smithy and iron work which are maintained firstly in order to find employment and secondly to train a number of people in those industries so that they might eke out their own livelihood after training by opening their own shops. Some of these industries might be worked at a

[25th March 1926]

[Mr. J. A. Saldanha]

loss. For instance there is the Fruit industry. It is not only the Fruit industry that is important but the canning of the preserves also is a very important one which our people must learn. Europe is doing this kind of business on an enormous scale. In India the Canning industry is hardly known. There are a number of preserved foods like ginger, etc., which we preserve in bottles. How to do things without the bottle and by means of cans is a thing which our people must learn. I do not think the department gave any encouragement to training people in this direction.”

* Mr. V. PANDRANG ROW :—“ As a matter of fact, in the Tanur factory we have trained till the beginning of 1925 sixteen men besides the students who undergo training, and in the Chaliyam cannery six or seven men.”

* Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—“ I did not refer to Chaliyam because some of these students are sent by the Native States of Baroda, Travancore, etc. Sixteen, I think, is a very small number to be trained in canning after its existence for so many years. I know that industry is a great failure. If only 16 are trained it is a very poor consolation. If ten times that number had been trained that would have been something, not very discouraging. There is hardly any room for residence at Chaliyam. The few that are there are labouring under great difficulties in the matter of finding quarters. It is far away and you have to cross a river and nobody would like to stay there. So there are practical difficulties for getting apprentices trained at Chaliyam. So far as the Coonoor factory is concerned I do not think any provision is made for training apprentices. When I wrote about this I was told that there was a prospect of its being closed. If Government wanted that Indians should learn this business, they should have already trained men. If by this time 100 persons had been trained in the art of preserving fruit, not only preserving for a few days but preserving it for years by canning it would have been a great national asset. From the point of view of national importance the training of 16 men at Chaliyam is a very small number. I would ask the Secretary of the Development Department what has been the *summum bonum* of all this wastage of money. I say that money was thrown away into the sea and it was a sheer wastage. If 100 persons had been trained in each of these factories as apprentices that would have been a great national asset. We would not mind the loss of several lakhs. Because it is a great thing that we get so many of our men trained. What did Germany do? What did Japan do? They sent their men to other places and got them trained and they did it in various ways. This is the way in which Germany once a backward country has now outstripped England by training its own men. What has this Industries Department done in this way? Then as for the foreign competition why close the factory at Coonoor? Can you not devise means? Why not you hand it over to some other agency? Why not you try a measure as England has done by means of a simple Act? The Safeguarding of Industries Act was passed in 1921. It is being used for the same good purpose. Then here is an Act passed by the Government of India which is meant for fostering the Bamboo-Pulp Paper industry. If the Fruit industry is to be developed in a place like Southern India with its elevated places where fruits could be grown on an extensive scale, not only in Southern India but also in Northern India and Western India where there are large plateaus and where fruits could be grown in abundance, surely the Government of India should come forward and pass an Act on the same lines.”

[25th March 1926]

The CHAIRMAN (Mr. A. Ramaswami Mudaliyar):—"The hon. Member is referring to a subject outside the competence of this Government."

4-45
p.m.

* Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—"The Government started a Fruit Preserving industry, and after working it for sometime at a loss they want to close it now, or to sell it to somebody. What I ask is this: have they at least trained a few people in the industry having spent so much money on it, have they found out by this experiment how this industry has to be developed and whether it will face foreign competition which we have got from European countries and from Australia? I feel doubtful whether the Government are really anxious to foster our national industries. If so, they should devise measures to foster industries like fruit preservation which they have started, and they should train up apprentices. On the other hand, money has been simply thrown out without benefit to anybody."

* Mr. A. CHIDAMBARA NADAR :—"The hon. Member the Secretary for Development said that the task of the Government in these commercial undertakings was only purely of an experimental nature, and in such cases there might be occasional failures and occasional losses. If such be the case, I have nothing to quarrel. But on the other hand almost all the commercial undertakings have either ended in failures or in losses. That is what we find, and I think I am right in saying . . ."

* Mr. V. PANDRANG ROW :—"The Pencil factory and the Soap factory have been quite successful."

* Mr. A. CHIDAMBARA NADAR :—"I find from the Budget Memorandum that the profit that has been attributed to this year is one that ought to have been credited for the previous year. I should like to know whether it is true."

* Rao Sahib P. V. GOPALAN :—"I heard the hon. Member the Secretary for Development just say that in all 16 students have been trained at the Government Cannery at Chaliyam."

The CHAIRMAN (Mr. A. Ramaswami Mudaliyar):—"The hon. Member cannot interrupt a speech on that point."

* Mr. A. CHIDAMBARA NADAR :—"Apart from that, my hon. Friend from South Kanara said that there has been no development of our national industries in proportion to the amount we have spent on these commercial undertakings. A large amount of money is being spent year after year without any proportionate improvement in our industrial conditions. When such is the case, there ought to be some real cause for such a state of things. What is the policy of the Government in regard to fostering these industries? So, Sir, if the hon. Minister is prepared to constitute a committee to enquire into this matter, I shall be glad to withdraw my motion."

* Rao Sahib P. V. GOPALAN :—"With reference to the question of Government cannery at Chaliyam, I would ask the hon. the Minister for Development to give me an assurance whether it is his object to continue the cannery for the purpose of its educative value and whether it was maintained for the last seven years only on account of that policy."

* Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—"Where is the educative value?"

* Rao Sahib P. V. GOPALAN :—"If it is purely for its educative value that the Government is going to continue it, I will gladly give my support to

25th March 1926]

[Mr. P. V. Gopalan]

this grant. Apart from that question, I would request the Government to consider the question of selling away that factory or rather of leasing it to some private concerns, as practically there is no use of having such a factory on the west coast, and if what I heard from the hon. the Secretary for Development, that in all only 16 students had been trained in the Government cannery at Chaliyam till now, is the case, I should say . . ."

* Mr. V. PANDRANG ROW :—"I said Tanur."

* Rao Sahib P. V. GOPALAN :—"I wish to know from the hon. the Minister for Development whether he hopes to retain the cannery for the purpose of education."

(At this stage, the hon. the Deputy President took the Chair.)

* The hon. Mr. T. E. MOIR :—"On a point of order, Sir. Can a question of this canning factory be raised under the present Demand XXVI—Industries, when it is a factory run by the Fisheries Department which comes under Demand XXVII?"

* Rao Sahib P. V. GOPALAN :—"The reason why I spoke on the subject is that I heard my hon. Friend the Leader of the Opposition, Mr. Saldanha, (laughter) make mention of it in the course of his speech."

* Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—"I am not the Leader of the Opposition."

* Rao Sahib P. V. GOPALAN :—"I referred to him as the Leader of the Opposition because he was so called by several hon. Members this afternoon, and he never raised any objection to it."

* The hon. Mr. T. E. MOIR :—"I am merely asking for your ruling, Sir, on the point I raised."

* Rao Sahib P. V. GOPALAN :—"I heard Mr. Saldanha making a reference to it. So, I thought it advisable also to get some information on the point from the hon. Minister. That is why I spoke on the subject."

* Mr. A. CHIDAMBARA NADAR :—"I press my motion for the appointment of a committee."

The motion was put and lost.

Demand XXVI—Industries—for Rs. 11.26 lakhs was then put and passed, and the grant was made.

DEMAND XXVII—FISHERIES.

* The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir T. N. SIVAGNANAM PILLAI :—"Mr. Deputy President, Sir, on the recommendation of His Excellency the Governor, I beg to move

'for a grant not exceeding Rs. 9 lakhs for expenditure under Fisheries.'

* Rao Sahib P. V. GOPALAN :—"Mr. Deputy President, Sir, I beg to move

'that the allotment of Rs. 9,400 for Assistant Director, Coast, be reduced by Rs. 100.'

"My object in moving this motion is only for requesting the hon. Minister in charge of Development to appoint an advisory committee on the West Coast so that the officials of the Fisheries department may closely and

[Mr. P. V. Gopalan]

[25th March 1926]

freely move with the leaders of the fisherman community and know what actually their needs and requirements are, and thereby promote their social, economic and industrial welfare. I urge this question for the reason that Sir Frederick Nicholson, the greatest pioneer of industries we have in South India. I should think so far as the fisherman community goes, when he organised the Department of Fisheries was often very closely and intimately moving with the fisherfolk finding out their requirements and wants and trying to meet them. After him we had Mr. James Hornell who used to come to the fishing villages and send for the leaders and consult them, and he was very anxious as to how he could be of service to the fishermen in order to uplift them. I say that the fisheries problem is a very complicated one and unless and until you have experts to promote the fishing industry on the West Coast, the Fisheries department would not be a success. The present officer who is known as the Assistant Director, Coast, is in charge of Fisheries in the West Coast. With all respect to him I have to submit before this House that he has not got any knowledge of fisheries so far as the fisheries in the West Coast is concerned; hence to advise him as to what should be done for the amelioration of the fisherfolk especially in the matter of temperance, social service, education, question of salt, management of fish-curing yards, etc., an advisory committee is necessary and essential. If he has a committee in the West Coast to advise him on the actual requirements of the fishermen he will be able to submit proposals either to the Director or to the hon. the Minister in charge for their approval. I think that is one of the very best ways by which he can promote the welfare of the so-called fisherfolk, on the West Coast. It is my wish that the hon. the Minister for Development will come to the rescue of the fishermen who are now very badly suffering in the matter of finance, as is pointed out by the Director in the administration report of the Fisheries department. With this object, I move this motion."

*The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir T. N. SIVAGNANAM PILLAI:—"The hon. Member Rao Sahib P. V. Gopalan is already on the Fisheries Advisory Committee attached to the department and is also put on the Committee for the selection of students for the Training Institute."

*Rao Sahib P. V. GOPALAN:—"On a point of personal explanation. Rao Sahib P. V. Gopalan being a Member of the Advisory Committee and of the Selection Committee has practically nothing to do with the particular question, I have raised, viz., the appointment of an advisory committee on the West Coast to study the needs and requirements of the fishermen community and for offering opinions as to how to meet them. The Fisheries Department has to deal with a number of questions and as a Member of the Advisory Committee I have to deal only with questions like fish-curing, canning, chank and pearl fisheries, and such other things. What I am now speaking is with special reference to the uplift of the fisherfolk on the West Coast. Hence an advisory committee."

*The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir T. N. SIVAGNANAM PILLAI:—"The hon. Member wants a standing advisory committee tacked on to the local officer. It has been the general policy of Government not to attach advisory committees to executive officers for the very obvious reason that in working such advisory committees friction is likely to ensue. If the hon. Member has got

[2th March 1926] [Sir T. N. Sivagnanam Pillai]

any grievances or any points to be brought to the notice of the Government it is quite open to him either to write a letter to the Development Secretary urging his points or to bring it before the Fisheries Advisory Committee whenever it meets at Madras. That being so I do not think that any case has been made out by him for the appointment of a separate committee."

*Rao Sahib P. V. GOPALAN:—"The fact that I belong to the Fisheries Advisory Committee at Madras and that I am a member of the Selection Committee for the selection of students to the Fisheries Training school will not help me to improve the condition of the fishermen because their requirements are so many. I am not speaking only with special reference to fisheries education. The fact of my being a member of the Advisory Committee at Madras will be of no use to them. In my three years' experience in the Legislative Council I do not think except on one or two occasions I had anything whatsoever to do with the Fisheries Advisory Committee. That is the reason why I want a committee to be appointed for the West Coast to promote the welfare of the fisherfolk. I have no objection for the appointment of the committee after consultation with the District Officers. There are ever so many things that they are in need of. If the hon. Minister thinks that I ought to have my own stationery to write to him about the grievances of the fisher folk, I will only say that the hon. Minister has not got real interest in the fisherman on the West Coast."

The hon. the DEPUTY PRESIDENT:—"Is the hon. Member pressing his motion?"

*Rao Sahib P. V. GOPALAN:—"I am not going to press it."

The motion was by leave withdrawn.

*Rao Sahib P. V. GOPALAN:—"I beg to move

'that the allotment of Rs. 118,500 for Tanur station be reduced by 6 p. p. Rs. 100.'

"Sir, my reason for this token motion is to show that the object for which the Tanur station was established in 1909 has already been achieved. The object of the Government in establishing the station was for introducing improved methods in curing of fish and manufacturing of guano. The curing of fish is now being done in about 60 yards on the West Coast and there are about 500 to 600 guano factories on the West Coast. Practically, there is no need for having any demonstrations there. I was told that this was only as an experimental station that it was started 16 years ago. So there is no use any longer for having this station there and wasting Government money over it.

"Another important point in connexion with the Tanur station is that Government have undertaken the supply of fish to very many jails in the Presidency, and the Director of Fisheries, I find, is rather very sorry that the Mappillas have been removed to the Andamans. Now the supply of fish to the jails does not become part and parcel of the business of the Government. In fact, the Government should never compete with private enterprise. We have got an assurance from the hon. Minister that there are ever so many fish curing yards there. When that is so, where is the necessity for the Government for curing fish in their own yards and competing with

[Mr. P. V. Gopalan]

[25th March 1926]

private enterprise? Tanur was meant merely for the experimental purpose of curing fish. We have a large number of fish curing yards on the West Coast. So where is the necessity for the Government to interfere with private manufacturers and merchants? It goes even against the Proclamation of Queen Victoria. (Laughter.) I urge that that should not be the purpose for which the Government should have a station on the West Coast, simply to ruin the prospects of the fisherfolk who are manufacturing and curing fish on a large scale. Hence I move that the Tanur fishery station should be abolished.

"Again, they have only manufactured 310 lb. of oil and 297 pounds of guano against 2,000 tons of oil and 4,000 tons of guano by private enterprise. You will please observe that the figures given by Government are in pounds. There are hundreds and thousands of tons of fish manufactured on the West Coast. Hence I say this station is not required for any practical purposes except for the income which the Government Fisheries Department derive from the sale of the coconut trees which grow on the station there; I do not think there is any other income. Year after year, the result is disastrous. They say they are experimenting to improve the condition of the fish oil and make it as a medicinal oil. As for that, the Industries Department have got a laboratory at the Kerala soapery at Calicut and the Fisheries Department have got a scientific station at Calicut. They have got two or three research assistants and a good laboratory too. If they want to make experiments in fish oil, it is there they must do it.

"They then say that on account of the monsoons they could not supply fish. As a matter of fact in Malabar we have the monsoon from the 15th May to the 15th August every year. Unfortunately even the fisherfolk there do not sell their fish during the monsoon. It cannot be helped. It is proverbial that Malabar has monsoon from 15th May to 15th August. The Director feels sorry for having not sold fish during the monsoon. I therefore strongly urge that the Tanur station ought to be abolished, as practically there is no need for such a station since the object with which it was started is served at present by private enterprise."

The House adjourned at 5-6 p.m. to meet again at 11 o'clock next day.

R. V. KRISHNA AYYAR,
Secretary to the Legislative Council.

[25th March 1926]

APPENDIX I.

[Vide answer to question No. 1800 asked by Mr. T. Adinarayana Chettiyar at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on the 25th March 1926, page 661 supra.]

	Name of Assistant Registrar.	Number of societies inspected.	Amount of travelling allowances drawn.		
			RS.	A.	P.
1.	M.R.Ry. V. S. Ramaswami Ayyar Avargal ...	205	1,436	0	0
2.	" C. D. Nayagam Avargal ...	154	2,264	13	0
3.	" A. Ramanuja Chariyar Avargal ...	105	1,420	12	0
4.	" Rao Sahib J. Venkatesam Choudari Garu.	107	821	8	0
5.	" Rao Bahadur M. K. Venkata Chariyar Avargal.	51	995	15	0
6.	" Dharmaraja Daniel Souri Avargal ...	168	2,045	0	0
7.	" A. S. Manickam Pillai Avargal ...	134	1,489	7	0
8.	" J. A. Peters Avargal ...	105	1,121	14	0
9.	" Muhammad Muhi-ud-din Adani Sahib Bahadur.	277	1,463	15	0
10.	" Rao Sahib V. S. Lakshminarasimha Rao Pantulu Garu.	128	1,489	13	0
11.	" N. Ranganatha Chariyar Avargal ...	29	295	15	0
12.	" M. Giriappa Avargal ...	91	1,231	14	0
13.	" K. Rangaswami Nayudu Avargal ...	164	1,481	8	0
14.	" K. Sivasubrahmanya Pillai Avargal.	171	1,948	6	0
15.	" S. P. Perumal Pillai Avargal ...	88	1,463	9	0
16.	" K. Raman Nair Avargal ...	106	1,338	14	0
17.	" M. V. Ramayya Pantulu Garu ...	52	861	13	0
18.	" O. N. Ramaswami Ayyar Avargal ...	25	2,015	9	0
19.	" C. Bhaskara Rao Nayudu Garu ...	127	1,446	13	0

[25th March 1926]

APPENDIX II.

[Vide answer to question No. 1801 asked by Mr. J. A. Saldanha at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on the 25th March 1926, page 662 supra.]

Name of the Government Training School.	The strength of each school.		Maximum number of various stipends provided for each school.		Number to whom maximum of stipends was allowed.	Number to whom less amounts were allowed and for what reasons.
	1924-25.	1925-26.	1924-25.	1925-26.		
Government Secondary and Training School for Women, Cannanore.	17	38	Secondary .. 14	Secondary .. 38		All the stipendiary students were allowed the maximum rate for the respective grades.
Government Training School, Tellicherry.	98	61	Lower Elementary .. 52	Lower Elementary .. 27		
Government Training School, Mangalore ..	71	64	Higher Elementary .. 45	Higher Elementary .. 33		
Government Secondary and Training School, Coimbatore.	67	72	Lower Elementary .. 21	Lower Elementary .. 22		
			Higher Elementary .. 45	Higher Elementary .. 37		
			Lower Elementary .. 27	Lower Elementary .. 26		
			Higher Elementary .. 24	Higher Elementary .. 30		
Government Training School, Calicut ..	101	118	Secondary .. 12	Secondary .. 13		
			Lower Elementary .. 45	Lower Elementary .. 44		
			Higher Elementary .. 37	Higher Elementary .. 52		

25th March 1926]

APPENDIX III.

[Vide answer to question No. 1810 asked by Mr. T. Adinarayana Chettiya at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on the 25th March 1926, page 671 supra.]

District and Revenue taluk.	Number of village panchayats constituted up to 31st December 1925.	District and Revenue taluk.	Number of village panchayats constituted up to 31st December 1925.
Anantapur—		Coimbatore—	
Anantapur	30	Avanashi	1
Kalyandrug	32	Coimbatore	9
Dharmavaram	20	Erode	2
Kadiri	4	Bhavani	2
Penukonda	5	Gobichettipalayam	3
North Arcot—		Kollegal	3
Arni	34	Palladam	5
Vellore	23	Cuddapah—	
Wallajapet	11	Cuddapah	1
Wandiwasah	4	Pulivendla	1
Tiruvannamalai	5	Ganjam—	
Polur	83	Berhampur	1
Gudiyattam	4	Godavari—	
Kangundi	6	Ramaoibandrapuram	9
Tiruppattur	28	Cocanada	2
South Arcot—		Guntur—	
Tindivanam	11	Tenali	4
Gingee	6	Repalli	2
Villupuram	2	South Kanara—	
Tirukkoyilur	3	Kasaragod	1
Kallakkurichi	21	Karkal	3
Chidambaram	1	Kistna—	
Vridhbahalam	4	Divi	1
Cuddalore	1	Bandar	2
Bellary—		Kaikalur	18
Rayadrug	1	Ellore	3
Bellary	4	Yernagudem	1
Adoni	5	Gannavaram	1
Alur	2	Tanuku	3
Chingleput—		Bhimavaram	8
Chingleput	8	Kurnool—	
Conjeevaram	9	Kurnool	3
Madurantakam	3	Dhone	2
Saidapet	1	Pattikonda	2
Ponneri	1	Markapur	1
Tiruvallur	7	Cumbum	2
Chittoor—		Madura—	
Kalahasti	1	Melur	26
Chittoor	11	Periyakulam	2
Palmaner	5	Tirumangalam	2
Pattur	5	Dindigul	2
Tiruttani	10	Nilakkottai	3
Chendragiri	3	Palni	2
Madanapalle	4	Malabar—	
Punganuru	2	Walluvanad	1
Vayalpad	3		

[25th March 1926]

District and Revenue taluk.	Number of village panchayats constituted up to 31st December 1925.	District and Revenue taluk.	Number of village panchayats constituted up to 31st December 1925.
Nellore—		Tanjore—cont.	
Nellore	1	Mayavaram	1
Podili	1	Shiyali	5
Venkatagiri	1	Tanjore	18
Kandukur	2	Arantangi	1
Kavali	4	Nannilam	37
Gudur	2	Tinnevelly—	
Ramnad—		Tenkasi	5
Aruppukottai	1	Tinnevelly	6
Mudukolathur	1	Koilpatti	4
Ramnad	2	Sankaranayinarkoil	5
Sattur	20	Ambasamudram	8
Sivakasi	1	Nanguneri	1
Srivilliputtur	5	Tiruchendur	5
Tiruvadanai	1	Srivaikuntam	4
Tirupattur	1	Trichinopoly—	
Salem—		Perambalur	11
Attur	3	Udayarpalayam	5
Salem	1	Lalgudi	4
Omair	1	Musiri	2
Dharmapuri	3	Trichinopoly	6
Uttangarai	15	Kulittalai	2
Krishnagiri	1	Vizagapatam—	
Hosur	7	Vizagapatam	1
Tanjore—		Srungavarapukota	1
Papanasam	1	Palkonda	1
Kumbakonam	1	Anakapalle	1
Mannargadi	10	Salur	1

APPENDIX IV.

[Vide answer to question No. 1815 asked by Mr. R. Veerian at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on the 25th March 1926, page 674 supra.]

Statement.

Name of district.	Number of taluks.	Name of district.	Number of taluks.
South Arcot	8	South Kanara	6
Bellary	9	Kistna	9
Chingleput	7	Tanjore	11
Godavari, East	8*	Trichinopoly	7
Guntur	9	Madras City	Nil.

* (Excluding Agency divisions.)

THE MADRAS LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

Friday, the 26th March 1926.

The House met at 11-5 o'clock, with Mr. President (the hon. Mr. M. RUTHNASWAMY) in the chair.

PRESENT:

Ramaswami Ayyar, K.C.S.R., The hon. Sir C. P.	Mallesappa, Mr. T.
Marjoribanks, C.S.I., C.B.E., The hon. Mr. N. E.	Marthandam Pillai, Mr. P. N.
Usman Sahib Bahadur, The hon. Khan Bahadur Muhammad.	Moidu Sahib, Mr. T. M.
Moir, C.S.I., C.B.E., The hon. Mr. T. E.	Muhammad Sahib, Mr. T. N.
Raja of Panagal, The hon. the.	Muttayya Mudaliyar, Mr. C.
Patro, Kt., The hon. Rao Bahadur Sir A. P.	Narayanawami Pillai, Mr. T. M.
Sivagnanam Pillai, Kt., The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir T. N.	Natesa Mudaliyar, Rao Bahadur C.
Abbas Ali Khan, Mr.	Noyce, C.S.I., C.B.E., Mr. F.
Abdulla Ghatala Sahib, Mr.	Obalesappa, Mr. B.
Ankinedu Prasad, Mr. S. R. Y.	Pandurang Row, Mr. V.
Ari Gowder, Mr. H. B.	Prabhakaran Tampan, Mr. K.
Arpudaswami Udayar, Mr. S.	Premayya, Mr. G.
Arumuga Nadar, Mr. P. K. S. A.	Raghuchandra Ballal, Mr. K.
Bhanoji Rao, Mr. A. V.	Raja, Rao Bahadur M. C.
Boag, Mr. G. T.	Raja of Ramnad.
Chidambara Nadar, Mr. A.	Rajan, Mr. P. T.
Devendrudu, Mr. N.	Rajappa, Mr. P. S.
Ellappa Chettiyar, Rao Sahib S.	Ramachandra Reddi, Mr. B.
Evans, C.S.I., Mr. F. B.	Raman, Rao Bahadur P.
Ghouse Mian Sahib, Mr. Muhammad.	Ramachari, Rao Sahib K. V.
Gopalan, Rao Sahib P. V.	Ramaswami Mudaliyar, Mr. A.
Guruswami, Mr. L. C.	Ranganatha Mudaliyar, Mr. A.
Haji Qasim Sahib Bahadur, Khan Bahadur Haji Abd-ul-lah.	Sagaram, Mr. P.
Heggade, Mr. D. Manjappa.	Saldanha, Mr. J. A.
Kesava Pillai, C.B.E., Diwan Bahadur P.	Sarvarayudu, Mr. K.
Khadir Mohiddin Elyas Khan Sahib, Mr.	Sesha Reddi, Mr. B. P.
Khalif-ul-lah Sahib Bahadur, Khan Bahadur P.	Sitarama Reddi, Mr. K.
Krishnan Nayar, Diwan Bahadur M.	Srinivasan, Rao Sahib R.
Krishnaswami Nayudu, Rao Bahadur K.	Subbarayan, Dr. P.
MacDongell, Kt., Sir Alexander.	Subramania Pillai, Mr. K. Chavadi.
Madanagopal Nayudu, Mr. R.	Sundaramurti, Rao Sahib P. V. S.
Madhava Raja, Mr. V.	Suryanarayanamurti Nayudu, Diwan Bahadur K.
Madurai, Hon. Lieut.	Tangavelu Pillai, Rao Sahib T. C.
	Veerian, Mr. R.
	Venkatachala Padayachi, Mr. K.
	Windle, Capt. E. G.
	Wood, Mr. C. E.

[26th March 1926]

I

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

[Order made by the President of the Madras Legislative Council under Standing Order No. 15 on the 4th December 1924.]

1. Starred questions to be put at a meeting of the Council with their answers shall be printed and placed on the Council table an hour before the President takes his seat.

The Secretary shall call out the name of each interpellator in the order in which the names are printed, specify the serial number of his question and make a sufficient pause to give him or any other member a reasonable opportunity of rising in his place and putting a supplementary question. Supplementary questions must be put immediately after the principal questions to which they relate.

2. If a member responsible for a starred question happens to be absent when it is called, it will be open either to him or to any other member to put supplemental questions thereon after the other starred questions for the day have been answered, provided question-time is not thereby exceeded.

3. Questions, not starred, will not be called in Council, but they will be printed with their answers and placed on the table of the House along with the list of starred questions. Oral supplementary questions will not be allowed in regard to unstarred questions.]

STARRED QUESTIONS.

Criminal Justice.

Looting in the house of one Chinnammal, wife of one Adi-Dravida Pavadai.

* 1831 Q.—Mr. R. VEERIAN: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that a looting took place on 25th December 1925 at about 7-30 and 8 p.m. on that date by the non-depressed classes headed by the Mettupatti Village Munsif, in the house of Chinnammal, wife of Adi-Dravida Pavadai, and her relative living nearby destroyed and carried away several properties as stated in the petition submitted by her through me to the Revenue Divisional Officer, Salem, on 23rd February 1926;

(b) whether it is a fact that a complaint was lodged regarding the looting by the Adi-Dravidas to the Karipatti Police and that an enquiry was made by the Police on the evening of 26th December 1925; and

(c) what was the result of the enquiry.

A.—(a), (b) & (c) The Government have no information, but have called for a report.

Mr. R. VEERIAN :—“ May I know whether the Government have received any report on this matter and if they have already received, whether they will be pleased to place it on the table of the House? ”

The hon. Sir O. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—“ I have not received any report yet. It is only after an examination of the report that I can say whether it can be placed on the table of the House or not. I will, however, communicate the contents to the hon. Member.”

Mr. R. VEERIAN :—“ I am informed that these Adi-Dravidas are ever afraid of residing in their houses after this looting. May I know whether the hon. the Law Member will kindly see that some police protection is given to them? ”

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—“ That is a suggestion for action.”

26th March 1926]

Irrigation.

Sukkur Barrage in Sindh.

* 1832 Q.—Mr. J. A. SALDANHA: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether he visited the works of the projected Sukkur Barrage in Sindh;

(b) whether any Member of the Revenue Board and any other Government officer of Madras visited the place and if so when and why and at what cost; and

(c) what purposes these visits served and what lessons were learnt from them?

A.—(a) No.

(b) Mr. Narasimha Ayyangar, Executive Engineer in charge of the Canal section of the Mettur project, and Mr. Roberts, Officer in charge of machinery and plant, visited the Sukkur Barrage in January. They were allowed to draw travelling allowance under the ordinary rules, their tour was to be limited to about thirty days in all. The Government do not know the exact cost incurred.

(c) The object of the visit was to enable them to see in actual working big machinery of the type that may be required for the Mettur project, and get experience of other practical problems in construction. This they did.

Police.

Shifting of the police station from Hiramandalam to Gurandi, Ganjam district.

* 1833 Q.—Sriman SASIBHUSHAN RATH Mahasayo: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is proposed to shift the police station from Hiramandalam to Gurandi in the Ganjam district;

(b) if so, the reasons that led to this proposal;

(c) what will be the total cost of the proposed transfer; and

(d) whether he has received representations from the people of Hiramandalam against the proposed abolition of the police station there?

A.—(a) It is proposed to convert the police station at Hiramandalam into an outpost and to open a new station at Gurandi.

(b) The proposal is consequent on the scheme for the reallocation of the police of this Presidency which has been undertaken by Government as a measure of retrenchment. Crime at Hiramandalam is light and it was considered that its retention as an investigating centre could not be justified.

(c) The Government have no information, but the proposed reallocation of police in the Ganjam district results in a saving of Rs. 34,856 per annum in recurring expenditure.

(d) Yes.

[26th March 1926]

Separation of Judicial and Executive Functions.

Separation of Judicial and Executive Functions.

* 1834 Q.—Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR: Will the hon. the Law Member and the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) the dates of the communications to the Government of India and the Secretary of State and of the reminders thereon with reference to the resolution of the Council recommending the separation of the executive and judicial functions; and

(b) the dates of the final or intermediate replies, if any, received from the Government of India and the Secretary of State with reference to the abovesaid communications?

A.—(a) Communications were addressed to the Government of India on 7th June 1924 and 3rd September 1924 and reminders were sent on the 28th January 1925, 12th August 1925 and the 16th February 1926.

(b) Intermediate replies dated 9th July 1924, 2nd February 1925, 25th August 1925 and 1st March 1926 were received from the Government of India.

Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—“ With reference to the answer given to this question, may I know whether there is any final reply received from the Government of India ? ”

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—“ No, Sir.”

The RAJA OF RAMNAD :—“ May I ask from the reply received from the Government of India on the 1st March 1926 whether there are any indications therein to show that the matter is under the consideration of the Government of India or whether they have merely called for some information from this Government ? ”

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—“ They are considering the matter in the light of the reports received from the various Governments.”

State Prisoners.

Visitors to Mr. Aurobindo Ghose from British India.

* 1835 Q.—Sriman SASIBHUSHAN RATH Mahasayo: Will the hon. the Law Member and the hon. the Member for Finance be pleased to state whether the Madras Government have asked the French Government in Pondicherry to note down the names of visitors from British India to Babu Aurobindo Ghose and report the same to them from time to time?

A.—No.

Indian Civil Service.

Additions to the superior executive posts.

* 1836 Q.—Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state the additions made within the last five years to the superior executive posts in the Indian Civil Service and whether any of them have been listed for the Provincial Civil Service and, if so, how many?

26th March 1926]

A.—The net increase in the number of posts is two. One post has been listed and another is about to be listed.

Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—“ May I know whether any particular posts are listed by designation ? ”

The hon. Mr. N. E. MARJORIBANKS :—“ No, the posts are not listed by designation. It is only a number of superior judicial and executive posts that are listed.”

Land Revenue.

Extent under cultivation of important crops in Hospet, etc., taluks.

* 1837 Q.—Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state the extent of land under cultivation, of each of the more important crops of the district like yellow cholam, white cholam, korra, Mungari cotton, Hingari cotton, sajja, paddy and horsegram, in the taluks of Hospet, Hadagalli, Harpanahalli, Kudligi and Bellary for fasli 1334 and fasli 1335, respectively?

A.—The following are the figures supplied by the Director of Agriculture :—

	Hospet.	Harpanahalli.	Hadagalli.	Kudligi.	Bellary.
	ACS.	ACS.	ACS.	ACS.	ACS.
<i>Fasli 1334.</i>					
Paddy	6,534	1,123	540	2,956	2,127
Cholam	36,067	80,260	83,149	55,519	124,953
Cumbu	9,047	4,708	10,565	22,890	24,042
Cotton	26,700	45,985	57,503	73,405	138,883
<i>Fasli 1335 (Estimates).</i>					
Paddy	7,200	1,500	1,000	3,000	2,500
Cotton	20,000	42,000	55,000	16,000	159,400

Increased facilities for grazing for Kuditiri ryots.

* 1838 Q.—Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state the action taken by him on the petition presented to him on 19th October 1925 by the ryots of Kuditiri village, Bellary district, praying for increased facilities for grazing their cattle and sheep?

A.—A report has been called for from the Board of Revenue.

Retention of trijunction survey stones.

* 1839 Q.—Mr. G. RAMESWARA RAO: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state what is the policy or principle underlying the retention of only trijunction survey stones and why stones in other places are being removed?

[26th March 1926]

A.—The hon. Member is referred to paragraph 2 of G.O. No. 1304, Revenue, dated 9th June 1916, which has been placed on Editors' Table. The Government are not aware that stones in other places are being removed but will enquire.

Village Establishments.

Withholding of acting allowances of village officers in Gudiyattam taluk.

* 1840 Q.—Mr. T. ADINARAYANA CHETTIYAR: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether he is aware that the present Tahsildar of Gudiyattam taluk, North Arcot district, systematically withholds acting allowances of village officers for which they are entitled under the provisions of the Village Officers' Manual; and

(b) whether it is a fact that the village headman of Kilvaittinankuppam village, Gudiyattam taluk, has not been paid two months' acting allowance in spite of repeated requests?

A.—(a) The answer is in the negative.

(b) Not to the knowledge of Government.

Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR:—"Sir, in clause (a) of the question it is asked 'whether he is aware that the present Tahsildar of Gudiyattam taluk, North Arcot district, systematically withholds acting allowances of village officers for which they are entitled under the provisions of the Village Officers' Manual' and the answer given to this clause is 'the answer is in the negative'. Is it that the hon. the Revenue Member is not aware of the fact or does he say so after making the necessary inquiries?"

The hon. Mr. N. E. MARJORIBANKS:—"I am not aware of the fact. Nor do I think any inquiry is necessary."

Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR:—"Here is a definite statement made and an hon. Member has made himself responsible for it. The hon. the Revenue Member knows that these people may not have any one to look into their affairs and the matter is ventilated here solely with a view that the hon. Member may take some action in the matter. If he does not want to interfere, it is rather hard to these poor people."

The hon. Mr. N. E. MARJORIBANKS:—"If there is any truth in the allegation, those who are concerned in the matter have a right to appeal to the Collector."

Criminal Tribes.

Persons registered under the Criminal Tribes Act in Anantapur district.

* 1841 Q.—Mr. G. RAMESWARA RAO: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(a) the number of persons registered under the Criminal Tribes Act in Anantapur district in the year 1925;

(b) the stations within which they reside and the caste or community to which they belong; and

(c) the number of persons whose registration has been cancelled in 1926?

[26th March 1926]

A.—(a), (b) & (c) The Government have no information but have called for it.

Depressed Classes.

Amelioration of the depressed classes.

* 1842 Q.—Mr. R. VEERIAN: With reference to question No. 1150 answered at the Council meeting, dated 17th December 1925, will the hon. the Home Member and the hon. the Member for Finance be pleased to state—

(a) why no amount was placed at the disposal of the Labour Commissioner for the amelioration of the depressed classes out of the recent remission of 126 lakhs of rupees from the Government of India; and

(b) whether no claim on behalf of the depressed classes was put or placed before His Excellency while distributing this sum of 126 lakhs of rupees to various other items?

A.—The distribution of the amount available was determined with reference to the most pressing needs and to the expressed wishes of the Legislative Council as to the objects to which it should be mainly devoted.

Mr. R. VEERIAN:—"May I know whether any proposals were left by the predecessor of the hon. the Home Member?"

The hon. Mr. T. E. MOIR:—"I am not at liberty to give information as to what took place in a Cabinet meeting."

Forests.

Concessions to the villagers of Bindoor to use forest reserves.

* 1843 Q.—Mr. K. RAGHUCHANDRA BALLAL: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that in reply to a question of hon. Dr. U. Rama Rao in April 1924 regarding forest grievances of the villagers of the Bindoor division of the Coondapoor taluk, South Kanara, the Chief Conservator promised to issue orders to the Forest subordinates to allow the ryots all due concessions;

(b) whether it is a fact that, in reply to a letter addressed by Rao Sahib B. Mahabala Heggade on 21st July 1924 to the Collector of South Kanara, the latter was informed by his L. Dis. C. 7097 of 1924 that the Chief Conservator had issued a circular that as an experimental measure the ryots in South Kanara would be allowed for one year from 1st August 1925 to take dried and green leaves, fuel and thorns from forest reserves without any payment;

(c) whether the said concessions have been in force till now; and

(d) whether it is a fact that the concessions have been stopped suddenly?

A.—(a) Yes.

(b) Yes.

(c) Yes.

(d) The concessions were stopped from 1st August 1925 to 18th September 1925 by mistake and were renewed in all reserves from the latter date.

[[26th March 1926

Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—" With reference to the answer given in clause (d), may I have some idea of the extent of loss to which these ryots were put to by being compelled to take out fresh licences ? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—" I have no information."

Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—" Will the Government be pleased to refund the amounts so recovered from the ryots ? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—" I am unable to say anything at the present moment."

Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—" Will the hon. Member be pleased to find out whether these people have been really put to some loss ? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—" I shall consider the suggestion."

Issue of G.O. No. 652, dated 2nd May 1925.

* 1844 Q.—Mr. T. ADINARAYANA CHETTIYAR : Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether opinions were called for by the District Forest Officers from representative ryots on the subject matter of G.O. No. 652, dated 2nd May 1925 ;

(b) whether the District Forest Officers submitted those opinions with their reports to Government ; and

(c) whether Government will be pleased to place those reports on the table of this House ?

A.—(a) The Government have instructed the Chief Conservator to direct Conservators to consult local opinion in the matter.

(b) The Government have not received the Chief Conservator's report.

(c) This will be considered when the reports are received.

Jails.

Religious preachers permitted into the Madras Penitentiary.

* 1845 Q.—Mr. T. ADINARAYANA CHETTIYAR : Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(a) the total number of convicts now in the Madras Penitentiary ;

(b) how many of them are Hindus, how many Christians and how many Muhammadans ;

(c) how many of them know English, how many Tamil and how many Telugu ;

(d) how many Christian congregationists (preachers), how many Hindu, and how many Muhammadan preachers have been granted 'the privilege of visiting the Penitentiary and imparting religious instruction to the inmates' ;

(e) whether the Christian preachers are allowed to preach only to the Christian prisoners ;

(f) the names of the preachers and the missions or religious orders to which they belong ; and

26th March 1926]

(g) how many of these Christian preachers know the vernaculars besides English and how many know only English ?

A.—(a) 973 on 5th January 1926.

(b) Hindus	...	612	Muhammadans	...	273
Christians	...	65	Others	...	23

(c) Convicts knowing English	...	...	...	...	60
------------------------------	-----	-----	-----	-----	----

Do. Tamil	...	...	...	...	172
-----------	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----

Do. Telugu	...	...	...	...	72
------------	-----	-----	-----	-----	----

(d) Number of Christian congregationists	...	...	...	...	17
--	-----	-----	-----	-----	----

Do. Hindu preachers	...	...	...	...	4
---------------------	-----	-----	-----	-----	---

Do. Muhammadan preachers	...	...	...	...	1
--------------------------	-----	-----	-----	-----	---

(e) Yes.

(f) A list * is appended.

(g) The Government have no information.

Mappilla colonization of the Andamans.

* 1846 Q.—Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR : Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government have received a copy of the report of the Committee that was sent to the Andamans to report on the question of the Mappilla colonization in that island ;

(b) whether he has received copies of resolutions of public meetings protecting against the colonization and, if so, how many ; and

(c) whether the Government have arrived at any final conclusions on the point and, if so, to what effect ?

A.—(a) No.

(b) Yes ; copies of resolutions passed at five public meetings have been received.

(c) The hon. Member is referred to the answer to question No. 1314 given on the 9th February 1926. This Government await the issue of final orders of the Government of India in the matter.

Local Boards and Municipal Councils.

Election case conducted by Ponnani Taluk Board.

* 1847 Q.—Mr. R. VERRIAN : Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether in the election case No. 62 of 1925 of the South Malabar District Court the Ponnani taluk board has engaged a vakil on its behalf to defend the case though the President, Taluk Board, is not named as a party in the case ;

(b) whether it is a fact that the Collector of Malabar in his Proceedings No. L. Dis. 8539/25, dated 31st October 1925, has stated it, as his opinion that the expense incurred in engaging a vakil in the above case by the taluk board was a 'needless extravagance' ;

(c) whether it is a fact that the board in its meeting held on the 13th January 1926 has passed a resolution in the matter defying Collector's opinion ; and

[26th March 1926]

4.—(a) Yes. The Government were not convinced of the necessity for the establishment of such a separate school as accommodation was reported to be available in the existing secondary schools to Adi-Andhra pupils who would be likely to apply for admission to the course.

(b) The Government have no information.

Mr. R. VEERIAN :—" May I know, Sir, whether any responsible officer inspected the Adi-Andhra higher elementary school and made any suggestions ?"

The hon. Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. PATRO :—" Yes, Sir."

Mr. R. VEERIAN :—" May I know, Sir, whether it is the Commissioner of Labour or District Educational Officer or some other officer ?"

The hon. Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. PATRO :—" The educational authorities, Sir."

Mr. R. VEERIAN :—" Sir, it is found that there are several pupils who have completed their course in the higher elementary school and are seeking admission to a high school. There will be no accommodation in the existing high school and that is the reason why they ask for a separate school. Does the hon. Minister still think that there is no necessity for a separate school for Adi-Andhras ?"

The hon. Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. PATRO :—" Yes, Sir. I still think that there is no need for a separate school and the request for it is not to my mind a necessary one."

Mr. R. VEERIAN :—" With reference to clause (b), will the Government be pleased to call for the information ?"

The hon. Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. PATRO :—" It is not known what the constitution of the Sangam is and how far its recommendations deserve consideration."

Mr. R. VEERIAN :—" Anyhow, Sir, I make myself responsible for the information that 53 pupils applied for the scholarships. The Sangam is a well-organized one; otherwise it would not have been able to conduct an elementary school in such an efficient manner for the past so many years. I therefore want to know whether the hon. Minister will call for the information."

The hon. Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. PATRO :—" No."

Stipends for trained Indian Christian female candidates.

* 1850 Q.—Mr. J. A. SALDANHA: Will the hon. the Minister for Education be pleased to state—

(a) why whereas the special rates of stipends for female candidates trained for teachership are fixed from Rs. 9-8-0 upwards for depressed classes, Hindus, Muhammadans, Europeans and Anglo-Indians, only the minimum of Rs. 8-8-0 is allowed to Indian Christians; and

(b) whether there is any other community that get the minimum rates and, if so, which?

[26th March 1926]

4.—(a) Special rates of stipends are allowed with reference to the varying standards of living and expenses which are normal to particular communities and also with reference to the educational backwardness or otherwise of the communities concerned.

(b) Hindu and Christian masters.

Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—" Sir, with reference to question (b) I asked for the information only with reference to female candidates for teachership. I shall explain what it means, Sir."

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" I do not think it requires any explanation."

Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—" Sir, the answer to clause (b) relates only to masters and not to mistresses. Does this apply to mistresses also ?"

The hon. Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. PATRO :—" Not mistresses evidently."

Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—" Do the Hindu and Christian mistresses get anything higher ?"

The hon. Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. PATRO :—" The answer refers to masters only; it therefore excludes mistresses."

Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—" I want to know for what reason the Indian Christian mistresses alone are allowed only the minimum rates while all the other communities are allowed higher rates. For what sin of this community are they penalised like this ?"

The hon. Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. PATRO :—" There is no sin or penalty in this case. On the other hand, it is to their credit that they are recognized to be more forward in education than other communities."

Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—" May I ask whether the hon. Minister is aware that though my community is forward educationally it is not well off economically and as such why it is not entitled to the concession shown to the other communities ?"

The hon. Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. PATRO :—" We are concerned only with educational facilities and not with economic questions."

Mr. R. VEERIAN :—" May I know, Sir, whether it is the intention of the Government to give a larger stipends to members of communities which are educationally backward ?"

The hon. Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. PATRO :—" The answer to clause (a) makes it clear."

Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—" The answer to the question says that the varying standards of living and expenses which are normal to particular communities are taken into consideration also. Though the Indian Christian community is progressive educationally it is not economically forward and as such it is entitled to the concession that is shown to the other communities also. I want to know why such a concession is not shown here. (After a pause.) Am I to understand that the answer is in the affirmative or in the negative? Why is this injustice done to a particular community? Why should they be penalised by allowing them only the minimum rates when every other community gets the higher rates? What is the exact cause ?"

The hon. Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. PATRO :—" I have already answered that question, Sir."

[26th March 1926]

(d) whether the members of the board consisting of a Tiyya, a Mukkuva, and a Christian have submitted a joint dissenting minute in the affair opposing the view of the majority and supporting the Collector's proceedings?

A.—(a) The Government understand that a notice was served on the President, Taluk Board, by the District Court, requiring him to appear and state his case. In pursuance of a resolution of the Taluk Board, the President engaged the Government Pleader to watch the proceedings in the case on behalf of the Board.

(b) From a copy of the Collector's order received from an un-official source, the fact appears to be as stated.

(c) & (d) The Government have no information.

The RAJA OF RAMNAD:—"May I ask the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government why the Collector is interfering in these election suits? In the answer given in clause (b) it is stated 'from a copy of the Collector's order received from an un-official source, the fact appears to be as stated'. In answer to clauses (c) and (d) it is stated that 'Government have no information'. Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to kindly consider the desirability of instructing these Collectors not to interfere in election suits?"

The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL:—"I think that the services of a Government Pleader must have been utilized by the Taluk Board through the Collector, and the Collector has expressed his opinion."

The RAJA OF RAMNAD:—"I ask, Sir, what right has the Collector to say anything in this matter? The taluk board has got the right of defending its election cases in its own way. What right has the Collector to give such a gratuitous advice in an election matter? Probably the Collector is interested in the election of someone and the taluk board is interested in the election of somebody else?"

11-15 a.m. The hon. Mr. N. E. MARJORIBANKS:—"I must protest against these allegations, Sir."

The hon. the PRESIDENT:—"How does this matter come within the cognizance of the Collector?"

The RAJA OF RAMNAD:—"That is what I am asking, Sir."

The hon. the PRESIDENT:—"Some party must have taken it to the Collector."

The RAJA OF RAMNAD:—"Yes, Sir, the Collector can, under the Act, call for the papers and peruse them and offer some advice in any matter for the consideration of the taluk board. Unless he is interested one way or the other in the elections I fail to see why he took action. I do not know what actually happened, Sir. I want fuller information on the subject."

The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL:—"The hon. Member himself said that under the Act the Collector could call for the papers. He called for the papers and formed an opinion on the subject-matter and expressed that opinion."

[26th March 1926]

Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR:—"May I know, Sir, whether under the terms of agreement with the Government, the Government Pleader has to take the permission of the Collector before he accepts an engagement for watching the proceedings on behalf of the taluk board? I think, Sir, it is the hon. the Law Member who has to answer this."

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR:—"I want notice, Sir."

Communal representation in nominations to taluk boards.

* 1848 Q.—Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR: Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government have made a rule as recommended by the Advisory Committee which met on 18th May 1925, that in the case of taluk boards, nominations should always provide for a Muhammadan, an Indian Christian and a member of the depressed classes when candidates from each class are available and, if so, when; and

(b) if the Government have made no such rule, whether they have communicated the suggestion to the authorities concerned and, if so, when?

A.—(a) & (b) The Advocate-General who was consulted in the matter was of opinion that the provisions of section 9 (5) of the Madras Local Boards Act could not be enforced without an amendment of the Act. The Advisory Committee at a meeting held on 7th October 1925 agreed on reconsideration to an amendment of the Act to give effect to its views as recorded in its resolution of 18th May 1925.

As already stated in reply to question No. 1393, the Government have accordingly decided to amend the Act.

Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR:—"Sir, there is no answer to clause (b) of my question."

The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL:—"Both of them are answered together."

Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR:—"I have asked whether the suggestion has been communicated to the authorities concerned."

The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL:—"The presidents of taluk boards have been repeatedly reminded of their duty to pay due regard to the representation of unrepresented communities."

Education.

High school for Adi-Andhras at Masulipatam.

* 1849 Q.—Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR: Will the hon. the Minister for Education and the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether an application was made by the Andhra Deena Sangam, Masulipatam, requesting the Government to open a high school for Adi-Andhras at Masulipatam and whether the Government have passed an order refusing to comply with the request and, if so, why; and

(b) whether it is a fact that the Sangam recommended scholarships for 53 pupils of depressed classes but the Labour Commissioner was not able to provide for more than 3 pupils?

[26th March 1926]

(d) whether the members of the board consisting of a Tiyya, a Mukkuva, and a Christian have submitted a joint dissenting minute in the affair opposing the view of the majority and supporting the Collector's proceedings?

A.—(a) The Government understand that a notice was served on the President, Taluk Board, by the District Court, requiring him to appear and state his case. In pursuance of a resolution of the Taluk Board, the President engaged the Government Pleader to watch the proceedings in the case on behalf of the Board.

(b) From a copy of the Collector's order received from an un-official source, the fact appears to be as stated.

(c) & (d) The Government have no information.

The RAJA OF RAMNAD:—"May I ask the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government why the Collector is interfering in these election suits? In the answer given in clause (b) it is stated 'from a copy of the Collector's order received from an un-official source, the fact appears to be as stated'. In answer to clauses (c) and (d) it is stated that 'Government have no information'. Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to kindly consider the desirability of instructing these Collectors not to interfere in election suits?"

The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL:—"I think that the services of a Government Pleader must have been utilized by the Taluk Board through the Collector, and the Collector has expressed his opinion."

The RAJA OF RAMNAD:—"I ask, Sir, what right has the Collector to say anything in this matter? The taluk board has got the right of defending its election cases in its own way. What right has the Collector to give such a gratuitous advice in an election matter? Probably the Collector is interested in the election of someone and the taluk board is interested in the election of somebody else?"

11-15 a.m. The hon. Mr. N. E. MARJORIBANKS:—"I must protest against these allegations, Sir."

The hon. the PRESIDENT:—"How does this matter come within the cognizance of the Collector?"

The RAJA OF RAMNAD:—"That is what I am asking, Sir."

The hon. the PRESIDENT:—"Some party must have taken it to the Collector."

The RAJA OF RAMNAD:—"Yes, Sir, the Collector can, under the Act, call for the papers and peruse them and offer some advice in any matter for the consideration of the taluk board. Unless he is interested one way or the other in the elections I fail to see why he took action. I do not know what actually happened, Sir. I want fuller information on the subject."

The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL:—"The hon. Member himself said that under the Act the Collector could call for the papers. He called for the papers and formed an opinion on the subject-matter and expressed that opinion."

[26th March 1926]

Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR:—"May I know, Sir, whether under the terms of agreement with the Government, the Government Pleader has to take the permission of the Collector before he accepts an engagement for watching the proceedings on behalf of the taluk board? I think, Sir, it is the hon. the Law Member who has to answer this."

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR:—"I want notice, Sir."

Communal representation in nominations to taluk boards.

* 1848 Q.—Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR: Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government have made a rule as recommended by the Advisory Committee which met on 18th May 1925, that in the case of taluk boards, nominations should always provide for a Muhammadan, an Indian Christian and a member of the depressed classes when candidates from each class are available and, if so, when; and

(b) if the Government have made no such rule, whether they have communicated the suggestion to the authorities concerned and, if so, when?

A.—(a) & (b) The Advocate-General who was consulted in the matter was of opinion that the provisions of section 9 (5) of the Madras Local Boards Act could not be enforced without an amendment of the Act. The Advisory Committee at a meeting held on 7th October 1925 agreed on reconsideration to an amendment of the Act to give effect to its views as recorded in its resolution of 18th May 1925.

As already stated in reply to question No. 1393, the Government have accordingly decided to amend the Act.

Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR:—"Sir, there is no answer to clause (b) of my question."

The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL:—"Both of them are answered together."

Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR:—"I have asked whether the suggestion has been communicated to the authorities concerned."

The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL:—"The presidents of taluk boards have been repeatedly reminded of their duty to pay due regard to the representation of unrepresented communities."

Education.

High school for Adi-Andhras at Masulipatam.

* 1849 Q.—Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR: Will the hon. the Minister for Education and the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether an application was made by the Andhra Deena Sangam, Masulipatam, requesting the Government to open a high school for Adi-Andhras at Masulipatam and whether the Government have passed an order refusing to comply with the request and, if so, why; and

(b) whether it is a fact that the Sangam recommended scholarships for 53 pupils of depressed classes but the Labour Commissioner was not able to provide for more than 3 pupils?

[26th March 1926]

Mr. R. VEERIAN :—" May I know whether the hon. Minister thinks that there is no partiality in giving one rate of stipends to one community and another rate to another community ? "

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" That is not a question for information. "

Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—" May I know, Sir, whether recently a Government Order was passed enabling the students of the depressed classes to get a higher rate of stipend, i.e., Rs. 10-8-0 and if it is the case, whether the hon. Minister is inclined to consider the case of those economically backward communities like the Indian Christian community for a similar concession ? "

The hon. Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. PATRO :—" The guardian allowance in the case of the depressed classes is allowed. "

The RAJA OF RAMNAD :—" Arising out of the answer given by the hon. Minister that the students of the Indian Christian community are paid less because they are educationally forward, may I ask him whether the European and the Anglo-Indian communities are not forward ? "

Mr. R. VEERIAN :—" May I know the amount of stipend that is paid to the Europeans and Anglo-Indian students ? "

Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—" I think, Sir, the Europeans are paid about Rs. 15-8-0. But what is the ground on which they are paid a higher rate ? "

The hon. Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. PATRO :—" The grounds are given in the answer to clause (a). "

Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—" I want to know the exact ground why the Indian Christian community is paid so low, while the other communities such as the European, the Anglo-Indian and Hindu communities including the Brahman community, get a higher rate of stipend ? There is no use of enunciating the general principle that is based on the standard of living, the educational backwardness, etc. I want to know the exact grounds for this particular discrimination. "

Mr. R. VEERIAN :—" I have not yet got an answer to my question as to how much the Anglo-Indian and European communities are paid. "

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" The hon. Member Mr. Saldanha has given the information. "

Mr. R. VEERIAN :—" It may or may not be correct. I want the official information. "

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" It has not been contradicted by the hon. Minister. "

Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—" Yes, Sir, it is something more or less than Rs. 15-8-0. I want to know the exact grounds of this distinction. For what sin is this penalty imposed on this community ? "

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" Why should the hon. Member go so far as to use the word 'sin' ? "

Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—" May I have an answer to my specific question from the hon. Minister ? (After a pause.) Probably the answer will not be favourable, I think, to the hon. Minister. "

[26th March 1926]

Pay of teachers of Government girls' schools transferred to local bodies.

* 1851 Q.—Mr. P. ANJANEYULU : Will the hon. the Minister for Education be pleased to state—

(a) if any memorial has been submitted by the permanent teachers of the Government Girls' School for Girls transferred to the local bodies ;

(b) whether it is a fact that no time-scale of pay is sanctioned to such teachers ; and

(c) if so, the reasons for this treatment ?

A.—(a) Yes.

(b) No time-scale of pay was sanctioned by the Government.

(c) The teachers are now the employees of local bodies and it is open to the local bodies concerned to sanction a time-scale of pay for them, if their funds permit.

Reorganization of the Madras Educational Service.

* 1852 Q.—Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR : Will the hon. the Minister for Education be pleased to state—

(a) how many officers who are now in the Madras Educational Service have held acting appointments in the Indian Educational Service and whether they, or any of them have any chance of being promoted to that service ;

(b) whether a reorganization scheme was intended to be given effect to about the year 1921 or 1922 for the Madras Educational Service and, if so, whether its consideration was postponed, pending the publication of the Lee Commission Report ; and

(c) whether the Government have taken up the question of the reorganization scheme since the Lee Commission report has been published, and, if so, with what result ; if no decision has been arrived at as yet, in what stage the question is at present ?

A.—(a) The particulars required are given below :—

	Number of officers who held officiating appointments in the Indian Educational Service, for various periods but have ceased to hold such officiating appointments.	Number of officers who are now officiating in the Indian Educational Service.
Madras Educational Service (Men's branch)	23	3
Madras Educational Service (Women's branch)	1	1

In view of the recommendations of the Lee Commission for the provincialization of posts in the Indian Educational Service cadre permanent promotions to that cadre are not now made.

[26th March 1926]

(b) No.

(c) The reorganization of the superior educational services will be taken up after the receipt of the orders of the Secretary of State and of the Government of India on the recommendations of the Lee Commission.

Excise.*Arrack shop at Surla.*

* 1853 Q.—Sriman SASIBHUSHAN RATH Mahasayo: Will the hon. the Minister for Education be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that an arrack shop is going to be newly opened at Surla (Ganjam district);

(b) whether the people of the locality protested against the opening of an arrack shop;

(c) whether it is a fact that the villagers of Surla and those of the surrounding villages held a conference in January last and protested against the proposal;

(d) whether it is a fact that the Kevutos (fishermen) of the village are a non-drinking people; and

(e) why Government has decided to open an arrack shop where there are no people to drink?

A.—The Government have no information.

Public Works.*Opening of a new sub-gate on the Pollachi-Vannanthorai road.*

* 1854 Q.—Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR: Will the hon. the Minister for Education be pleased to state—

(a) whether a sub-gate has been newly opened on the Pollachi-Vannanthorai road at the place where the Anamalai-Pulankinar district board road crosses it;

(b) whether no reference was made to this sub-gate in the notification published for auctioning the toll-gate on this road;

(c) when the sub-gate was opened, why and under whose authority;

(d) whether no information was given about the opening of this sub-gate to the district board which is paying a contribution for maintaining the road;

(e) whether the Anamalai Planters' Association were consulted about opening this sub-gate and if so, what was its opinion;

(f) whether the Kottur Union Board and the public of adjacent villages have protested against this sub-gate;

(g) whether the District Board of Coimbatore has passed a resolution that this sub-gate should be removed at once and that the payment of its contribution for this road will be stopped till it is removed;

(h) whether the toll-gate contractor pays anything additional on account of the opening of the new sub-gate and if so, how much; and

(i) whether orders have been or will be passed for the removal of the sub-gate and if so, from what date?

[26th March 1926]

A.—(a) The Government approved of the shifting of the Public Works Department toll-gate intended to tap traffic proceeding along the Pollachi-Valparai road from mile 34/7 to a point at mile 32/7—the local officers have apparently put up four gates at the cross roads and tolls have been collected wrongly on traffic proceeding across the Pollachi-Valparai road and along the Pulankinar-Anamalai road.

(b) The Government do not know, but have called for the sale notice.

(c) Presumably in August 1925, when the Government sanctioned the shifting of the old gate; as explained, the Government did not intend to authorize any gates to catch cross traffic.

(d) No.

(e) No.

(f) Yes.

(g) Yes.

(h) The Government do not know.

(i) Orders have been issued to move the gate away from the cross roads at once.

Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR:—"Sir, with reference to clause (i), may I know the authority under which the Government have directed the removal of the gate?"

The hon. Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. PATRO:—"Government set up the toll-gate and they can remove it."

Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR:—"Is it not the local body, Sir?"

The hon. Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. PATRO:—"No, Sir, it does not refer to the local bodies."

Agriculture.*Experiments by the Agricultural Department in the famine areas.*

* 1855 Q.—Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR: Will the hon. the Minister for Development be pleased to state the experiments, if any, made by the Agricultural Department in the famine zone of the Presidency to make the agricultural population there less dependent than now on the vagaries of rainfall and the results so far obtained as the result of them?

A.—All work in raising the yields of dry grains, cotton, etc., at the agricultural experiment stations in the Deccan has been directed to 'making the agricultural population less dependent on the vagaries of rainfall.' Dry farming and cultivation with a view to the conservation of moisture have been systematically advocated with the same end in view, and all efforts to raise the duty of water and to prevent waste of water in paddy cultivation, etc., are with the same object. At the Sirvel station which has been closed the problem of converting dry land into wet with as little expense and in as short a time as possible was investigated. The results have been published in a leaflet issued by the Agricultural department. Details of experiments carried out on the Hagari Experimental station to ascertain the most economical method of utilizing the water in sandy beds of rivers, and to study the most profitable methods of applying canal water to black cotton soil are

[26th March 1926]

given in the reports of this station for 1907-1910. The results of experiments to investigate the possibility of feeding cattle with prickly-pear during times of famine at Bellary have also been published in a departmental leaflet.

Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR:—"May I know, Sir, whether any experiment was conducted on the red soils?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir T. N. SIVAGNANAM PILLAI:—"I should like to have notice, Sir."

UNSTARRED QUESTIONS.

Economic condition including prices and wages.

Ground rents in Timmancherla.

1856 Q.—Mr. G. RAMESWARA RAO: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether any action has been taken on the representations made by the inhabitants of Timmancherla, with regard to the market value and ground rents of their homesteads; and

(b) if so, with what result?

A.—(a) The representations made by the hon. Member in his note dated 14th September 1925, and his letters dated 10th October 1925 and 31st October 1925, were forwarded to the Board of Revenue. The Board was asked to inquire and to take such remedial action as might be found necessary. The hon. Member was informed accordingly.

(b) In its Proceedings Routine No. 1141, dated 4th March 1926, the Board of Revenue has informed the hon. Member of the action taken by it.

Public Service.

Confirmation of acting clerks in the Revenue department of South Kanara district.

1857 Q.—Mr. T. M. MOIDU SAHIB: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state the number of acting clerks who have been confirmed in the Revenue department of the South Kanara district since the G.O. No. 658 of 15th August 1922 which contemplates appointments and promotions by selection in consideration of communal representation, and how many of them are Mappillas?

A.—The hon. Member is referred to the answer to question No. 1651.

Education.

Schools for the deaf, the dumb and the blind in the Presidency.

1858 Q.—Rao Bahadur C. NATESA MUDALIYAR: Will the hon. the Minister for Education be pleased to state—

(a) how many schools there are in the Presidency for defective children, viz., the deaf, dumb and blind;

[26th March 1926]

(b) the number on the rolls in each school;

(c) the number of teachers;

(d) the amount of grant for each school for the last three years; and

(e) the amount of income, expenditure and the Government grant to such schools for the last three years?

A.—(a) Three for the deaf and dumb and three for the blind.

(b) & (c) The Government have no information.

(d) & (e) The information available is furnished below:—

Name of school.	Government grant for 1922-23.	Other income in 1922-23.	Expenditure in 1922-23.	Government grant for 1923-24.
	RS.	RS.	RS.	RS.
Deaf and dumb school, Madura.	518	252	4,249	910
Deaf and dumb school, Mylapore.	2,207	3,149	7,072	2,585
Deaf and dumb school, Palamcottah.	3,100	15	9,076	6,427

II

COMMUNICATION TO THE COUNCIL.

The Secretary laid on the table a copy of the Report^a of the Public Accounts Committee on the Audit and Appropriation Reports on the accounts of the Government of Madras for 1924-25.

[Note.—An asterisk * at the beginning of a speech indicates that the speech has been revised by the Member.]

III

MOTIONS ON THE BUDGET FOR 1926-27.

DEMAND XXVII—FISHERIES—cont.

* Mr. V. PANDRANG ROW:—"Sir, the hon. Member from the West Coast representing the Fishermen community desires to abolish the Tanur Experimental station. The gravamen of his indictment is that the station has served its purpose and can therefore be abolished. I am willing to confess that the hon. Member has a special knowledge of the Fishermen community on the West Coast and as such his views are entitled to serious consideration. But in this particular case I am afraid that his views are coloured by a misapprehension of fact, namely, that the work of the station has really been finished. He starts on the assumption that the work is finished and therefore he says that the station can be abolished. I am afraid I may have to weary the House with a somewhat detailed description of the work done at the station and what is more important, of the work that remains to be done. As a result of the work done in this station, a large number of guano oil factories have been thriving on the West Coast, several hundreds of them, and these factories have been bringing an annual income of over 30 lakhs of rupees to the fish-curing industry. But that is only the fringe of the

11-30 a.m.

^a Printed separately.

[Mr. V. Pandrang Row]

[26th March 1926]

problem. There is still very much greater scope for further development not only in the volume of the industry but also in the nature of the industry. The work that is now done at the factories is only the manufacture of fish oil. It costs Rs. 80 or 90 a ton. The real point however is that the manufacture of the crude oil does not bring in so much profit as the manufacture of refined oil. While a ton of crude oil costs only Rs. 80 or 90 a ton of refined oil will bring something like Rs. 650. Crude oil is now being sent to the Jute Mills of Bengal or to Germany where it is made into refined oil. As we are not manufacturing refined oil on the West Coast several hundreds of rupees per ton are lost. If we can refine the oil ourselves on the West Coast all the additional profit will be gained by the industry on the West Coast."

* Diwan Bahadur M. KRISHNAN NAYAR :—"I am very reluctant to interrupt the hon. Member. May I know how many tons of crude oil are necessary to make one ton of refined oil?"

* Mr. V. PANDRANG ROW :—"I have no definite information on the subject. But I daresay that a very large quantity of crude oil is not required to make one ton of refined oil. I am not quite sure on that point. But I shall go on to a more sure ground."

* Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—"May I know if there is no factory on the West Coast which produce refined oil?"

* Mr. V. PANDRANG ROW :—"No, Sir, unless we can call the oil produced by a private firm at Mangalore as refined oil. The hon. Member from South Kanara is astonished at the ignorance of the department. I am not astonished at anything which Mr. Saldanha says. Of course, his knowledge is so vast and so varied that he cannot have anything but contempt for the knowledge of others."

"Though it is profitable to manufacture fish guano, we have yet to manufacture fish meal. The difference in price between fish guano and fish meal is very great. A ton of fish meal would cost Rs. 250. Fish guano costs Rs. 80 a ton. The extra cost of manufacturing fish meal is only Rs. 40 per ton. We must manufacture fish meal and refine crude oil work which has not been taken up on a large scale by private firms. It is in these directions that the experiments at the station are being made with actual success and with promise of greater success in the future. It would be a great pity if we were to abandon the experiments at the station because there is a large number of private firms manufacturing oil depending upon the continuance of the Tanur station. As a matter of fact, even the private companies would probably not thrive unless the station continues, because the buyers of the products insist upon some guarantee as to the standard of the products. This experimental station furnishes certificates of analysis of fish oil and guano. In the absence of such certificates it is very doubtful whether the firms on the West Coast would be able to find a market for their products. Sir, there is a certain amount of inconsistency in the argument of my hon. Friend Mr. Gopalan. He objected to the continuance of the station on the ground that it competes with private enterprise. He went on to say that the quantity of guano oil produced at the station was infinitesimal. If that is the case the competition would be negligible. The station has not only to manufacture oil but it has to conduct experiments. Even in the matter of selling the products, the station is necessary to create a market and in order to make the products familiar to people outside also."

[26th March 1926]

* Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—"From the commercial point of view what is the profit and loss account of this station?"

* Mr. V. PANDRANG ROW :—"I am coming to it presently. I do not know if my hon. Friend wants that I should give the figures for every year. I shall give the figures for the last five years."

* Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—"I want figures for the last five years. The Retrenchment Committee has dealt with this matter."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—"As the hon. Member has not spoken on the subject already, he may wait and speak afterwards."

* Mr. V. PANDRANG ROW :—"I shall give the figures for the last five years. I hope he will be satisfied and would not ask us to go into ancient history. In 1920-21 there was a loss of Rs. 136; in 1921-22, a gain of Rs. 1,070; in 1922-23, a gain of Rs. 3,480; in 1923-24, a loss of Rs. 1,275; in 1924-25, a loss of Rs. 3,763."

"So, on the whole, the result is a loss of Rs. 624. I make bold to say that it is more or less negligible and that it need not be taken into consideration."

* Rao Sahib P. V. GOPALAN :—"May I know if the profit and loss account takes into consideration the amount derived from the sale of thousands of coconuts from the garden?"

* Mr. V. PANDRANG ROW :—"I am not sure if there are thousands of coconut trees, I know there are a certain number of coconut trees."

* Rao Sahib P. V. GOPALAN :—"It will be more than 500 trees."

* Mr. V. PANDRANG ROW :—"The information I have got for 1923-24 is that the sale proceeds amounted to Rs. 434 and that it costs Rs. 150 to maintain the plantations. The figures for the last five years were given by the chartered accountant. I may add that the policy cannot be justly criticised on the ground that there is some loss. Even if the loss is great I make bold to submit to the House that in view of the excellent work done at the station which will be seen from the Administration Report of the year 1923-24 which I do not wish to read lest I should take more time of the House than I desire, which gives in detail the several improvements effected in the process of preparing oil and various other by-products, such as, Turkey Red oil and so forth, the work done at in the station gives us every reason to believe that it is serving a useful function and that its continuance is necessary for the prosperity of the West Coast."

* Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—"Sir, I would draw the attention of the House to the conflicting policies followed by the Government with regard to (1) the Coonoor Jam Factory and (2) the Fish station at Tanur. Both these institutions have been working at a loss on the whole. Their value would have been very important from an educative point of view. They could train a number of apprentices who could have learnt the art of producing refined oil, canning and preserving. These apprentices could encourage the development of the industry all over the Presidency. I may also mention that from the point of view of education . . ."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—"The hon. Member is not on the subject on education."

[26th March 1926]

* Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—"What I said was that these institutions would have been important from an educative point of view. From a commercial point of view I find that the institutions have been working at a loss. I want to correct a mistake. Yesterday when we were dealing with the Fish Preserving Institution at Chaliyam, the hon. Member, the Development Secretary, told us that the number of people educated there, was 16. I understood afterwards that that was the number trained at Tanur station."

* Mr. V. PANDRANG ROW :—"I explained at the time that I meant only the Tanur station and not the Chaliyam Institute."

* Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—"Only 16 men have been trained as apprentices. From that point of view also, nothing has been done. The Jam Factory at Coonoor would compete, if properly helped by the Government, with the import of jam from Australia which is in the hands of European firms. I want to know why the Government should not close the factory at Tanur. I will draw attention, Sir, to the suggestion made by the Retrenchment Committee as to the main work of the station. This is what they say :

"The main work of this station has been in the direction of fish-curing and in the development of the fish-oil and guano industry. As a demonstrational centre the station has done good work and has introduced improved methods of curing in the public fish-curing yards. The fish oil and guano demonstrations have resulted in the opening of 647 factories on the West Coast. Tanur from a demonstrational station has developed into a "commercial concern" and is now classed in the administration report as a "factory" to which the Factories Act has been applied."

Here is, I believe, the proper answer. That is what the Retrenchment Committee which consisted of my friends Mr. MacDougall, Mr. Wood, my friend Mr. A. Ranganatha Mudaliyar on this side, Dr. Subbarayan

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—"The hon. Member need not go into the personnel of the Committee."

* Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—"Besides calling it a factory, they go on to say :

"The turnover of the factory may be estimated from the fact that in 1922-23, 2½ lakhs of pounds of fish were purchased for curing alone and that 4½ lakhs of pounds of fresh sardines and 69 thousand pounds of sardine offal were purchased for oil and guano. The profit for 1922-23 is said to have reached the figure of Rs. 5,782. In the opinion of the Committee, Tanur has served its purpose as a demonstration station and has now been developed into a commercial unit. It need no longer therefore be maintained as a Government institution but may be sold."

"But Government have decided to retain it and that for very unsatisfactory reasons. I am afraid, Sir, I will have to take some time to show how absurd these reasons are for Government to retain this institution any longer. This is the first time the hon. the Minister for Development has come in for a criticism as regards this department in the budget debates and we have so little time at the same time to devote more attention to the details. I will show that the remarks made by the Retrenchment Committee are quite correct. It has not only led to the opening of 647 factories in the West Coast, but it has also led to the greater production of crude oil and refined oil. If the hon. the Minister had made enquiries, he would have found that the retention of this institution was quite unnecessary. I hope the hon. the Minister will find time to go through the reports and bring himself more in touch with the reports of commercial undertakings in the Presidency, which so far he has done only to a very limited extent. If he had gone carefully into the economic and industrial aspects of this industry, he would have found that there is much to be done and that much has been left undone by

[26th March 1926]

[Mr. J. A. Saldanha]

the closing of some institutions on account of money stringency. The West Coast Fishing Company, Messrs. Jos Alwaris & Co., which produces sardine oil produces refined oil also. This company has engaged the services of a graduate, a gentleman who has received diploma in the Bangalore Science Institute, and very good refined oil is being produced by this company at Mangalore. There may be other companies like this, but I am sure of this one. The greatest difficulties, however, are the competition from Government institutions and want of encouragement from Government. What Government should do in the case of all these nascent industries is to stop all competition and aid them in various ways. Nothing in this respect is done. First of all, they do not know if there is such a factory."

* Mr. V. PANDRANG ROW :—"On a matter of personal explanation, Sir. I did mention this company and I said I was not aware of any other. The hon. Member himself has not been able to give the name of any other company."

* Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—"Sir, the Secretary of the Development Department told us that they produce only sardine oil and that for medicinal purposes; but they produce oil for commercial purposes also. Sardine oil can be produced without chemical process. The uppermost layer of the oil is always good for medicinal purposes. For the production of the refined oil from crude oil, however, a man who has passed applied chemistry in oils is quite necessary and such a man is employed in this factory. This is only a typical instance and there may be many more. Considering all this, Sir, I think the House will weigh the policy of the Development Department which is quite anti-national. The Development Department has done very little in the direction of developing national industries; at any rate, at present they are taking a course which must necessarily retard the development of national industries. They have already given up an industry without any consideration—I mean the jam factory. They can maintain it at least as an educative institution for training apprentices and teaching them how to prepare and preserve jams."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—"I think the other day the hon. Member approved of the closing of the jam factory."

* Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—"I shall not dwell on that, Sir, but I shall go to the next point. What I wanted to urge is this, that the Government should not undertake or carry on any of these industries as their own for commercial purposes, but such industries should be encouraged for the purpose of training apprentices. For instance, the Madura Institute is said to serve the purpose of training apprentices. We want this institution also to serve the purpose of training apprentices and producing skilled workmen who will spread their knowledge of this industry far and wide. I am not for maintaining these institutions commercially. I think this House would not grudge the expenditure of some lakhs if only by that means we can be sure of spreading our industries all over the Presidency."

* Rao Sahib P. V. GOPALAN :—"Mr. President, Sir, I really congratulate the hon. Mr. V. P. Row, Secretary to the Development Department, for the very businesslike way in which he has argued the case for the retention of the Tanur experimental station on behalf of the Development Department. But, Sir, I am sorry I have to disagree with him in some important points which he has placed before the House. First and foremost, Sir, he said that

[Mr. P. V. Gopalan]

[26th March 1926]

the Tanur experimental station has justified its existence and he has also got proposals for further developments. He did not however say what the developments are. Secondly, Sir, he gave the figure of Rs. 650 for a ton of refined oil manufactured in the Tanur station. It will be news to my hon. Friend, Sir, when I say that private manufacturers who manufacture medicinal oil in the West Coast realize a sum of Rs. 1,500 for a ton of refined oil."

* Mr. V. PANDRANG ROW :—"For mere refined oil?"

* Rao Sahib P. V. GOPALAN :—"I mean medicinal oil. It is for that purpose the oil is practically used. I am told, Sir, that in Newfoundland . . ."

* Mr. V. PANDRANG ROW :—"Refined oil is used for supply to arsenals, tanneries and so forth. They are not medicinal. Medicinal oil is different from refined oil which fetches Rs. 650 per ton."

* Rao Sahib P. V. GOPALAN :—"Sir, if that is the way in which he is going to argue the case, I may be permitted to say that during the war when our Government wanted thousands and thousands of tons of the oil, the Government station at Tanur did not yield even 100 tons; but the quantity supplied by the Government of Madras to the Government of India were several hundreds of thousands of tons. They secured it from private manufacturers, and not from the Government institution at Tanur. Therefore, it is not reasonable to say that the Tanur experimental station is manufacturing refined oil and is supplying it at Rs. 650 a ton. Further, I should have been very glad if Mr. V. P. Row put forth a case to the effect that the Tanur experimental station is now devising methods for manufacturing medicinal oils, because, I am told by an eminent doctor, that more cod-liver oil is imported in this country than is actually manufactured in England. What does it mean? It only means that the so-called cod-liver oil is a mixture of several other oils and what we get is not genuine oil at all. Here we get crude oil for Rs. 0-8-0 to Rs. 1 per gallon. If the Government had only taken the trouble to refine the oil and place it on the market for medicinal purposes, the amount realized would be something like Rs. 7,500. Now we have to pay Rs. 3 to Rs. 5 for a bottle of DeJohn's cod-liver oil. If only these things had been done by the Ministry, I should have been glad to congratulate and support them."

* Mr. V. PANDRANG ROW :—"It is being taken up and that is why the Tanur station must continue."

* Rao Sahib P. V. GOPALAN :—"But, my dear Sir . . ."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—"If the hon. Member is addressing the Chair, he need not be so affectionate. If he is addressing Mr. V. P. Row, he is out of order."

* Rao Sahib P. V. GOPALAN :—"It is a slip of the tongue, Sir. So, I say that the argument put forward by the hon. the Secretary to the Development Department that the station is to be retained for the purpose of further developments are. I say that in the place of the Rs. 650 per ton of refined oil, we can get Rs. 7,500, provided the department enthusiastically undertake to produce refined oil and place it on the market as a medicinal oil."

[Mr. P. V. Gopalan]

[26th March 1926]

There was a question by the hon. the Secretary for the Development Department and by the hon. Member from South Kanara as to how many tons of fish will be required for manufacturing one ton of oil. I may say that six tons of round fish are enough to produce one ton of crude oil and out of one ton of crude oil one-fifth is stearin. So, we require about $7\frac{1}{2}$ tons of round fish for manufacturing one ton of crude oil.

"The second argument put forward by the hon. the Secretary to the Development Department is that he gets Rs. 250 per ton of fish meal. Sir, it is no wonder that we in Malabar have to pay something like Rs. 165 to Rs. 175 and sometimes even Rs. 200 for a ton of fish-guano. The hon. the Secretary argued that the existence of the station at Tanur is absolutely necessary, that it stands as a guarantee between the buyer and the manufacturer. I should just say that the fact is quite contrary. For when we sell our guano we do it on the basis of analysis. We have got Dr. K. Bamber in Ceylon, Dr. Schoulson in Calcutta and we have Messrs. Parry & Co., Messrs. Peirce, Leslie & Co. in Malabar who with the aid of laboratory find out the analysis of fish guano. We sell it therefore not per bulk but on the basis of analysis so many rupees per unit percentage of nitrogen and so much per unit percentage of phosphoric acid. The Government Fishery Station in no way stands as a guarantee between the manufacturers and the several firms that control the supplies."

"Then, it has been said by the hon. the Development Secretary that the station has been styled as an experimental station. I ask whether we can still call it an experimental station. For it was opened in 1908 and are we to call it an experimental station even when it has been 18 years old. If it be so, am I to presume that the station has not achieved its purpose in anything even after this fairly long period?"

"The next argument of the hon. Secretary is in regard to my observation made yesterday as to Government competing with private manufacture. He said that there was no sufficient reason because the quantity manufactured there was small. In his administration report, the Director of Fisheries regrets the fact and goes on to say that there has been for three consecutive years a successive failure at the fishing season. What does that prove? This proves that in ordinary circumstances the station should have made a larger quantity, should have been in a position to sell their produce to ever so many firms and thereby realise a big amount which the Director would have put forward in his profit account. Simply because of the failure of fish, the station has been found to be working at a loss. If the station had large quantities of fish, what would have been the result? The result would have been that they will have to compete with ever so many private manufacturers who earn their livelihood by this profession. I ask whether the Government would not be competing with the private manufacturer if they would be supplying fish to ever so many jails in the Presidency, oil to the Government Military Department. This is not really the function of the Government but of the private manufacturer. We have ever so many European firms, firms like Messrs. Parry & Co., Peirce, Leslie & Co., who give advances and it becomes our duty to manufacture and supply their needs. And when we see that an institution is patronized by the Government which is going to compete with us in the line, are we not right in assuming that they are competing with private enterprise?"

[Mr. P. V. Gopalan]

[26th March 1926]

"Sir, the next argument advanced by the hon. the Secretary was, that in the Tanur station an improved method of curing is adopted. Sir, anybody can manufacture anything. That is not what we actually want. We have to find out a market before we take up the question of manufacturing. The question is whether the Government official has found out a market for consuming the so-called cured fish manufactured at the station. I should say 'No'. Because the fish manufactured at Tanur is not better than the fish ordinarily manufactured. We cannot dam these fish manufactured all these years, for our District Medical Officers have control over the manufacture and its sanitary conditions, and the fish is supplied after medical examination at such places as Ceylon, Singapore and the Straits Settlements. Simply on the ground that the Government station had manufactured 200 lb. of so-called cured fish and that they would like the private manufacturer to follow suit I don't think it can be reasonably argued that the station should be retained.

"Sir, I say that the Tanur station has not justified its existence. If it is to be retained, other developments, new activities for ameliorating the present economic condition of the fishermen, should be taken up; the fishermen should be taught the industries which could serve them as sources of income. If that purpose is not kept in view I do not think I have any reason to support the retention of the big establishment at Tanur. If the hon. the Development Secretary is anxious to carry on the experiments in manufacturing oil, we have got a station at Calicut. There is a special factory with a big laboratory, two scientists and a Government official over and above them. There is the research station with two or three scientists and a laboratory which can very well be utilised for the purpose, instead of having a special assistant who is an expert to run the station on business lines and an establishment. I should say, Sir, that for all these reasons the arguments advanced by the hon. the Development Secretary have not at all convinced me."

* Mr. V. PANDRANG ROW :—"Sir, the hon. Member from Malabar says that he has not been convinced entirely by my arguments. I hope what I am going to say will further the process of carrying conviction. I am sorry I did not mention all these points even at the first instance when I addressed the House on the motion. I did not do so because I thought I would take up too much time. I should have laid more stress on the question of what remains to be done. I shall briefly mention the various kinds of experimental work which are now being done at the station. Apart from the question of improved methods of fish-curing and the refinement of the crude oil and the preparation of fish oil, one of the other lines of investigation now being pursued at the station is the production of turkey red oil from fish oil. That oil is usually produced out of castor oil but now it has been found possible to manufacture it from fish oil. And as the price of turkey red oil is Rs. 600 to 900 per ton and as it is being extensively used in dyeing textiles, I think there is sufficient scope for the manufacture of this product, especially as the process of manufacture appears to be not costly and within the reach of ordinary people."

* Rao Sahib P. V. GOPALAN :—"In fact the Calcutta market generally goes in for our crude oil and pay better price than for the oil referred to. For, for the purpose of manufacturing soaps and for gunny and jute

26th March 1926]

[Mr. P. V. Gopalan]

factories they want crude oil because they will be in a position to get 20 per cent of stearin which they use for making candles and still they get a better value as they manufacture glycerine out of it."

* Mr. V. PANDRANG ROW :—"I mentioned that crude oil only costs about Rs. 80 or Rs. 90 per ton while turkey red oil fetches Rs. 600 to Rs. 900."

* Rao Sahib P. V. GOPALAN :—"Though I am a born fisherman and had something to do with many fishing factories and stations in all my life I have never been in a position to get crude oil for any thing less than Rs. 100 per ton. And it is news to me that the hon. the Secretary tells me that it can be got for Rs. 80. I hope I will be borne out by the hon. Member here who is the Sheriff of Madras, Mr. Wood, whose experience in crude oil is very large."

* Mr. V. PANDRANG ROW :—"I was referring to the price which was prevalent at the time when the Director of Fisheries submitted his report in October 1923. Now the prices have gone up perhaps comparatively high. But that may be equally true of the turkey red oil. In any case that does not affect my argument. Even assuming the price of crude oil is Rs. 150 and the price of turkey red oil is Rs. 600 to 900 and if the manufacture of the latter does not cost much, surely it is a hopeful field of development. Then, Sir, as to the process of manufacture of medicinal oil as a substitute for cod-liveroil, I should say that it is still in an experimental stage. Samples of oil were sent to the Government Ophthalmic Hospital in Madras for examination of the vitamine content. But as the facilities for analysis available at the Ophthalmic Hospital are not quite up to the mark, the samples are now being sent to the Imperial Institute in London for the same purpose and if we succeed in preparing a real substitute for cod-liver oil, that will lay the foundation of a most paying industry."

* Rao Sahib P. V. GOPALAN :—"I just heard the hon. Secretary saying that the Ophthalmic Hospital did not give a good certificate."

* Mr. V. PANDRANG ROW :—"That was not what I said, Sir. I said that the facilities for making the analysis were not quite satisfactory and unless we know for certain what the vitamine content is, we cannot decide one way or the other. The most important thing to note is that it is not as a substitute for cod liver oil that the analysis is to be made but as to the vitamine content. That is the reason why, I may say incidentally, the sardinole which is backed up, influentially backed up, by my hon. Friend from South Kanara Mr. Saldanha."

* Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—"It was not influentially backed up by me. People like Mrs. Simmons, wife of the Surgeon-General, in connection with the Health Exhibition she controls, gets a large quantity of it and the Surgeon-General of Bombay have backed it."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—"Why should the hon. Member object to his support being called influential?"

* Mr. V. PANDRANG ROW :—"Sir, I may be permitted to have my own opinion of comparative influence. So far as my present purpose is concerned, the hon. Member from South Kanara is more influential than the other Members because I have got to convince him. Sir, the sardinole which

[Mr. V. Pandrang Row]

[26th March 1926]

was recommended by, among others, the hon. Member from South Kanara, was found to be not quite satisfactory and that is why the Government were not able to give facilities for pushing its sale."

* Rao Sahib P. V. GOPALAN :—" May I be permitted to say, Sir, that 'Lancet,' the greatest of medical journals, has said in its columns on the 11th July 1921 that sardine oil when compared with cod-liver oil is more easily digested and contains more of nitrogenous materials in it?"

* Mr. V. PANDRANG ROW :—" Is it in comparison with the sardine oil produced at Tanur?"

* Rao Sahib P. V. GOPALAN :—" They have said, Sir, the sardine oil manufactured in the West Coast of India compared with cod-liver oil is more easily digestible and contains more nitrogenous materials. And I ask, Sir, do we want further proof?"

* Mr. V. PANDRANG ROW :—" I am sorry I have to go into this technical matter again. I have already said that the value of the oil does not depend on the nitrogenous contents but on the vitamine content. We were advised by two Surgeons-General with the Government of Madras that it is not an efficient substitute for cod-liveroil and that therefore they could not recommend it.

"Sir, I have been led away from the main point at issue by these numerous interruptions. Again I crave your indulgence for going on with the subject for some more time. I have mentioned the manufacture of turkey red oil, and the manufacture of medicinal oil as a substitute for cod liver oil. Another line of development is refrigeration, which means preservation from putrefaction by using cooling methods."

* Rao Sahib P. V. GOPALAN :—" Sir, may I inform the hon. the Secretary that the refrigerating machine is not at Tanur but lying idle at Chaliyam?"

* Mr. V. PANDRANG ROW :—" I do not say that these experiments are now being actually done. That is one of the lines in which experiments are to proceed in future."

* Rao Sahib P. V. GOPALAN :—" May I ask, Sir, what has been the experience of Sir Frederic Nicholson with regard to this refrigerating machine in 1913-14 and 1914-15?"

Mr. V. PANDRANG ROW :—" My hon. Friend is really supporting my case. It is because the experiments already made were not successful that further experiments are necessary."

12-15 p.m. * Mr. C. E. WOOD :—" I have been referred to several times in the course of this debate, even once as Sheriff (presumably to arrest the fish which nowadays appear to be leaving the West Coast), and feel I ought to give some views.

"In my opinion, Sir, the hon. the Secretary for Development has made out some sort of case for retention of the Tanur station.

26th March 1926]

[Mr. C. E. Wood]

"It is quite true that some years ago, two or three I think, when the Retrenchment Committee sat, I was strongly in favour of the abolition of the Tanur station, and I am rather surprised to see that nothing was done. (Hear, hear.)

"But it was given a new lease of life and, as a consequence, promises to make important experiments in the matter of a substitute for codliveroil.

"If these experiments are really on the way and the department intends to pursue them *and to give up dealing in fish products and fish oil* in its crude state, I personally would see no objection to having the station retained for a short while.

"If those particular experiments do not succeed, however, I consider the station should be abolished."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" Is Mr. Gopalan withdrawing the motion or pressing it?"

* Rao Sahib P. V. GOPALAN :—" Just one word, Sir."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" No speech, please. He must decide whether he would withdraw it or not. (After a pause) I have called upon Mr. Gopalan to say whether he presses his motion to a division or not."

* Rao Sahib P. V. GOPALAN :—" Just one word."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" Order, order. He must tell me whether he presses his motion to a division or is going to withdraw it."

* Rao Sahib P. V. GOPALAN :—" I withdraw it, Sir."

The motion was by leave withdrawn.

* Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—" Sir, I propose to reduce the allotment of Rs. 18,500 for Tanur station by Rs. 100 in order to advocate the training of apprentices. I have dwelt on this point repeatedly, but I think I may again make it quite clear . . ."

* The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir T. N. SIVAGNANAM PILLAI :—" Yesterday, Sir, Mr. Saldanha waived the moving of all motions on this subject."

* Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—" I will explain my position, Sir. At the request of an hon. Friend on the Ministerial side and as it was expected that the whole demand would be over by 5 o'clock . . ."

* The hon. Mr. T. E. MOIR :—" Is the hon. Member in order, Sir, in referring to conversations outside the House which are not within the cognizance of the House?"

* Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—" It was not a conversation. I said that, as they were about to close the debate yesterday only, I said that I did not want to move my motions."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" Very well, then, the hon. Member must abide by his promise."

* Rao Sahib P. V. GOPALAN :—" Sir, I beg to move my motion
'to reduce the allotment of Rs. 16,500 for Training Institute, Calicut, by Rs. 100.'

"My reason for tabling this motion is not to press it, but only to place before the hon. the Minister certain facts and see that he would come to the rescue of the poor fisherfolk on the West Coast. The educational activities of

[Mr. P. V. Gopalan]

[26th March 1926]

the Fisheries department on the West Coast though contributory to the increase of literacy among the fisherfolk are certainly capable of improvement. More schools formed the greatest need, but before new schools are opened, the old ones should be made permanent not only as regards their habitation but also in strength and efficiency. These schools situated as they are in out of the way fishing villages should be under men who would not find it a hardship to live under such conditions. Higher castemen, unless abundantly endowed with high ideals of social service, can hardly be expected to do justice either to themselves or to their schools. This leads to the question of the selection of pupil teachers at the fisheries institute. The selection of non-fishermen, hundreds of whom are ready to accept jobs in the Fisheries department or elsewhere, is the chief cause of the unsatisfactory working of the fisheries schools. In this connexion the Director will be well advised to co-opt two or three leading members of the fishermen community in the present committee composed of the director, the assistant director and the headmaster.

"As regards the actual working of the training institute, there is ample scope for improvement. The three years course is necessary, but as there is already a Government training school at Calicut, there is no need for duplication as there is no difference in the teaching imparted during the first two years. The third-year course is the most important, being meant for special studies as socio-economics, fishery technique, zoology and botany with special reference to marine forms, fishing methods and navigation. For this the students completing the two years' course at the Government training school may come to the fisheries training institute. This will effect considerable economy. Efficiency in handling these special subjects should at all costs be secured. It is indeed a matter for regret, I speak subject to correction, that the students to be sent out this year have not yet been taught fishery techniques. The former assistant director was teaching this, but the present assistant director innocent of subjects like natural science and fishery techniques is the examiner and the recipient of the honorarium. The syllabus which is an ideal one ought to be followed and it is not impossible to find experts in the department, perhaps even at the headquarters of Calicut, capable of authoritatively handling those special subjects. The more the fishermen trained and sent out, the greater are the chances of success of fisheries schools. The training should be of the nature suited to the conditions of the fishing villages. It will not do to put one thing on paper and actually do another. I wish the hon. the Minister will also grant scholarships to a few fisher boys to pursue high school and collegiate education. With these words I beg to move the motion."

* Mr. J. A. SALDANHA:—"I would draw attention to the omission, rather the neglect, on the part of the Fisheries department so far as South Kanara fishermen are concerned. They are chips of the same block, the fishermen of South Kanara and those of Malabar (laughter), though they are speaking different languages. My hon. Friend from Malabar will bear me out when I say that on account of the difference in languages—Malayalam is so different from Kanarese or Tulu which the fishermen of South Kanara talk—it is very difficult for these fishermen of South Kanara to get training at Calicut. They have now got a school at Calicut, and I for one do not grudge the school to the fishermen of Malabar, not only fishermen

[26th March 1926]

[Mr. J. A. Saldanha]

but other people also who take to the cult of fishing because I find now that a number of people who do not exactly belong to the caste of fishermen are taking to fishing."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT:—"Amateur fishermen?"

* Mr. J. A. SALDANHA:—"Not amateur. They took to fishing as a sort of industry in addition to their caste profession or in lieu of it. For instance there are Christians who were hitherto boatmen, and naturally from boatmen they become fishermen, and this class of people also would require education in fishing. Such people are to be found not only among Christians but among Muhammadans and Mappillas. They are generally boatmen, but on account of the fact that the trade of boatmen is not very paying, they take to fishing and I think this class of people require educational institutions in Mangalore or somewhere in the north, say Udipi or Malpe, which are very important fishing centres. There are also on the other hand fishermen who have given up the vocation of fishermen and taken to education, teaching and other lines. In any case there are a large number of fishermen in South Kanara who are in need of education in their own language and line. There is no use of giving them mere literary education which only throws them out of their hereditary professions or professions for which they are fitted, and as we now see a great future for fishing and deep-sea fishing also, I hope more attention will be paid to the enterprising fishermen of South Kanara so far as their professional education is concerned. Another point which I wish to bring to the notice of the House is this. These fishermen of South Kanara, especially some of them Christians, took to the enterprise of fishing with nets which could not be found in any part of the Presidency. It is they that went northward and brought large fishing nets which are not to be found on this side at all. And it is these enterprising people . . ."

* Mr. V. PANDRANG ROW:—"Did they get the nets from Ratnagiri?"

* Mr. J. A. SALDANHA:—"From Ratnagiri and Goa. They have taken to fishing on a large scale and also co-operative societies have been formed for the purpose. But it is the ignorance of the technique or the art of fishing on a large scale, as the Ratnagiri and Goa fishermen possess, that prevents our fishermen from being successful. In fact, a number of co-operative societies formed by these people proved a failure. I do not mean to say all failed; some of them have grown very rich on account of this extensive fishing. But with a study of the technique of fishing and especially of the manufacture and use of these nets, I am sure the art of fishing and the enterprise of fishing will develop extensively. I would therefore appeal to the hon. the Minister that he would take measures in the next budget for the institution of a school at Mangalore or somewhere at Malpe for the special training of fishermen and those who want to learn fishing."

* The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir T. N. SIVAGNANAM PILLAI:—"Mr. President, looking at the statistics I find that during the last six years the number of students who were trained in this institute varied from 12 to 17. Of course, applications come in, but this institute is intended only for the training of teachers for elementary schools for fishermen, and so we have to see that the number we train is not far in excess of the number we need. Otherwise they would go to swell the ranks of the unemployed. It is with

[Sir T. N. Sivagnanam Pillai] [26th March 1926]

that object that a certain restriction has been placed upon the number of students to be trained. The other points mentioned by my hon. Friend Mr. Gopalan and also by my hon. Friend Mr. Saldanha are all new suggestions and they will receive my earnest consideration when the time comes for taking them up for consideration."

The motion was by leave withdrawn.

* Rao Sahib P. V. GOPALAN :—" Sir, I beg to move my motion

'to reduce the allotment of Rs. 32,400 for schools for fishermen by Rs. 100'

to discuss the question of the nature of buildings which are used for the schools for fishermen, etc. Sir, I find from the administration report for 1924-25 prepared by the Director of Government Fisheries that there are 32 schools for fishermen on the West Coast, and it was a surprise to me to see that there was not even a single institution which may be mentioned, built by the Government Fisheries Department for the purpose of housing these poor students of the fisherfolk. I have seen one school at Blangad which is a rented one, and no other buildings on the West Coast are there to admit pupils without fear or anxiety used as Fisheries schools. The Director of Fisheries in his report says that 11 on the East and 11 on the West Coast were blown away on account of the cyclone. Sir, it may be providential that in the so-called rickety buildings built with bamboo and cadjan, in which you find about 2,450 pupils sitting and studying the three Rs., their lives have been saved.

12-30
P.M.

"What would have been the condition, Sir, if one or two schools had been blown away by the late cyclone? The life of the children would have been put an end to. So, I would request the hon. Minister for Development to consider the question of providing at least half a dozen school buildings by the Department of Fisheries for the fishermen of the West Coast every year. I may say that the hon. Minister has not seen any one of these institutions. If he had seen any one of these schools, he would have taken up the schemes even in 1924 when he came to the West Coast. I therefore make this earnest appeal to the hon. Minister on behalf of the fishermen of Malabar, South Kanara and East Coast that instead of the so-called buildings or name sake ones real buildings may be put up."

* The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir T. N. SIVAGNANAM PILLAI :—" If you take the question as to whether for a school building we should have one made of cadjan leaves or coconut leaves or one of bamboos and tiles, I should say, following the latest theories on the subject, that the buildings should be on the first model, viz., coconut or cadjan leaves. Such a building could be changed from place to place, if necessary. In fact we have heard time after time the theory that in the case of the institutions like schools the more open air instruction is given the better. If we had built masonry buildings and if the storm that raged recently had blown over those buildings, the children would have come to the end of their existence. On that score I do not disapprove of the idea of masonry buildings, but the real reason for not having gone for masonry buildings is that funds could not be had. Yesterday some Member asked me what steps I had taken for getting the necessary funds. Here appears an instance in point where year after year we have been asking for funds; but the other question of cadjan

[26th March 1926] [Sir T. N. Sivagnanam Pillai]

buildings versus masonry buildings is always in the forefront and we have not been able to get any money. However, I shall still repeat the demand and as soon as funds come in we will be able to put up the necessary buildings that my hon. Friend suggests."

* Rao Sahib P. V. GOPALAN :—" The hon. Minister for Development said he was in favour of cadjan buildings for the purpose of admitting fresh air into the buildings. For that matter, I may assure the hon. Minister that we are living very near the sea and very few yards from the sea and all of us have got masonry buildings and some of us upstairs buildings. Even century old buildings are existing. I do not think that this plea should be put forth as a reason by the hon. Minister for Development. So far about the fear of storms. The second reason that he advanced was that he would have transferable buildings. (Laughter.) His point seems to be that as soon as the three R's. are taught in a certain place, the building could be shifted to another place. So probably the hon. Minister thinks that it will be rather good and reasonable for him to have transferable buildings for imparting education. (Laughter.) Above all, there is the assurance from the hon. the Minister that if funds permit he would sympathetically consider the views put forward by my humble self. I do not press my motion in the circumstances."

The motion was by leave withdrawn.

* Rao Sahib P. V. GOPALAN :—" I beg to move

'that the allotment of Rs. 2,96,200 for fish-curing yards be reduced by 1,00,000.'

"Mr. President, Sir, I am rather a bit stern in this amendment because this is a point which touches the vitality of the fisherfolk on the West Coast. The fishermen had been manufacturing cured fish from time immemorial with the salt earth which was procurable from the adjoining fields. The medical officers of the Health Department told them: 'It will not be becoming on your part to use salt earth. Use our duty-free salt from Tuticorin. The people said: 'Now, you will say that you will give no duty-free salt—and some time hence you will come and ask us for duty.' The officers told them 'We will see that this department is worked not to any profit but to look after the economic condition of the fisherfolk'. My elders believed this and were using salt for several years. Sir, what took place after 1st April 1924 is a very pitiable affair so far as we fishermen in the West Coast are concerned. Just at a time when the Government of India reduced the duty on edible salt from Rs. 2-8-0 to Rs. 1-4-0, we were asked to give an increased price. The reason adduced was that the Government of India told the Provincial Government, 'we cannot meet both the items—to give duty-free salt and meet the establishment of the fish-curing yards'."

* Mr. V. PANDRANG ROW :—" Is it not from Rs. 2-8-0 to Rs. 1-4-0 ? "

* Rao Sahib P. V. GOPALAN :—" Ten annas was the price per maund. I said one bag of two maunds from Rs. 1-4-0 to Rs. 2-8-0."

* Mr. V. PANDRANG ROW :—" Does it include Government of India duty also ? "

[26th March 1926]

* Rao Sahib P. V. GOPALAN :—“ I said that the Government of India in their letter No. 477, Finance (Separate Revenue), dated 16th November 1922, stated that they were prepared to issue duty-free salt for fish-curing yards but they were unable to incur any other expenditure. They said that they considered that the cost of all other expenditure should be found and borne only by the Madras Government. Sir, in answer to a question put by me on the floor of this hon. House on the 16th of this month, the reply I received was that the quantity of salt issued to fish-curing yards was 169,585 maunds. The actual cost to Government was Rs. 1,43,796. Before the 1st April 1924, the cost was only Rs. 1-4-0 per bag of two maunds. Now, I find a maund costs something like As. 14-6 and Rs. 62,791 have been debited towards the establishment charges, including pensionary charges. What I wish to submit before this House is this. • If it is for anything like the luxury for any class of people, I think Government is quite justified in having a profit out of certain transactions. That is not so here. Here are a certain set of people who happen to be classed as a backward community. They come to Government requesting them to elevate them. With this object Government originally supplied duty-free salt without any establishment charges for the fish-curing yards. Now, Sir, all on a sudden without telling a word of sympathy or a word of advice to the fisherfolk you have raised the price and debited the establishment charges on the fisherfolk. How are we to get on in our business unless and until the department sympathetically considers the question of the economic stress among the fisherfolk? For the same reason the cost of establishment was originally debited to salt revenue and they were not anxious to make any profit out of that. When the Government of India clearly said : ‘ We will give them duty-free salt and you had better pay the expenses incurred ’, we are made to pay the sub-inspectors’ salaries of Rs. 35, 40, 50 and sometimes Rs. 100 for the purpose of guarding 100 or 200 bags of salt. When members of our community men with efficiency and qualification seek appointments as sub-inspectors of the yards, they are refused admission. In the letter of the Director of Fisheries to the Government of Madras I find he says that it is necessary to have high salaried officers for the reason that there will always be corruption if they are paid low. While on this point of corruption I may be permitted to say that if there is a peon on Rs. 10 he will be contented with one anna per bag. If it is a sub-inspector he will not receive anything less than one rupee per bag of salt. I know it practically. (Laughter.) I have seen in South Malabar where fish-curing salt is brought and sold in ordinary shops mixed with charcoal and sold as bazaar salt. My friend the Secretary of the department says, ‘ How do you know ’. I know of two cases where two bags of salt disappeared. They were used for edible purposes. The fisheries staff could not do anything because the department of Salt had the control. The fishery officials had to report to the other department. Salt has got a tendency to dissolve and before action could be taken the salt disappeared. Another point which I have to submit before this House is this. Though there is a change in the cost of issue price there has not been any change in the management of the yards. They are rigidly working the Salt Manual Rules. The other day, on the 13th of this month, at Tellicherry there was a big fire. The yard is about 500 yards long and 50 yards broad. The fisherwomen come by one gate and after entering have to wait before salt is issued, then she has to take the fish to her yard to the other end to be

[26th March 1926]

[Mr. P. V. Gopalan]

subjected to the process of curing. In the big yard at Tellicherry there is but one gate in the west and one in the east. In the case of any emergency the poor women have to come from one end to the other running all the way to get out through one gate. We have been often requesting not to work the rules of the Salt department very rigidly. We have got now this instance of the Fisheries department working the rules very rigidly even now.

“ It is only fair that we should work for and with each other and thereby bring in some good for the fishermen. Sir, oftentimes fisherwomen will throw away small quantities of salt and when the fish is salted in tubs or in masonry pits. Thus it is sometimes found that the next morning, after salting large quantities of fish the previous day some amount of salt is lying in the brine undissolved. The rule is that nobody can leave either in the tubs or masonry pits any quantities of salt. If any such thing happens, the poor fisherman’s ticket is cancelled, and he is asked to clear out of the yard. After all the price of the salt has been paid by them, and yet the department of Fisheries is imposing on them terms and conditions over which the fisherfolk cannot have any control. I myself found some two pounds of salt in the pit undissolved. It is not their fault, it is only the fault of the science. (Laughter.) They try their best not to leave out any salt, but early morning the Fisheries department find one or two pounds left and they at once suspend the fishermen for one or two years or even cancel their tickets. The fishermen cannot be suspected of stealing the salt, for the reason the yard officer has got sometimes three or four peons to watch the curing operations with their eyes wide open whether anybody is taking away the salt. So, Sir, I make an appeal to the hon. the Minister for Development to sympathetically consider the question of somehow or other relaxing the intensity and rigour the rules in their application to the fisherfolk on the West Coast, and request of him to take such measures as will be conducive to the betterment of the fisherfolk. 12-45 p.m.

“ What I beg to say further is that the management of the fish-curing yards ever since they passed into the hands of the Fisheries has a sad tale to tell. The curers are now charged double the price of salt but this has not left them free of worries and troubles to which they were ordinarily heir to. Besides never in the annals of the yard was the transport of salt so much delayed and mismanaged. The fact that the year was a lean one saved the Fisheries department not a little. But that the department was not able to cope with the demand for salt during a year when fish supply was poor is proof positive of its inefficiency to control the yards. In many yards the operations ceased for periods ranging from 3 to 8 or even 11 weeks and during that period the unfortunate curers had to purchase bazaar salt. What with sleeping over the question of salt supply and the constant transfer of yard officers and peons, the curers had been put up to such difficulties and unnecessary hardships never before experienced. All this could have been prevented if they had had local honorary inspectors selected by Government from among the members of the community to advise and help the departmental officer. The curer’s interests would be safeguarded and at the same time unnecessary loss of revenue to the Government could be avoided.

“ The vexed question of the proper quantity of salt required for a given quantity of fish is still unsolved and troubles the curers and the officers. The entries so far as dryage, etc., are concerned may safely be said to be imaginary

[Mr. P. V. Gopalan]

[26th March 1926]

and this can be verified by the wide range prevalent all over the districts. Even here the co-operation of local men is sorely necessary for the department which stands aloof spurning their help.

"Sir, seeing that the Government fisheries department wants to make a profit out of this business of supplying salt for curing purpose and also get from it the establishment charges, pensionary contributions and other charges, I am at a loss to see why the hon. the Minister for Development should not come now to the rescue of the fisherfolk, especially as he knows that the past three or four years had been years of very great distress for them, coupled with the fact that we had a cyclone in the West Coast last year when so many lives, boats and fishing crafts were lost. I should like to know what he is going to do through this department for the amelioration of the conditions of the fisherfolk. With these words, I move the motion."

* The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir T. N. SIVAGNANAM PILLAI:—"Prior to the 1st of April 1924, this business of the fish-curing yards was under the management of the Salt department. It was then a Reserved department, and it was only subsequent to that date, viz., 1st April 1924, that it came under the sway of the Transferred department. When the yards were under the Salt department the Government of India used to meet a proportion of the expenditure incurred on them, e.g., the contingencies of the yards were entirely met by that Government as also one-third of the cost of establishment and buildings. According to the figures of 1921-22 there was a net expenditure on these yards amounting to 1.37 lakhs, of which the Government of India paid Rs. .68 lakh. When the Salt and Excise departments were separated the yards were transferred to the Fisheries department. Before this was done the Government of India expressly said, that our 'obligations begin and end with supply of duty-free salt and any other expenses which we have been bearing hitherto you shall have to bear as the local Government.' So, when the yard came to us, we were not in a position to find ways and means for meeting the cost of the establishment which till then the Government of India had been bearing. Therefore, it is that after the transfer of the fish-curing yards to the Fisheries department we were obliged to raise the issue price of salt. It was formerly 10 annas per maund, and when we took up the yards and worked out the figures, we found that unless the price was raised from 10 annas to Rs. 1-4-0 per maund, that is double the price, we would not be able to supply the salt and maintain the necessary establishment without incurring any loss. As a result of our working we now found that in the year 1924-25 in spite of all precautions that had been taken, we got only, as the accounts show, a small profit of Rs. 394 for the whole year. That is only for the West Coast. I am not referring to the East Coast, where also a similar tale has to be told. Now, the whole argument of my hon. Friend, Mr. Gopalan, is to charge the consumers of salt in the fish-curing yards the actual cost. He says, 'do not put on them the charges of establishment.' If they are not charged the establishment charges the funds must come from the purse of the general taxpayer. It is for the Council to decide whether in order to benefit one single community, the fisher community on the West Coast, they will put themselves to the trouble and expense of bearing the whole cost of the establishment. It might be asked why so much establishment is needed. Though the duty on salt had been reduced, from Rs. 2-8-0 to Rs. 1-4-0 still it is a very valuable asset, and if

26th March 1926]

[Sir T. N. Sivagnanam Pillai]

there is not sufficient establishment especially to watch all those curing operations in order to prevent surreptitious theft, the result would be disastrous and the loss incurred would be even double or triple the amount that we now spend on the establishment. That will be clear from the very instance that has come to the notice of this Council; just at the time of the transfer of Fish-curing yards from the Salt department to the Fisheries department 404 maunds of Salt went astray. That is the incident to which Mr. Gopalan also referred. Somebody must have been profited by it. But in disposing of the matter, we did not allow the Government to suffer the loss by it, but we collected from the erring officers the cost price and the duty on the quantity of salt which they had to account for."

* Mr. J. A. SALDANHA:—"May I ask the hon. the Minister what was the price charged for each maund of salt supplied to fishermen when the whole department was under the Government of India, and what is the price now charged by the Madras Government; if there is any difference in price, how does the difference arise? What is the charge that the fishermen have to pay now for the salt as compared with that when it was managed by the Government of India. It was said, now that the Fisheries department has been created they have to pay higher charges."

* The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir T. N. SIVAGNANAM PILLAI:—"The fishermen have to pay some extra charge because the Government of Madras is not willing to bear the cost of the establishment. Now, besides the establishment, we incur charges in transferring a certain quantity of salt from the East Coast to the West Coast in *dhonis* and country craft, and we have to get these charges from the people who use the salt for fish-curing purposes. Thus they have to pay three or four annas, the actual price of salt on the East Coast, five or six annas for the cost of transport, and also the cost of establishment that has to be maintained in order to see that no person fraudulently takes away the salt without paying the duty."

* Mr. J. A. SALDANHA:—"Then, how did they charge only 10 annas, when it was under the Government of India? The complaint of Mr. Gopalan is that the fishermen have to pay more now than before."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT:—"Because the department maintained here by the Madras Government is larger than the department of the Government of India."

* The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir T. N. SIVAGNANAM PILLAI:—"No, Sir."

The hon. the PRESIDENT:—"I am sorry if I have misinterpreted the hon. Member for Government."

* The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir T. N. SIVAGNANAM PILLAI:—"Fish-curing salt was charged only 10 annas when it was under the Government of India. We have been obliged to raise it from 10 annas to Rs. 1-4-0 because our Government is not willing to bear from its own funds the cost of the establishment that is needed for putting down corruption."

* Mr. J. A. SALDANHA:—"Why not retransfer the Fisheries department to the Government of India?"

* The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir T. N. SIVAGNANAM PILLAI:—"They are not willing to take it. In fact they would take away even the concession that is being given, viz., salt for fish-curing being duty free. Their concession now extends only to the remission of the duty on salt supplied. As

[Sir T. N. Sivagnanam Pillai] [26th March 1926]

regards the cost of establishment they were bearing before, they are not now willing to pay, and this Government also is not willing to meet it out of their revenue."

Mr. A. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—" May I know what the market price of salt per maund now is ? "

* Mr. V. PANDRANG ROW :—" It differs in different places. The freight from Tuticorin to the West Coast is about Rs. 11 per ton."

* The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir T. N. SIVAGNANAM PILLAI :—" About Rs. 3-5-4 per maund."

* Diwan Bahadur M. KRISHNAN NAYAR :—" May I know whether anything was collected as duty from the fisherfolk then or is being collected now ? "

* Mr. V. PANDRANG ROW :—" Rupees 1-4-0 is now collected per maund ; no duty is charged on salt used for fish-curings."

* The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir T. N. SIVAGNANAM PILLAI :—" No ; from the people who are supplied with salt for fish-curing purposes, we are now collecting Rs. 1-4-0 per maund, and that includes the charge for maintaining the establishment for seeing that no salt taken out for fish-curing is passed on to the general public for consumption."

1 p.m.

" Various other matters, such as inspectors taking bribes and other things were brought to notice. But these are matters which if brought to notice in due course, just as in any other department will be put down by the superior officers. It was also stated that on occasions when there was fire there would be loss of life on account of the paucity of gates in Tanur yard. If more passages are provided in the yards, it would entail more establishment for guarding and increased expenditure on the preventive establishment. And as regards the delays, that is a matter which has been engaging the attention of the Government. In order to avoid such delays, we are getting a trawler. The trawler will be utilized for transporting salt from Tuticorin to the West Coast. With these observations I would request my hon. Friend to withdraw his motion."

* Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—" Sir, on behalf of the House I should like to be enlightened on this point. It comes to this, that because we have a Fisheries department therefore that the poor people on the West Coast have to suffer, have to pay an additional charge which they would not have to if there were no Fisheries department. (Rao Sahib P. V. Gopalan : 'Hear, hear.') That is what my Friend Mr. Gopalan drives at. This is a complicated subject. Complaints have been brought to me and I was asked to represent the matter in the House, but I have not got all the materials. In Bombay, I am told on good authority, the fishermen have not to pay all this extra charge. In North Kanara, they pay 14 annas a maund."

Mr. A. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—" Now or when the hon. Member was Additional Sessions Judge there ? " (Laughter.)

* Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—" I took no interest in the fishermen's troubles at that time. These were brought to my notice but a few months ago. I have had no time to devote to them. That was why I did not want to bring the matter before the Council myself. I think it is due to the House and to myself that we should have some light on the point. In North Kanara

[26th March 1926] [Mr. J. A. Saldanha]

which is under the Bombay Government the fishermen there have not to pay so much, there being no Fisheries department, nor Development Department. Unluckily for us, we have the department and the result is that the fisherfolk in South Kanara have to pay much more. Apart from this, they are subject to a lot of worries and troubles."

* The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir T. N. SIVAGNANAM PILLAI :—" On a point of information. If the hon. Member would give us the figures for Bombay, I would be able to compare them with those of Madras."

* Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—" I shall be glad to supply the figures, but not at this moment. (The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir T. N. Sivagnanam Pillai : 'When ?') The fishermen there pay much less for getting a maund of salt than those in South Kanara, the reason being that we have got the Fisheries department. There it is under the Government of India. Here the Fisheries department have to get the salt from private owners or Government salt pans, whereas the Government of India have their salt supplied at a certain rate. Mr. Gopalan's contention comes to this, that here in this Presidency on account of the Fisheries department, the fishermen are put to an amount of worry and trouble and an amount of additional charges, and the system leads to an amount of corruption. There is corruption all through ; so much amount has to be paid to the inspector so much to the sub-inspector, so much to the peon and so on ; there is a regular mamul. I have very authentic information that there is systematic corruption going on. The fishermen have to satisfy an army of officers from peon downwards to inspectors. The present system is one which leads to abuse. These fishermen who were wealthy and prosperous once are now impoverished, and the wealth of the fishermen is slipping away into the hands of the capitalists. In the place of the wealthy fishermen caste, another caste has sprung up, the capitalist caste, thriving at the expense of the poor fishermen. Is the Fisheries department existing for the benefit of the people or is it that the people are existing for the department ? It seems as if the people are existing for the department and not the department for the benefit of the people."

Mr. A. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—" I just want some information on this subject. I was very much confused when my hon. Friend, Mr. Gopalan, was speaking on that department, and I think that confusion has become complete after the comparison that my hon. Friend from South Kanara has drawn between what is being done in North Kanara and what is going on in South Kanara. I believe the Government of India's policy was itself entirely different from this Government's on the question of Salt administration. When the departments of Salt and Excise were bifurcated Salt had its own establishment managed by the Government of India and Excise was transferred completely to the control of this Government. I remember the time when the Government of India raised this question that they were not bound to supply duty free salt to the fish-curing yards in Malabar or East Coast. In this connexion I want to know a few facts. What is the cost which the Government of India was charging to these fishermen ? Was it merely the cost of production or was there anything over and above by way of cost of communication, cost of conveyance of the article to the fish-curing yards ? I want to know if it was only 10 annas and if as the hon. the Minister has stated the Government of India have since agreed not to charge duty for this salt and to continue the practice of delivering salt free of duty to these fishermen."

[26th March 1926]

* The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir T. N. SIVAGNANAM PILLAI:—"Prior to the transfer of the fish-curing yards to this Government, the process had been somewhat like this. A person who wanted to get salt from the factory for the purpose of fish-curing yards had to buy the salt from the monopolists or the excise men who manufactured this salt. He made his own arrangements with them and got his salt at about 2½ annas, sometimes less, sometimes more. The profit went to the person who manufactured the salt. Having purchased that salt in the ordinary course he naturally had to pay duty to the Government officers; but if that was covered by a permit given by the salt officer that this salt was intended for fish-curing yards and not for human consumption, then it was passed on to the fish-curing yard without a duty being paid. Thereafter, that salt became the property of the buyer, and whatever cost was incurred in order to transport it from the factory to the consumer in another fish-curing yard, would have to be borne by the man who bought the salt. Under the old arrangement the man who purchased the salt for human consumption paid not only the cost of the manufacture but also the duty of Rs. 2-8-0 to Government; whereas if the salt was intended for use in a fish-curing yard he had to pay the cost of the manufacture and nothing to Government. By a calculation that we made, it came to about 10 annas if a maund of salt were to be purchased in the East Coast and transported to the West Coast and made available in the fish-curing yard for the purpose of consumption in the fish-curing yard itself. When we took up the management of fish-curing yards, we found that if we did not collect at the rate of Rs. 1-4-0 per maund we would be incurring losses to the extent of one lakh or so. That was what the Government of India were themselves losing in the years past, and when the department was transferred, they clearly told us that all the concession they could show was in giving us salt duty free."

Mr. A. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—"Where?"

* The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir T. N. SIVAGNANAM PILLAI:—"At the place of manufacture."

Mr. A. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—"West Coast or East Coast?"

* The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir T. N. SIVAGNANAM PILLAI:—"East Coast. Whatever place you find convenient. You know in the West Coast there is no manufacture of salt, because the country does not lend itself to it nor the climate. This money is paid there. I was asked whether the 10 annas was paid at the place of manufacture or at the place of consumption. The Government undertakes the duty of bringing the salt and making it available in the fish-curing yards in Malabar or some other place on the West Coast; and it is there that the person who wants it for fish-curing pays money and the salt is supplied to him for use within the factory premises, so that he may have no opportunity of taking it away to another place."

Mr. A. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—"Still I am not clear in my own mind, as to what this process is. Obviously there is salt sold in the West Coast, apart from fish-curing yards, there are markets where the salt is sold, and market salt is available to all. There must be a price fixed for the sale of that salt. Private merchants have only to go to the East Coast, and get it from the manufacturers paying a duty to Government. Now, the price of salt in the East Coast, after paying duty, is Rs. 1-4-0 a maund."

[26th March 1926]

* The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir T. N. SIVAGNANAM PILLAI:—"There are two kinds of salt in the West Coast; one kind is sold by the ordinary bazaar man who has paid duty at the salt manufacturing station on the East Coast; the other salt is also exposed for sale, but it is exposed for sale only in the fish-curing yards on the West Coast where it can be got at the rate of Rs. 1-4-0 per maund. But the bazaar man has to pay, if I remember right, Rs. 3-5-4 per maund. So, the difference in price in the salt that could be had under restriction and the salt that could be had freely is about Rs. 2 or so."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT:—"Has the hon. Member got any doubts?"

* Diwan Bahadur M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—"All of us have doubts; 1-15
curiously enough our doubts instead of being cleared become more and more P m.
as the discussion proceeds. However, what I wanted to say was this. There is a large number of fisherfolk in the West Coast consisting of the original fishermen as well as the new converts to Muhammadanism who practise fishing as a profession. Practically all along the Coast, the fishermen consist mainly of these two classes of people."

"As I said, from the discussion that has proceeded so far, you will see that till 1st April 1924 the cost that was being collected from these fisherfolk for the purpose of fish-curing was only the cost of manufacture and the cost of transport from the place of manufacture to the place of consumption on the West Coast. It is in the Tinnevely district near Cape Comorin that salt is manufactured generally and it is from that part that salt is transported to the West Coast. Now the cost of production at the salt factory itself in Tinnevely, putting it at its highest level, will not exceed 2 annas or As. 2½ and the cost of transport from the place of manufacture to the West Coast may be about 5 annas or 6 annas. Both these put together . . ."

* Mr. V. PANDRANG ROW:—"The cost price of salt in 1923-24, while it was manufactured in the salt factory, was As. 3-1 per maund. The cost of transport to the West Coast in 1923-24 by the Salt Department was As. 9-1½ per maund."

* Diwan Bahadur M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—"Roughly it comes to 12 annas I am thankful to the hon. the Secretary of the Development Department. Till the 1st of April 1924, the duty on salt was Rs. 2-8-0 per maund. Since 1st April the duty on salt has been reduced to Rs. 1-4-0. The fisherfolk instead of being benefited by this reduction are now asked to pay Rs. 1-4-0, whereas previously they were asked to pay only 10 annas or 12 annas, whatever may be the cost to the Madras Government . . ."

* The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir T. N. SIVAGNANAM PILLAI:—"So far as the fisherfolk are concerned, it matters very little to them whether the duty on salt is Rs. 2-8-0 or Rs. 2 or Rs. 1-4-0. All that is excused in their case. Therefore it is quite immaterial so far as they are concerned."

* Diwan Bahadur M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—"Not that I forget that point. When every man, woman and child is benefited by this reduction on salt duty, the one class of people, namely, fisherfolk alone do not get any benefit out of it. That is my point."

* Mr. V. PANDRANG ROW:—"The fishermen will also get some relief. It is only fish-curiers that will not get any benefit."

[26th March 1926]

* Diwan Bahadur M. KRISHNAN NAYAR :—“ I am speaking of them as fish-curers. So, what I submit is that these people alone in the whole of India are not in any way benefited owing to this reduction in duty. Of course, I quite follow the point referred to by my hon. Friend the Minister for Development and his Secretary. What I exactly want to point out is that although every man, woman and child in the country is benefited, these fish-curing people alone are not in any way benefited. The immediate result of this reduction so far as they are concerned is the increase in the amount from 10 annas to Rs. 1-4-0, whatever may be the cost to the Madras Government. They have to maintain an establishment and for the purpose of paying that establishment they have to collect the amount from out of the fish-curers. Apparently the Government of India was incurring that expenditure out of their own pockets. So, the immediate result is that the fish-curers have to pay Rs. 1-4-0 while they were paying previously 10 annas or 12 annas. It seems to me that this is a real hardship to them and I think that some method has to be devised for giving them relief.”

* The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir T. N. SIVAGNANAM PILLAI :—“ The whole question came for discussion in 1924. As I said just now, there are two classes of people who want salt. One is the general user and the other the fish-curing people. So far as the general people are concerned, the reduction of salt duty has affected them beneficially. So far as the fish-curing folk are concerned, it is quite immaterial to them whether the Government places Rs. 10 duty or Re. 1 duty, because they get their salt without having to pay any duty at all. The real difficulty which arises now is while the department was under the management of the Salt department they were content to get 10 annas per maund, while the Fisheries department want Rs. 1-4-0 for a maund. The reason for that I have explained, viz., that the Government of India themselves were bearing a loss. Now, on the eve of transfer they say ‘we shall have nothing to do with the department; if you are not going to undertake it, we shall cease to grant the concession’; if we had not given this concession, then too people will have to buy their salt duty paid and the cost paid. That is the real position.”

* Rao Sahib P. V. GOPALAN :—“ Mr. President, I just heard the hon. the Minister for Development saying that till recently the management of the Fisheries Department was under the Government of India and as a sort of concession these fish-curing folk were getting their salt at a low rate and if there are any grievances now, it is up to us to put a fight in the Legislative Assembly. In reply to that I beg to submit that this Government in their G.O. No. 219, dated 14th February 1924, have stated as follows :—“ The Government of India accept in principle the Local Government’s recommendation for the separation of Salt from Excise department in the Madras Presidency.” May I not presume that this step, viz., the transfer of the Fisheries Department, was taken by no less a person than the hon. the Minister for Development when he was suggesting to the Government the advisability of separating Salt from Excise? May I not appeal to him equally to see that the management of the Salt department is conducted in such a way as not to affect these poor fish-curers on the West Coast, and that if he views this question with sympathy he can easily solve the difficulties?”

26th March 1926]

[Mr. P. V. Gopalan]

“ The second point is that the Government of Madras have made a small profit of Rs. 300 out of the transaction of supply of salt. It is a known fact to the fisherfolk that the Director of Fisheries is not only in charge of the fish-curing yards, but he has also got so many other activities. If you will kindly turn to page 115 of the Report issued by the Fisheries department, you will find that he is in charge of many departments such as Oil and Guano Factories, Marine Fisheries, Pearl and Chank Fisheries, Beche-de-mer, Fish-Curing Yards, Marine Aquarium, Oyster supply, Research, Inland Pisciculture, Socio-Economic and other items of activities. Sir, is it expected that the profit which the Government make from these poor fish-curers would be set apart to pay this officer and his subordinates? I submit in all earnestness it is a hard fate that we fisherfolk on the West Coast are going to be levied for paying salaries of England-returned export and his subordinates.”

* Mr. V. PANDRANG ROW :—“ It is only the pay of the fish-curing establishment that is paid from out of this profit.”

* Rao Sahib P. V. GOPALAN :—“ May I ask the hon. Secretary for the Development Department whether the pay of the Assistant Director of Fisheries on the West Coast is not met out of the profit realized from fisheries? So, I submit that it is not a question of 300 and odd rupees alone. It is a question of nearly Rs. 62,921. This Rs. 300 and odd is after all a small amount. But the point is we have to pay pensionary contributions and salaries for so many officers. I submit that this is not the purpose for which the Fisheries Department should exist, namely, of making a huge profit from out of these poor folk and paying it to so many gazetted and ministerial officers.”

“ The second point is this : the hon. the Minister said that originally salt was selling at As. 10 per maund. Now the price has been increased to Rs. 1-4-0, because the salt has to come from a long distance. The Secretary of the Development Department said that the salt got from Tuticorin factory was selling at As. 3-1½ per maund. Before the year 1924 a maund of salt was obtainable for As. 10. Now we have got to pay Rs. 1-4-0. I have this authority and I shall just read it. This is what the Chief Commissioner of Salt says : ‘ The Deputy Commissioner who investigated the question of import of Bombay salt to Udipi recently reported that the cost per maund will be As. 11-6 to As. 12-2, while Tuticorin salt which we used for curing purposes works out at As. 9-8 per maund.’ So, I submit that while previously for a maund of salt we were paying As. 9-8 we have now to pay Rs. 1-4-0. I find from the speech of hon. Member the cost of transport of a maund of salt comes to As. 14-6, but they say that in the year 1924 they were selling salt at As. 10 per maund. I do not know how they were able to sell salt in 1924 at such a low rate, unless the hon. the Minister is able to explain it otherwise. Now they say that for the cost of transport alone they have to pay As. 14-6.”

“ Sir, I beg to submit to the hon. Minister that if the Government of India really wishes that the Madras Government should bear the cost of the establishment of the fish-curing yards on the West Coast, I shall have practically no objection to pay the extra cost of the salt to pay the cost of the salary alone of the establishment. But, certainly the fisherfolk on the

1-30
p.m.

[Mr. P. V. Gopalan]

[26th March 1926]

West Coast do not want at all such a big establishment including the Director of Fisheries and his subordinates and meet their expenses out of the profits realized from the fish-curing yards."

* Mr. V. PANDRANG ROW:—"The pay of the Assistant Director of Fisheries is not met from the profits of the fish-curing yards."

* Rao Sahib P. V. GOPALAN:—"Then under what item does it come in? I am not speaking *extempore*, but I am basing my remarks on the answer given by the hon. Minister to question No. 1553 where it is said that the cost of the establishment is Rs. 1,48,791, including the pensionary contribution which comes to Rs. 62,791."

* Mr. V. PANDRANG ROW:—"It does not include the pay and pensionary contribution of the Assistant Director of Fisheries; it only refers to the pay and pensionary contribution of the establishment and also 25 per cent of the travelling and other expenses of the Superintendent of the Pearl and Chank Fisheries, Tuticorin."

* Rao Sahib P. V. GOPALAN:—"Whether it is 25 per cent or 12 per cent or even one per cent, whether it is the whole salary or quarter of the salary, some portion of their cost is met out of the profits made from the fish-curing yards of the West Coast. If the Government of India have informed this Government that the cost of the establishment should be borne by the Madras Government, as a representative of the fisherman community, I have no objection if the cost is increased a little to meet the cost of the establishment. But we should not be charged cent per cent more to meet the cost of a big establishment. Take the question of transport. The transport charges from Tuticorin to Malabar has since 1924 doubled and trebled. While the salt was selling at 10 annas a maund before 1924, now the transport charges alone come to As. 14-6 per maund. I have placed before the hon. Minister for Development and the hon. House a statement of the grievances of the fishermen community. I request him to consider these questions sympathetically and lower the price of salt, so that the community may be able to thrive economically and the hon. Minister will always be remembered by the community and will say to themselves 'The hon. Minister has done justice to their cause and let us therefore be grateful to the Government.'"

* The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir T. N. SIVAGNANAM PILLAI:—"Sir, in the same Government Order from which the hon. Member quoted you will find this pronouncement of the Government of India. They say that the Government of India would be prepared to remit the duty on salt issued for fish-curing purposes but would be unable to incur any further expenditure on this account. It is because that this expenditure was being borne from the general revenues that they satisfied themselves with a cost of 10 annas a maund for the salt issued to the fish-curers, while they themselves incurred an expenditure of about 9 annas per maund. When it came to our possession, we were obliged to pay the cost of the establishment maintained for the purposes of the fish-curing yards. It is on that account that we have to charge Rs. 1-4-0. The actual cost comes to annas 14 and a small excess is generally added on to the actual cost which brings it to Re. 1. We have put it at Rs. 1-4-0 in order that the cost would cover the transport charges and there will be a small portion left, so that the Government will not be

26th March 1926] [Sir T. N. Sivagnanam Pillai]

losers thereby. The hon. Member seems to be under the impression that certain items of establishment charges which ought not to be included have been included. If he will only give a list of these items I shall have the matter looked into and if we are right, we shall explain the matter to him and if we are wrong, have the matter rectified."

The motion was by leave withdrawn.

* Rao Sahib R. SRINIVASAN:—"Sir, I beg to move
'that the allotment of Rs. 8,900 for Nilgiri Fisheries be reduced by Rs. 10.'

"I have given notice of this motion simply to elicit information as to the lakes and streams in the Nilgiris where trouts will be available. The trout is a fish which is useful for sporting and useful also as an article of food. I should like to have information as to which are the streams and lakes where this kind of fish is available."

* The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir T. N. SIVAGNANAM PILLAI:—"I was not prepared to answer this point, Sir, because it was not stated in the motion that it was the object of the Mover. I shall look into the matter and supply him the information."

* Rao Sahib R. SRINIVASAN:—"May I know which are the streams in the Nilgiris where trout is available?"

* The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir T. N. SIVAGNANAM PILLAI:—"There is a list of them. Under rule 8 of the Fishing Rules published in the *Fort St. George Gazette*, dated 11th August 1925, the information will be found. The trout is also found in the streams specified in rules 6, 9 (i), (ii) and (v). Fishing with rod and line is freely permitted in the Ootacamund lake all round the year without licence."

The motion was by leave withdrawn.

The question that Government be granted a sum not exceeding Rs. 7.49 lakhs for Fisheries was put to the House and carried. The grant was made.

The House adjourned for lunch at 1-40 p.m.

After Lunch (2-30 p.m.).

* The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—"Sir, on the recommendation of His Excellency the Governor, I beg to move
'for a grant not exceeding Rs. 14.84 lakhs for Labour, including Factories'."

* Rao Sahib R. SRINIVASAN:—"Sir, I beg to move
'that the allotment of Rs. 24,200 for Pay of establishments be reduced by Rs. 10.'

"My object is to suggest to make the appointments in the department permanent and to appoint an assistant commissioner to attend to works concerning depressed classes. The people in the department think that the department itself is not permanent, but only temporary. So, they do not

[Mr. R. Srinivasan]

[26th March 1926]

attend to their work with heart and soul. Unless the department is made permanent, the work of the department would suffer.

"The present Commissioner of Labour has so many branches of work to attend to, that he is not able to devote his whole time for the work of the depressed classes. The department requires an able officer with much experience like Mr. Paddison and other officers who have been there. As the work is extended now to 10 districts, an officer is wanted to attend particularly to this branch of work. At present there is no check over the District Officers' work. Once in a way the Commissioner goes to the districts to attend only to a particular business on which he was required there. The regular and routine work of the District Labour Officers is not checked at all. Papers are sent to them and are promptly replied. They think they have done their work if they keep up correspondence to the satisfaction of the head office. The executive work actually suffers. Their office work takes all their time and they cannot go out. I have visited certain places and I think that the work of the officers requires to be checked. Just at present there is a manager in the head office who attends to the correspondence and the routine work; he could not take so much interest in the depressed classes work which suffers a great deal as he has so many other works to attend. Therefore I suggest that an assistant commissioner or a deputy commissioner ought to be appointed."

* The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—"Sir, the question of making the Labour department permanent has been considered by the Government once or twice and they have not come to a definite conclusion. As a matter of fact, I do not think that any inconvenience is being felt because the department is temporary; and the usefulness of the department has not been lessened by that fact. The Labour department is working as an experimental measure, and if the Government think after some time that it has been doing useful work, it will then decide what staff is required for that department permanently. Therefore it is impossible for me now to give an undertaking that the department will be made permanent."

"As regards the other question, I can say that we had at first a deputy commissioner and afterwards an assistant commissioner and this post was abolished by the Legislative Council. I do not see how I can restore that appointment. If the Commissioner of Labour feels that he wants the help of an assistant or a deputy commissioner, the Government will no doubt consider his request when it comes from the Labour department. It is impossible for me to give an undertaking in this direction also."

The motion was by leave withdrawn.

* Rao Sahib R. SRINIVASAN :—"Sir, I move

'that the allotment of Rs. 1,40,400 for Pay of establishments be reduced by Rs. 100'

"My object is to elicit information as to the chances of promotions which the District Labour Officers would have had had they been in the regular line and as to their travelling allowances. It appears that certain Collectors have expressed their opinion that the Tahsildars who have been transferred to the Labour Department do not stand any chance of promotion in the regular line. The District Labour Officers have to put up with

[26th March 1926]

[Mr. R. Srinivasan]

indignity by castemen; they are not like the other Tahsildars. The Tahsildars in the regular line when they go to the villages are semi-gods. They are treated with much respect, and they command respect and enjoy all privileges. Immediately a Tahsildar is appointed as District Labour Officer, caste people and village officers take no notice of him. I know of an instance in which a District Labour Officer who was a Tahsildar in the same taluk wanted to have a drink of water—I was with him—the caste people turned their back and the village munsif refused to land a drinking vessel. The District Labour Officers suffer a lot.

"As regards the other question, all they get is an allowance of a few rupees more. I think it is not enough. Their position is in no way better. Of course, there are one or two exceptions. It appears that a Revenue Inspector gets 10 or 12 annas and these officers get lower than that amount. I wish to bring these facts to the notice of the Government."

* The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—"Sir, except in the City of Madras, District Labour Officers are generally appointed from the cadre of Deputy Tahsildars and Tahsildars in the Revenue Department. They are given a consolidated pay equal to their pay in the regular line plus an allowance of Rs. 50 up to a maximum of Rs. 250 a month. Their prospects do not suffer by their being in the Labour Department. Good work done by them in this department always betters their prospect. The District Labour Officers are not at any disadvantage on account of the fact that they are being employed in the Labour department."

"With regard to the question of their travelling allowance, I can say that the ordinary rules of travelling allowance apply to them. I do not know the reason why they should be treated specially."

The motion was by leave withdrawn.

* Mr. L. C. GURUSWAMI :—"Sir, I move

'that the allotment of Rs. 1,97,900 for Depressed classes—District staffs—be reduced by Rs. 100'

"Mr. President, Sir, my object in moving this is to raise the question of appointing more efficient staff. In doing so, I am obliged to remark that the proceedings of the department are slow, not to say that the responsible officers are slack in their duty. I am sorry to have to raise my voice against a department which has come to uplift the depressed classes. Certainly I would be the last person to be ungrateful to those who have sympathy to attend to the needs of the poor classes of people. But, when I find that some of the District Labour Officers find it even difficult to reply important questions, we have to view their snail-like movement to want of sympathy. Here I have an instance to quote. On 31st December 1924, some people of the Pundi village, in the Tiruvallur taluk of the Chingleput district, put in applications for assignments of some darkhast lands for a school and for a water-well. All these were intended for the use of the madigas of the village. I forwarded all these petitions and waited till 19th May 1925 for a reply, failing which I reminded the Commissioner of Labour of my letter and the petitions. I received a reply as to how these three matters were referred to the respective officers, viz., the Tahsildar of

[Mr. L. C. Guruswami] [26th March 1926]

2-45 p.m. Tiruvallur and the District Labour Officer of Saidapet. As I did not have any reply from these officers, I wrote to them on 11th June 1925. I received a reply from the District Labour Officer on the 14th June 1925, saying that the matter would be attended to shortly. The poor people of the village still could not have a well for taking water and it is an arid place where water is a scarcity. I have sent some reminders too and still no effect. Is this not lack of sympathy, Sir? The school and darkhast may wait; but water which is the first necessity of life should be promptly attended to. The delay in correspondence and the delay in attending to the needs of the poor people are things intolerable. I therefore beg to draw the attention of the Government to such many other irregularities. I have more than once pointed out that the Labour Department needs efficient men."

* The hon. Khan Bhadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—"Sir, my hon. Friend Mr. Guruswami has made out no case for the appointment of a more costly staff and he believes that we can get on better with a more costly staff than we can by employing a less costly staff. On the other hand, Sir, what we are now doing is in accordance with the wishes of the Legislative Council. Prior to 1922, Deputy Collectors were appointed as District Labour Officers; but in that year the Legislative Council by a clear vote said that we should not appoint Deputy Collectors as District Labour Officers. There was no other alternative to Government but to appoint District Labour Officers from the ranks of Tahsildars and Deputy Tahsildars. What we are at present doing is in accordance with the wishes of the Legislative Council and I do not see any reason why we should change the practice."

"As for the various grievances mentioned by the hon. Member, the same would have been the case if the District Labour Officers had been recruited from Deputy Collectors. I do not therefore think, Sir, that my hon. Friend has made out any case at all for the appointment of a more costly staff."

* Mr. L. C. GURUSWAMI:—"Mr. President, Sir, my only complaint is that the present staff does not attend to the needs of the depressed classes as much as it ought to."

The motion was, by leave of the House, withdrawn.

* Mr. R. VEERIAN:—"Sir, I beg to move my motion, viz.—

'that the allotment of Rs. 1,97,000 for Depressed classes—District staffs—be reduced by Rs. 100'

"Sir, I wish to offer my remarks in a few temperate words and to say what I feel in connexion with this matter. Sir, experience has shown that the Revenue Department cannot possibly attend to the needs of the depressed classes in the various districts. Therefore, Sir, this department has been specially created for the amelioration of the depressed classes. They are doing a special work in connexion with the betterment of the so-called depressed classes. I am not a Member, Sir, who would unnecessarily criticize matters without having facts and figures before me. If at all I begin to say a few words, I will endeavour my best to see that I offer my remarks in such a way that they have a certain amount of sense in them. (Laughter.)

26th March 1926] [Mr. R. Veerian]

"In the first place, Sir, let me point out the nature of the work entrusted to the Commissioner of Labour. His work is very great. The following are the subjects with which he has to deal:—

Administration of the Factories Act.

Working of the Planters' Labour Act.

Working of the Workmens' Breach of Contract Act.

Emigration of Labour.

Labour Bureau and Employment Bureau.

Wages census.

Industrial disputes.

Control of settlements under the Criminal Tribes Act and investigation into the conditions of the depressed classes and also hill tribes outside the agency tracts and measures for their advancement.

"These are the various kinds of work that he has to do. Now, Sir, the Labour Department has been created in ten districts, namely, Chingleput, South Arcot, Godavari, Kistna, Tanjore, Trichinopoly, Guntur, Bellary, South Kanara and Madras City. I believe that this department has been created on the strength of the population of untouchables in those districts. What I find from the statement I have in my hand is that there are a good number of untouchables in other districts also. Let me point out, Sir, that the number of untouchables in the various districts are—

Tinnevely	..	..	..	..	..	320,805
Chittoor	..	..	..	..	..	211,827
Madura	..	..	..	..	..	320,084
North Arcot	..	..	..	..	..	322,411
Coimbatore	..	..	..	..	..	320,572
Ramnad	..	..	..	..	..	238,946
Salem	..	..	..	..	..	252,784
Anantapur	..	..	..	..	..	128,153
Cuddapah	..	..	..	..	..	115,391
Kurnool	..	..	..	..	..	118,445
Ganjam	..	..	..	..	..	158,501

I do not know how we are to ameliorate the conditions of the depressed classes in those districts unless there is a special officer in each district. I know the difficulties of getting sufficient money. I think, Sir, that it will not be out of place for me to suggest that there should be a Deputy Commissioner of Labour for a group of districts appointed from among the members of the depressed classes as honorary workers, so that they may be able to assist the Commissioner of Labour in doing the needful for the depressed classes. I do not want to say anything more than this. I hope the hon. Member in charge will kindly see that Deputy Commissioners are appointed at least for a group of districts to look after the amelioration of the depressed classes in consultation with the Commissioner of Labour."

Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR:—"Sir, my hon. Colleague Mr. Veerian has rightly pleaded for increased provision to expand the activities of the Labour Department. I should like to know, Sir, whether the hon. the Home Member is satisfied that the amount so far allotted for this purpose has been

[Mr. R. Srinivasan]

[26th March 1926]

to the Christian faith. The parents feel their inability to send their children to schools conducted by Christian teachers. They want men belonging to the depressed classes embracing the Hindu faith. They want their children to continue in the Hindu faith. The Christian teachers, they complain, are generally averse to the Hindu mode of worship and offering prayers. In the interests of the community I think that—I know the task is not easy—teachers belonging to the Hindu religion should be got.

"If you will please allow me, Sir, as my hon. Friend, Mr. Premayya, has not moved his motion, to offer my few remarks on the object underlying his motion, namely, the increase of educational facilities for depressed class pupils. So far as I remember, Sir, in 1892 it was during the time of Dr. Duncan, as Director of Public Instruction, that the first Government Order came out affording certain facilities for the depressed classes in the matter of education. That Government Order was considered to be our Magna Charta."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—"The hon. Member may speak on the subject when Mr. Veerian moves his motion which comes lower down."

* The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—"Sir, my hon. Friend has answered the question himself in a way when he said that it was not easy to get Hindu teachers for employment in the schools intended for the depressed classes. That is indeed the real difficulty. If more teachers can be found from the depressed classes, there will be no difficulty whatever in appointing them. The fact is we have not got sufficient number of men. I shall, however, draw the attention of the Commissioner of Labour to this aspect of the problem."

The motion was by leave withdrawn.

* Rao Sahib R. SRINIVASAN :—"Sir, I move

'that the allotment of Rs. 38,200 for grants to private institutions, etc., be reduced by Rs. 10.'

"My object is to discuss the question of management of the hostel in Madras. My suggestion with regard to the hostel at Madras is that the warden or whoever is in charge of it should be an educationist. He must be a pensioned teacher, an Anglo-Indian or even a Brahman, but with knowledge as to how the institution can best be managed. If a clerk or a butler is put in charge, the boys do not at all pay any regard to him. And the most primary thing that he has to do is to manage them. Again, the premises—I once visited them—are filthy. The boys cannot be brought under discipline unless you have a person who can command their respect. As it is, the hostel cannot be a success."

Mr. F. NOYCE :—"Sir, as I was a Commissioner of Labour—I am sorry however that I held the place for such a short period—I should like to express my sympathy with the motion that has been just moved. The question of obtaining men of the class the hon. Mover describes to manage the hostel has engaged my attention during the brief period I was in charge of the department. And Mr. Macmichael, who is now holding the post, is considering it at present. I trust this will satisfy the hon. Member and that he will withdraw his motion."

The motion was by leave withdrawn.

[26th March 1926]

* Mr. R. VEERIAN :—"I move

'that the allotment of Rs. 5,85,500 for depressed classes—Betterment, be reduced by Rs. 100.'

"My object is to ask for increased provision for the betterment of the depressed classes. Sir, for Kallars who are to be found only in three districts a provision of Rs. 3,11,000 is made in the budget. The population of the untouchables in the particular districts which amounts to 6,484,776 is certainly larger. Is it because, Sir, that the Kallars give too much trouble that they are being looked after properly? Sir, a running horse is not given the required quantity of grass and gram while the horse which never runs, which is not at all useful for any purpose is being looked after properly. That is the same position here, Sir. (Laughter). I am very serious about the matter and hon. Members should not laugh because the laughter emanates from me."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—"The hon. Member is himself laughing."

* Mr. R. VEERIAN :—"Sir, I should say that even this provision will not be utilized for ameliorative purposes."

* The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—"On a point of order, Sir. We have disposed of this question on a prior motion, the need for an increased provision."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—"But this is as against the provision made for Kallars."

* Mr. R. VEERIAN :—"Let me proceed, Sir. This amount is not only intended for ameliorative purposes but for maintaining the establishment charges. One cannot say how much amount will be spent for ameliorative purposes. There are such items to be attended to as grants for wells, pathways, burial-grounds, sanitary improvements in cheris in the Madras City and the construction of houses at Pulianthope. I will not be surprised if the whole amount is utilized on the Madras cheris. There is no guarantee against it. I wish to know therefore whether it is not possible to utilize the provision according to the population of the untouchables and to increase the provision for betterment purposes. I do not want to make a lengthy speech, Sir."

* The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—"As I have answered on another motion, we have allotted this year a greater amount than in any of the previous years. In 1921-22 it was only Rs. 1,25,000; in 1925-26, Rs. 4,67,300 and for 1926-27 we have Rs. 1,18,000 more. We are thus going on increasing the allotment and I am sure there is no reason for discontent."

The motion was by leave withdrawn.

* Mr. R. VEERIAN :—"Sir, I move

'that the allotment of Rs. 3,11,000 for Kallars—Reclamation be reduced by Rs. 100.'

"I wish to raise in this motion the question relating to the hill tribes in the Nilgiris. There are the Malasars, the Kotahs and the Todas, within the category of hill tribes. There are 740 Todas, 1,163 Kotahs and 4,199 Malasars. These people are left to take care of themselves. They are an

[Mr. A. Ranganatha Mudaliyar] [26th March 1926]

spent properly and that the officers employed by him attend to their duties as they ought to. Confining myself, Sir, to the activities in the headquarters of the Presidency, I should like to know whether this department is sufficiently in touch with all that is taking place in connexion with the Buckingham and Carnatic Mills. Sir, here is a Labour Union formed by the people on their own initiative which has been working for some time past. But then the mills have taken into their heads to organize almost a counter-labour union, if I may so describe it, and are compelling their workmen to join this union. I should like to know, Sir, whether it is a justifiable step on their part and whether the labour officers have brought this matter to the notice of the Government and have taken instructions in regard to this matter. The Trade Union Act permits even outsiders to be office-bearers of the Union provided they are not in a majority. Is it justifiable, Sir, that employers should compel the working people in the way the Buckingham and Carnatic Mills are doing? It is to press this aspect, Sir, that I have spoken."

* Rao Sahib R. SRINIVASAN :—"That labour union, Sir, to which the hon. Member who last spoke referred, is the union which had political agitation for its object till some time ago. I met the men who have now formed another union and they came and told me that more than Rs. 75,000 was collected and they do not know what has been done with it. They have not any confidence in such men, they do not want outsiders to come to the mill and speak to them. They wanted more men of their own and have formed another union for themselves. I think it is not justifiable to go and break it. They say that these men are political agitators. The newly formed union is the actual labour union. These political agitators simply collect men, have a meeting or a lecture, they carry out some resolution and say that it was the opinion of labourers. Actually it is not so and these people do not know what is happening among the labourers. Now they say 'we want to have a real union, we do not want outsiders'; and I do not think the Government will interfere in this matter."

Mr. N. DEVENDRUDU :—"Sir, I want to say a few words. There is no labour office in my district. Some time ago I sent a petition to the Labour Commissioner for opening a labour office in my district. I therefore request the hon. Member to kindly see that an office is opened in my district."

* The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—"Sir, I entirely agree with what my Friend, the hon. Member representing the depressed classes, has said, that Government have no business to interfere in these quarrels between the two labour unions referred to by the hon. Member from Bellary. As a matter of fact, Sir, I did not anticipate that my hon. Friend from Bellary was going to raise this question in connexion with this motion. I do not think it is necessary to say anything about these unions and it is not right for me to take up this question at all. The other side of the question should be looked into before I can say anything in regard to this matter. The House, I am sure, will excuse me if I do not say anything on this subject; and the best thing for the Government to do is not to interfere in this affair at all."

* Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—"Sir, on a point of personal explanation. My point was not that the liberty of the workmen should be

[26th March 1926] [Mr. A. Ranganatha Mudaliyar]

interfered with if they want to do anything themselves, but I took exception to their employers compelling them to join this union or that union. That is all."

* The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—"The question has to be examined whether the employers are compelling their workmen or not. I do not think I will be justified in saying anything without considering the other side of the question."

"Coming now to the question of providing increased funds for the department and also for proposals to expand the activities of the Labour department, I should like to say that the provision made was for the last five or six years—

	RS.
1921-22	1,25,000
1922-23	2,25,000
1923-24	3,85,000
1924-25	3,84,000
1925-26	4,67,300

and for the coming year, i.e., for 1926-27, we have provided in the budget a sum of Rs. 5,85,500, or about Rs. 1,18,000 more than what we provided for the current year. Therefore, hon. Members of this House will see that we are going on increasing the budget allotment for this department and that we are trying to carry out the policy enunciated by my hon. Friend Mr. R. Veerian.

"With regard to the question of extending the activities of the department, to other districts we cannot do it all of a sudden. The department must be able to cope with the work. We have already extended it to ten districts and in the coming year we are going to extend it to two more districts and perhaps then we will extend it to two, three or more districts if funds permit. Therefore, Sir, it will be seen that our policy is one by which we go on trying to increase the activities of the department, but it is not possible to extend such activities to more than two or three districts every year."

"As for the Deputy Commissioner, Sir, I have already said, that there was a Deputy Commissioner and the Legislative Council abolished the post, and thought it was unnecessary. There is no point in saying now, Sir, that a Deputy Commissioner should be appointed, especially when we are trying to act according to the wishes of the Legislative Council."

The motion was by leave withdrawn.

* Rao Sahib R. SRINIVASAN :—"With the permission of my hon. Friend Mr. Premayya, I should like to move the motion standing in his name, Sir."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—"Order, order. The hon. Member, Mr. Premayya, is not moving it and the hon. Member, Mr. Srinivasan, will move his motion, No. 795 in the notice paper." 3 p.m.

* Rao Sahib R. SRINIVASAN :—"Very well, Sir, I move

"that the allotment of Rs. 2,20,600 for education charges of depressed classes be reduced by Rs. 100."

"My object is to suggest to Government that depressed classes men of Hindu faith may be employed as teachers. There is a general complaint, Sir, from the depressed classes that the teachers engaged are men belonging

[Mr. R. Veerian]

[26th March 1926]

innocent lot, simple minded and very useful persons. It is a great pity to see that they are left helpless. I appeal, Sir, that at least a small sum may be spent for ameliorating their condition and I hope that it will be considered favourably."

* The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—"I should like to point out, Sir, that the Government have not forgotten the claims of these communities. In 1924 the question of improving their condition was examined in detail at the instance of the Collector of the Nilgiris. One important remedy for their chronic indebtedness was considered to be the spread of the co-operative movement among them. A chief inspector of co-operative societies was appointed in 1922 and any further increase in the official staff was considered unnecessary. Then the Government issued orders in March 1924 that no liquor should be issued to any members of the hill tribes except on medical certificates. And the Government have already sanctioned a campaign against relapsing fever in their midst. Another very important question considered was the introduction of compulsory education. It is a matter for those who are to administer the Elementary Education Act. I do not think we can do anything further at present. All the same, the Government addressed the Commissioner of Labour on the subject raised by the hon. Mover and he has replied that he does not recommend the appointment of a labour officer as there is more need in other districts and that more money cannot be found."

The motion was by leave withdrawn.

* Mr. R. VEERIAN:—"I move, Sir,

that the allotment of Rs. 8,800 for Industrial School for Girls, Nellore, be reduced by Rs. 100.

"It is intended to elicit information on some points. I wanted to know, Sir, how many girls are reading, and what communities they belong to, whether there is any hostel accommodation for girls, whether they get any scholarship and what sort of instruction they receive. I should like to know these from the hon. the Law Member."

* The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—"With regard to the question for more schools for girls in other districts, I may say that the question of industrial schools must be addressed to my hon. Colleague in charge of the Industries department. The Labour Department does not deal with Industrial schools for girls. I should say that the girls' school in Nellore is solely for the criminal tribes and that is being run by the Salvation Army. I hope with this information, the hon. Member will withdraw his motion."

The motion was by leave withdrawn.

* Rao Bahadur C. NATESA MUDALIYAR:—"Sir, I move

that the allotment of Rs. 13,29,300 for Miscellaneous—Commissioner of Labour be reduced by Rs. 100.

"May I request your permission, Sir, to supplement the information supplied by the Government on the hostel?"

* The hon. the PRESIDENT:—"We have gone past that question"

[26th March 1926]

* Rao Bahadur C. NATESA MUDALIYAR:—"But, Sir, no particular object is specified against my motion and so, I hope, I can raise any question."

* The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—"May I raise a point of order, Sir? The hon. Member has written a letter that he is raising this motion in connexion with two points, the recognition of labour unions and those who are employed under the various firms under the Commissioner of Labour."

* Rao Bahadur C. NATESA MUDALIYAR:—"I am only supplementing what the hon. Member said in regard to the Hostel Committee."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT:—"Even the Government Member does not seem to want that information."

* Rao Bahadur C. NATESA MUDALIYAR:—"Even if he does not want it, I may say, Sir, that the request of the hon. Member has been already met by the Hostel Committee. I only want to make some suggestions to the hon. the Home Member to see that the Government insist upon the employers of labour in large numbers to make arrangements for the education of the children of the labourers."

"At the same time they should house the labourers in healthy localities, and if possible form villages as is being done in large industrial centres in western countries. Another thing, Sir, I request the hon. the Home Member to see is that the various mills recognize the various labour unions attached to them, and if possible to see that there are labour boards appointed with representatives of both capital and labour on them with the Labour Commissioner in them, so that if any disputes arise they will be able to settle them. Another thing, Sir. The Government is taking care of Government servants. At least they are supposed to take care of Government servants and the hon. the Home Member is taking care of the labourers. But there are a certain class of employees who are not taken care of by anybody, and they are employees in the various firms in Madras and mufassal. I tabled some resolutions but the Government said that they are not able to do anything because they are powerless. Now, Sir, I request the hon. the Home Member to introduce a Bill by which they will come under his protection, and their hours of work, their salaries, provision for them in their old age and various other things can be attended to. So I request the hon. the Home Member to see that the employees under the various firms are brought under his protection."

* The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—"Sir, I do not think there is any need for a special enactment for the purpose mentioned by my hon. Friend Dr. Natesa Mudaliyar. I find that the Trade Unions Bill has been passed by the Central Legislature according to which provision will have to be made for giving educational and other facilities for the members of the trade union. Further, trade unions have to be registered. When that Act comes into force, all that the hon. Member wants he will get. And further, it will be impossible for the Commissioner of Labour to take note of those who are employed in firms. I do not see any reason why they should come under the special jurisdiction of the Labour Commissioner. If there are labourers, no doubt, he has got a sort of general supervision over them. But beyond that, I am afraid the Labour Commissioner would not go."

3-15
p.m.

[26th March 1926]

* Rao Bahadur C. NATESA MUDALIYAR :—" I do not see why Government should take care of labourers alone but not these people who do another kind of labour. They are human beings. They are citizens. They work from 8 in the morning to 5 in the evening, and their salaries are not enough for their needs. And they are not well cared for. I know that very many firms are taking care of their employees. If others do not take care of them, it is the duty of the Government to take them under their protection."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" Are they employees in factories ? "

* Rao Bahadur C. NATESA MUDALIYAR :—" They are not employees of factories, Sir. I am suggesting that the hon. the Home Member should take them under his protection. The Government servants are supposed to be taken care of by the Government, though they are not well taken care of, and the labourers are taken care of by the hon. the Home Member. So I request the hon. the Home Member to bring in an Act so that these unfortunate people will come under it and under his protection."

* The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—" May I know whether the hon. Member means labourers in the firms or clerks in the firms ? "

* Rao Bahadur C. NATESA MUDALIYAR :—" Even the clerks employed in the various firms should have the protection of the Government as the labourers have."

* The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—" I am sure the clerks will certainly protest if the Commissioner of Labour should interfere with their independence. And I do not see any reason why the Commissioner of Labour should take these clerks under his supervision. As for the labourers, I see the point of the hon. Member. Now that the Trade Union Bill is passed, the labourers can hope to get better facilities."

* Rao Bahadur C. NATESA MUDALIYAR :—" I do not see why labourers alone should be taken care of and not other employees. We have got the Civil Service Regulations and other rules for protecting the Government servants. But why should not these people who are also our tax-payers and citizens have the protection of the Government ? "

* The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—" Just as the Government take care of Government servants, the principals of the firms take care of their employees."

* Rao Bahadur C. NATESA MUDALIYAR :—" If they do not take care of their employees ? "

* The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—" No such case has arisen till now."

* Rao Bahadur C. NATESA MUDALIYAR :—" If there are instances, may I take it that the hon. the Home Member will take care of them ? "

* The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—" I am afraid, Sir, I have no power."

The motion was by leave withdrawn.

The Demand under Labour including Factories was then put to the House and carried and the Grant was made.

[26th March 1926]

DEMAND XXIX—CIVIL WORKS—GRANTS TO LOCAL BODIES.

* The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL :—" Mr. President, Sir, on the recommendation of His Excellency the Governor, I beg to move

'that Government be granted a sum not exceeding Rs. 40.59 lakhs for Civil Works—Grants to local bodies'.

Mr. D. MANJAYYA HEGGADE :—" Mr. President, Sir, I beg to move

'that the allotment of Rs. 6,75,000 for non recurring grants to local bodies for roads and bridges be reduced by Rs. 100'

(to discuss the condition of roads and bridges maintained by local bodies and to direct the attention of the Government to this fact).

"The condition of roads and bridges in general are far from being satisfactory in many districts. When questions are put on the floor of this House to draw the attention of the Government to this fact, the answer invariably has been that it is not the concern of the Local Government and that the local bodies should be moved in the matter. I therefore take this opportunity when we are to vote money for grants to the local bodies for the maintenance of roads and bridges to point out that the roads are not properly maintained. The local boards have started levying profession tax in addition to other taxes. In spite of that the local boards complain of want of funds when the question of opening new roads and bridges is raised. I believe that this is a common complaint. It is necessary therefore that the Government should issue special orders to the presidents of district and taluk boards to pay necessary attention to the maintenance of roads and bridges and particular stress should be laid on this point when grants are made to the local bodies. Now, Sir, turning to my district of South Kanara, I find that almost all the roads maintained by the local boards are in neglected conditions. Bridges destroyed by the floods are still not reconstructed with the exception of two or three bridges. Really it is hard that the local boards do not maintain roads properly in spite of heavy taxes of various kinds levied upon the people. Villages particularly in the interior are badly in need of roads. During the monsoons it is hardly possible to pass from one village to another although they are not very far away from each other. This is not merely for want of roads but also of bridges.

"It is well known, Sir, that the West Coast is interspersed here and there by a number of streams and rivers. Between Udipi and Mangalore—a distance of 36 miles—there are four considerably wide rivers not to mention the small streams. During the monsoons these swell up and crossing at times almost becomes impossible. It is urged therefore that the Government will be pleased to consider the question of providing more funds for new bridges to the local boards. I hope the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government will sympathize with the needs of the people."

Mr. T. MALIESAPPA :—" Sir, village communications are totally neglected by the authorities in charge of local boards. It is very difficult to travel from one village to another as all the roads have become quite damaged for want of repair. In the rainy season, especially in the black cotton soil taluks bandies cannot use these cart-tracks. The land cess collected from the

[Mr. T. Mallesappa]

[26th March 1926]

villages is mostly spent on roads connected with towns. The villagers very rarely go to such places. On the other hand, they have to go from their village to neighbouring villages which are not connected by good and efficient communications. When the local fund revenue and other revenue comes mostly from the villages, it is just and reasonable that Government should not neglect the convenience of villagers any longer. I urge that early and necessary steps should be taken to give better help in this matter."

* The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL :—" Mr. President, Sir, one of the conditions upon which the grants are given to local boards and district municipalities for the maintenance of trunk roads and second-class roads is that those roads should be maintained in good condition, and in fact these roads are reported to be generally well maintained. The Superintending Engineers and Collectors of the districts report to the Government the condition of the roads and whether proper attention is paid to them or not. Besides the grants given for trunk roads and for the second-class roads last year the Government have made provision for grants to village roads last year. Unfortunately as the grant was made rather late in the year, most of the local boards were not able to utilize the grants. I do not think, Sir, there is really any reason why there should be any complaint regarding the maintenance of roads. It is true that more roads have to be constructed and the Government are prepared to take a bold step in that direction. Regarding the policy underlying the distribution of grants, the Government generally consider that the responsibility of maintaining the trunk roads rests with them and they give grants subject to the condition of Rs. 500 a mile in the case of trunk roads in the district board areas and Rs. 1,000 in the case of trunk roads in the jurisdiction of district municipalities. This grant so far as trunk roads are concerned is supposed to meet the expenditure incurred upon the maintenance of trunk roads.

"In the case of the second-class roads, the Government give 50 per cent of the expenditure incurred upon these roads subject to a maximum for each district. These grants are being made on expenditure being incurred by the local bodies. In the case of the trunk roads the expenditure incurred during the first nine months in the financial year is being paid during the next month, the balance is paid early in the next year. In the case of the second-class roads throughout the year, they pay the expenditure incurred by the local boards next month but to the extent of 40 per cent, and the balance is paid only after the next financial year. I do not think, Sir, there is really any room for complaint which my hon. Friends from South Kanara or Bellary have made."

The motion was by leave withdrawn.

3-30
p.m.

Mr. A. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—" I beg to move

that the allotment of Rs. 6,75,000 for non-recurring grants to local bodies for road and bridges be reduced by Rs. 100

" Mr. President, I believe I have some complaint in the matter of the motion which I am now moving. My complaint has the approval of my hon. Friend, Mr. Ranganatha Mudaliyar, not unnaturally perhaps. I am referring to the state of the river Palar on the 39th mile from Madras where the conditions are so bad that everybody who has travelled on that road

[26th March 1926] [Mr. A. Ramaswami Mudaliyar]

must realize that it is high time that Government should come and build that bridge. It is only the other day that an enterprising journal—the *Madras Mail*—published an account and a photograph of the hardship which the pedestrians and cartsmen are put to in fording this river which is fairly long and which owing to floods has accumulated so much of sand on the existing causeway as to make it below the bed-level of the river and difficult to trace. It is so much below the bed-level of the river that after flood it is impossible for carriages and much less for motor-cars to ford the river. The district board from time to time employs a costly staff to clear the sand. It can be got cleared only during the dry months and for four or five months it is difficult to clear. The Local Self-Government Department announced the policy some time back that trunk roads within 100 miles of Madras will be their roads and bridges will be put up at the entire cost of Government. In 1920 the district board of Chingleput sent up an estimate for four lakhs of rupees for a bridge on the river Palar. I realized at the time—soon after the reformed Legislative Council began—that it might not be easy for my district to get such a large sum as 4½ lakhs and we were able to persuade the members of the district board to put forward a less ambitious scheme. The district board considered the matter and tried to be in financial sympathy with an embarrassed Government and gave up the idea of a bridge across the river which the Government are bound to do according to their own Government Order and according to the promise they have made. The board was then satisfied with a much less ambitious scheme, viz., the building of an elevated causeway across the river. We sent up the estimates through the Superintending Engineer after considerable time and trouble to the engineering staff and the district board staff for a modest sum of Rs. 28,000. That 28,000 has been there for the last four years and we have not been able to get it. We have approached the Local Self-Government Department. We have approached the Finance Department. I have made my own obeisance to both the departments, but it has had so far no effect. We have had a Government Order issued to the district board that the application may be renewed next year. The next year has been writ large on the wall. Several next years have passed and yet no funds have been provided. The difficulties people have been put to have been graphically described in a newspaper of this city. It seems to me that the Government have taken a particular step. When they have said that they will provide we cannot provide the necessary funds; because it is perfectly clear that this is not a case where we were asked for. As a matter of fact, it is a case where, entirely, wholly and unequivocally it is your own and yet you do not interfere with the matter. I went further—I went as much as possible to make a reasonable offer. Last year, I think a month ago, I brought the matter to the notice of the Government and seeing that there is no provision made in the budget for the particular causeway asked that any little saving for the current year might be given so that work might be started and materials collected expeditiously and then put forward the further condition that the district board itself would finance the work before the next rainy season and Government might pay the funds when it was available or when they were in a position to pay. Out came the cryptic reply that if we were going to do that it would be at our risk. That is most unfair to us."

* The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL :—" May I point out that the risk involved is that Government do not undertake to pay it in any particular year.

[The Raja of Panagal]

[26th March 1926]

That is they may have to wait any length until Government are in a position to pay the grant."

Mr. A. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—" I hope the position of Government is not so hopelessly bad as the hon. Minister suggests. If for a sum of Rs. 27,000 Government have to wait for any length of time then the hon. the Finance Member's future—well, I refrain from speculating on what its possibilities may be. I am perfectly certain that a modest sum of Rs. 28,000 could be easily found any year. All that is now required is—I shall take the chance of getting the 28,000 this year or in the coming year—all that is now required is let me be given this assurance that if funds are available in the course of the next financial year I shall be given those funds. But in the meanwhile at least give me the permission to begin work and carry on at my own cost—I mean the cost of the district board. (Laughter.) I have so much confidence in the finances of this province and so much more confidence in the administration of the finance of this province by the hon. the Finance Member . . . "

* The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL :—" May I ask my hon. Friend why if he has that confidence he did not undertake the responsibility ? "

Mr. A. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—" I could not because the Government won't even say that they are liable to pay and that they will pay when funds are available. The Local Self-Government Department wrote to the President that if he begins work it is at his own risk and Government won't be committed even to the liability."

* The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL :—" It was not so. They do at their own risk, that is to say, the actual payment would depend upon the availability of the funds and the Government could not undertake that the amount would be paid next year or the next year after that."

Mr. A. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—" Did Government give this assurance that we may go on with the work ? I am not afraid of the Greek calends. It was said that the Andhra University will have to wait till the Greek calends and it is now an accomplished fact. If I am also asked to wait till the Greek calends, I have no objection to wait for that day which I am certain will be within a few months."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" I think I shall ask all the bridge people to speak."

* Diwan Bahadur M. KRISHNAN NAYAR :—" I thought, Sir, there might be special considerations about this bridge. I myself have some knowledge of this. There may be special considerations about this bridge which may not exist in respect of others."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" I will ask all those who are interested in bridges to speak now."

* Mr. B. RAMACHANDRA REDDI :—" I wish to say, Sir, that the complaint does not begin with Chingleput and end with Mr. Ramaswami Mudaliyar. I wish to take the House to my district of Nellore and wish to point out that the roadway on the Pennar has been a long neglected one. The anicut on the Pennar has been constructed in the year 1854 and for these 72 years no

[26th March 1926]

[Mr. B. Ramachandra Reddi]

proper roadway has been formed over it. During the whole course of 50 to 60 miles of the river Pennar in the district of Nellore there is no bridge and not even a properly laid roadway. About two decades ago Government have tried to move in this matter and estimates have been prepared to construct the roadway over this anicut. The anomalous position of this roadway is really a regrettable one; because a portion of it belongs to the Irrigation Department, another portion to the Department of Public Works and the responsibility of laying the road belongs to the Local Self-Government and added to the insults or injuries whatever that may be, the responsibility of laying the road actually belongs to the Public Works Department by taking the money from the local funds. These several years estimates after estimates have been prepared and not even one has been sanctioned. Recently, a couple of years back, I think, another estimate for Rs. 43,000 has been prepared and it has undergone all the necessary changes and all the necessary transformations from stage to stage and from office to office and after all when it came to the Local Self Government Department it has been unsympathetically turned down. I should like to point out the urgency and the necessity of laying roadway by mentioning a few facts about that road. That road is on the trunk road, the great northern trunk road that leads from Madras; that is the point from which the Doranal road begins and goes as far as Cuddapah district and that is the point from which the district board contemplates to lay a railway line as far as Atmakur which is about thirty miles from that place. I should also inform this House that nearly one lakh of carts (A voice : Cars') not so many cars so soon, and many lakhs of people pass over that anicut every year. The difficulty is that the road is laid in the month of February or January and is washed away in June and for another six months there is no road at all. Either side of the river is closed and even if it is not closed there is a rough uneven surface which makes the carts passing over that very difficult. After all it is a distance of 2,030 feet and it has been proposed to lay a double wheel track with cut stones and fill up the intervening spaces with concrete. This modest estimate of 43,000 has been turned down. I hope, Sir, that this case will be particularly taken care of and I hope also that no particular scheme will be marked special and this not so very special and abandoned. I only wish to say that this must be taken to be as equally important as any other thing."

* Diwan Bahadur M. KRISHNAN NAYAR :—" It may cause some surprise to the Mover of the resolution and probably to my other Friends in the House that I should rise to support this motion moved by my hon. Friend Mr. Ramaswami Mudaliyar. The reason is this. I recently had occasion to cross this river within the last one month or so and till my Friend Mr. Ramaswami Mudaliyar stated that there is a causeway there I did not know the existence of a causeway there at all. As a matter of fact when I went to the river in crossing it I was detained for about two hours. I have not been fortunate enough to see the photograph in the papers but I had personal experience of the trouble of bullock cart drivers and those who were travelling in cars and others generally. The river is a broad one, more than two furlongs and it is very sandy. In fact I never saw the causeway. That should be several feet deep I think. All along the river several bullock carts were detained in several places, the bulls being unable to drag the carts in that deep depth of sand."

[Mr. M. Krishnan Nayar] [26th March 1926]

3-45 P.M. "The bullocks were not drawing the carts. A number of men, drivers of bullock-carts, all joined in pushing the carts from behind. The car in which I was travelling also could not cross, and I had to engage the services of a number of coolies, who were ready there expecting passengers being put to difficulty and thus taking advantage of those difficulties of passengers, to push my car. I am therefore speaking from personal experience. I wondered at that time why this Government had not put a bridge—I did not think of a causeway at the time but I thought of a bridge—across the river which is on the main central road leading from Madras to the southern districts. The hon. the Mover of this resolution, as he claimed, makes a very modest request, and I think he might as well have asked for a substantial bridge across this river. I am surprised at the difficulty in getting this small sum of Rs. 28,000. I think it will benefit not only the people of the Chingleput district but also all those travellers who go to Trichinopoly and other parts in the south of the Presidency."

* Mr. K. SITARAMA REDDI:—"My hon. Friend Mr. Krishnan Nayar finished his speech by saying that the construction of this bridge or causeway might benefit also the people going towards the south. I would at once say that the construction of this bridge or causeway alone would not mend matters. I have got also a sorry tale to tell just like my hon. Friend from Nellore, Mr. Ramachandra Reddi. Out of the hundred and odd miles of trunk road in my district, we have got many unbridged rivers to cross, and so the construction of this causeway over the Palar alone will not mend matters. But I do not want to stand in the way of my hon. Friend Mr. Ramaswami Mudaliyar getting the paltry sum of Rs. 30,000."

* Diwan Bahadur M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—"Rs. 28,000."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT:—"From Rs. 27,000 it has come to Rs. 30,000." (Laughter)

* Mr. K. SITARAMA REDDI:—"What I wanted to say was that it is high time for the Government to chalk out a policy on which they have to proceed. Some time back they issued a Government Order saying that they would undertake at once the construction of bridges within a hundred miles range from Madras, and the district boards were asked to prepare estimates and submit them to the Government. Some of the district boards appointed special staff and prepared estimates, and sent them to the Government, and the result is that all those estimates have perhaps been shelved. At the same time, I want to suggest one thing. Why should a hundred miles range alone should be thought of by the Government (Mr. A. Ranganatha Mudaliyar: 'Hear, hear')? In the South Arcot district the great south trunk road, at the 104th mile you have to cross the Pennar river, about 2,000 feet long, then at the 114th mile the Gadilam river, about 600 feet, then another river Gomukhi and yet another river Manimukthanathi, and all these rivers have no bridges. I do not know why Government thought of only a hundred miles range. By bridging those rivers, it would benefit three or four districts in the south. The Government must therefore give out their policy as to how they are going to bridge these crossings in the trunk road at least. I do not want to be understood that I stand in the way of my hon. Friend, Mr. Ramaswami Mudaliyar, getting the allotment he asks for. I spoke because I have felt the difficulty myself on so many occasions."

[26th March 1926]

* Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR:—"I have said, Sir, I have also to refer to a bridge. In the course of my speech I shall refer to it in the proper place. Meanwhile, I want to find out, if it is possible to find out, what are the principles guiding the Government in the matter of giving these grants. I find, Sir, that difficulty is not peculiar to myself. I find many eminent people have tried to find out those principles, and evidently unsuccessfully. Because, I find the Financial Relations Committee appointed in 1920 refer to this very point. They say as follows in paragraph 31:

"We are unable to trace any uniform principles governing the distribution of these grants among the several services or among different local bodies. We have gathered the impression that State policy has not kept pace with the growth of surplus revenues and their adjustment to public needs. In some cases the terms on which the grants are made are in our opinion too stringent, in other cases too lax. Grants are given for parochial purposes, while matters of imperial importance are neglected. The demand for grants has 'degenerated into something like a scramble' and their distribution has been made with very little attention to reason."

"Then, Sir, in the same paragraph they say:

"Grants in aid of general resources are distributed without examining the financial position of each local body assisted, and richer bodies obtain more than poorer ones."

In paragraph 35, they say that an exception should be made in the case of 'specially poor bodies' and that the grants to them should be more liberal. These are the points which I want to press on the Government in connexion with districts like mine. If we turn to the Administration Report recently issued by the Government, I find, Sir, that the grants allowed for trunk roads vary considerably from district to district. In a district like Anantapur, 22 per cent of the total mileage of roads has been treated as trunk roads, and the Government are giving naturally liberal grants to keep those roads in good order. In Chittoor, Sir, while the total mileage is the same, only 14 per cent of the roads are treated as trunk roads and the grants are proportionate. In Kurnool again 14 per cent out of a total of 1,289 miles are treated as trunk roads and grants are made for them. In Bellary the percentage is 11½. Now, Sir, does not this make a difference on the burden of the local boards? If with reference to the total mileage of the district the Government give grants and help a larger percentage of those roads in the case of one district, naturally it has not got so much to pay for the balance left on its hands, while in the case of a poor board where the percentage of trunk roads is very small, a larger percentage is left on the board to be maintained, and naturally the burden will be more. The distribution of grants has not any reference whatsoever to the resources of the boards. For example, Kistna has got Rs. 8½ lakhs in the form of revenue from land cess; Chittoor has got a revenue of Rs. 2¼ lakhs; Anantapur has got Rs. 1¼ lakhs, and Bellary has got Rs. 1½ lakhs. So, if we take the resources of the boards, the income from land-cess, you will find, Sir, the poorer boards really are entitled to a far more relief than they are actually receiving at present.

"I told you, Sir, that I would refer to a bridge in my district. I know for example, many years ago after a good deal of application, the Government were good enough to grant Rs. 50,000 for the construction of a bridge on the Hagari river, for the want of which the western taluks felt serious difficulty in this respect. If there is a bridge across the river Hagari it would be possible for district officers and others to travel all over the western part of the district without difficulty. The Government of course sanctioned the grant. The president of the district board, or the Engineer—I am not

[Mr. A. Ranganatha Mudaliyar] [26th March 1926]

concerned who it was—was not able to spend that amount within the year, and that amount lapsed. The Government may turn round and say well, we are not responsible for that; your board has not spent it; so we have nothing further to do. I do not know if they can take up that strict view of their responsibility. The president who was at default was their president, because he was appointed by them, and they have to be responsible for part of that default in this respect. So I think, Sir, Government also must take some slight responsibility in this matter. So I appeal to the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government to treat poorer boards like mine in a fairer way than he does at present. I hope that the hon. the Finance Member and the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government will put their heads together and find a formula which will take into account the resources of the districts and their needs and arrive at some arrangement by which assistance could be rendered to the boards in proportion to their resources and their needs. I ask, Sir, also for that long delayed bridge to be put on hand."

* The RAJA OF RAMNAD :—" I also support this complaint that in the matter of distribution of grants there has been no policy which can commend itself to the presidents of local bodies. As a matter of fact some get more while others get less. In the matter of distribution of grants for trunk roads, for instance, they simply take a certain amount and divide it by the mileage and give the grant accordingly irrespective of the fact whether that amount is wanted or not. Some boards get more than what they spent; others get very much less than even 50 per cent."

* The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL :—" Is there any case where they have been paid more than what they actually spent ? "

* The RAJA OF RAMNAD :—" Sometimes they get considerably above the actual expenditure. There are cases where only Rs. 200 or Rs. 300 are spent per mile and they get Rs. 500. I believe, Sir, in the Chittoor district they are spending very much less."

* The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL :—" They are expected to get only the actual expenditure."

* The RAJA OF RAMNAD :—" I do not know that, Sir. It has been my impression till this moment, that a uniform rate of Rs. 500 is allowed."

* Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—" Does it mean that they spend much less than Rs. 500 and get Rs. 500 ? "

* The RAJA OF RAMNAD :—" Whatever it is, it is really hard on boards who spend very much more. For instance, in Madura and Ramnad particularly in the black cotton tracts we spend Rs. 1,000 and even Rs. 1,200 per mile, and yet we get only Rs. 500. We have been spending like that for the past five years and it seems there is absolutely no hope of getting more from Government."

" Again, in the matter of grants for bridges and culverts, there is no well understood principle. I have said on more than one occasion that in all these cases they appoint some committee to go into this question of distribution of grants to various local bodies if they cannot utilize their various advisory committees for this purpose. From my own experience I have made that suggestion and that does not commend itself to the Minister. It is not

[The Raja of Ramnad] 26th March 1926]

only in the Local Self-Government Department, but I find the same difficulty also in the Education Department where grants are given on no well-known principles. Some colleges get very much more, while other colleges and schools get very much less."

* The hon. Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. PATRO :—" Grants are regulated by the Grant-in-Aid Code, and the rules are laid down there. It is not therefore correct to say that grants are made on no principle."

* Diwan Bahadur M. KRISHNAN NAYAR :—" On a point of order, Sir. Are we discussing educational grants now ? "

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" I must ask the Raja of Ramnad to restrict himself to the grants for roads and bridges."

* The RAJA OF RAMNAD :—" I am merely showing an analogy. I say there ought to be a proper and well understood system. With your indulgence, I will tell the hon. the Minister for Education, who has already answered me, by pointing out to him how the Grant-in-Aid Code does not seem to be such a simple literature for every one to understand so easily."

* The hon. Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. PATRO :—" If the Members cannot understand it, it is not the fault of the department or of the Code."

* The RAJA OF RAMNAD :—" The Code is intended to be understood by the correspondents of schools and the various authorities. If they are not able to understand it, it is the Minister's duty to make it more explicit so as to be understood by them. That apart, coming to the bridges, this causeway is a great desideratum. Recently twice my car had to travel to Madras. You can imagine a person not known very much in Chingleput—I can understand my hon. Friend from Chingleput finding it very easy as he can command the necessary labour there for his car—like me coming all the way from the south, I do not think my driver can command the necessary help from the people. Therefore, it is a necessary item. I personally have a grievance about a very important bridge in my district. I have been asking Government to accommodate me with a grant which has been promised—promised in the sense that they have undertaken to give the local bodies 50 per cent of the cost of the capital works in second-class roads. It took three or four years before estimates and plans could be sanctioned. After they have been sanctioned, I was directed by a telegram to start the work. I started the work. I asked for the grant; the reply is that it will not be given in 1925-26 or 1926-27 but will be given in 1927-28. If this is the treatment accorded to the local authorities, I am afraid it will be putting the hands of the clock very considerably back and there will be no progress in the matter of providing better facilities of communications. Therefore I would strongly support the motion with a view to elicit a more sympathetic assurance from the hon. the Minister towards the southern districts. I do not know whether the other districts fare equally bad. After all, it is not an easy work to carry on the local self-government administration in a district. On very many occasions I have pointed out the difficulty. The only way to make it useful to the people is to undertake such works. Otherwise there is no reason for the existence of non-officials on local bodies and they can find better ways of spending their time than running these institutions."

[26th March 1926]

The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL :—“ Mr. President, Sir, my Friend, the hon. Member for Chingleput, began his eloquent speech with an assertion that even the hon. Members from Bellary and South Kanara had no room for complaint but he had room for complaint. (Mr. Saldanha ; I have room for complaints’.) (Laughter.) With all the emphasis of this assertion, I am afraid the room for complaint in the case of Chingleput is as little as in the case of Bellary or South Kanara. That it is so is more than evident from the complaints made by the Members for Nellore, South Arcot, Bellary and Ramnad. If there is a complaint that is common to most of the districts, it is no longer a complaint. (Mr. A. Ranganatha Mudaliyar : ‘ What is it then, a widespread calamity, or an epidemic ? ’) It is a complaint that the Government have not general funds provided for the construction of bridges all over the province. I wish we were much richer to afford to have all the rivers and streams bridged. But we cannot expect to do so in our present condition of our finance. While I say there is as little room for complaint, I do not deny the fact that the particular bridge is an important one. It is true there was a scheme prepared for the construction of the causeway across the Palar near Chingleput and the scheme was estimated at Rs. 24,000. The Government would have made provision if they had funds. In fact for want of funds they had to be content with provision in the coming year for the construction of such of the roads and bridges as are damaged by the floods. However, Sir, if the hon. Member from Chingleput, as he said would advise the president of the district board to take up the work, the Government will pay when funds are available and, as he himself is sure, the funds will be available sooner or later, sooner than later.

“ Now coming to the complaint of my hon. Friend from Nellore, I must say that his case is still weaker. He himself admitted that the construction of this particular road over the anicut at Nellore is a work to be done by the various departments.”

* Mr. B. RAMACHANDRA REDDI :—“ On a point of personal explanation, Sir. I said the control is vested in various departments but the construction is vested in only one department.”

* The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL :—“ The very fact that it is subject to the control of so many departments is in itself the reason for the delay. As I have already pointed out, in preparing the Budget for the coming year, owing to want of funds, the Government could only undertake to make provision for the repair of the damaged roads, and they could not allot funds for the construction of any new bridge works. I must say the same with regard to the Hagari bridge. Of course when funds are available, the Government will be glad to make provision.

“ Some Members remarked that there is no policy guiding the Government in the matter of distribution of grants for the construction of bridges. Hon. Members might remember that some time back there was a committee appointed to suggest methods of a fairer distribution of trunk road grants. There was also a committee appointed to consider the proposal that the Government should take up the construction of bridges within 100 miles from Madras. Those who lived beyond 100 miles objected to that course and so, that proposal was dropped. If the Government are not able to adopt

26th March 1926]

[The Raja of Panagal]

a policy in this connexion, I believe the responsibility is not only with the Government but it is also with so many members of this House who were on the committee.”

* Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—“ One word, Sir. I think the principle laid down by the hon. the Minister is that the roads and bridges damaged and washed away by floods should have preference. I have already brought it to the notice of the hon. the Minister by putting some question about a bridge which has been washed away on the road between Tellicherry and Mercara. That bridge has been washed away and there has been a conflict between the local board and other authorities as to who should repair it. There are bridges also in South Kanara which have been washed away. The bridges that have been washed away should have priority over other works. I hope the hon. the Minister will bear in mind this fact and sanction funds for construction of bridges as soon as practicable.”

* The hon. Mr. T. E. MOIR :—“ Sir, the discussion over this question has at times taken us a considerable distance away from the Palar, and I think that my hon. Friend from Chingleput has shown some signs of anxiety at the number of claimants who have come forward for any further provision that may be made. But on that point I should just like to say (in this the hon. Minister has my concurrence) that whatever other claims have been pressed this afternoon, there seems to be a general agreement on the part of the members from all sides of the House that there is a very good case for taking special steps in connexion with the Palar. Personally I have some sympathy with that view, for I have crossed the Palar, and I did so with the help of two score coolies or so. And while it is possible that I may have been benefited by the exercise of various virtues such as patience and self-control I cannot state that the experience was equally good for my car. I trust, however, that the House will realise that in acceding to the request of my hon. Colleague, I am not enunciating any principle. I understand that in this case, the sum is comparatively small, 25 or 30 thousand rupees, the Chingleput District Board is prepared to find or advance that money and that provided the amount is repaid within a reasonable period they will be quite prepared to undertake the construction of this particular causeway and receive payment as soon as we can find money. It is possible that we may be able to make a little provision in the coming year, but it is not possible to adopt a principle of that kind on any large scale. A single isolated instance of this kind must not involve any new principle, for if it were a question of 20 to 30 lakhs a year for the construction of new bridges on the anticipation that Government would find the money, that would raise a very serious question of financial propriety. But I was rather disappointed to hear one or two members urge that there was no policy in these matters. The hon. Member from Bellary was perhaps the most ardent exponent of this theory. Although he had in his hand at that time a copy of the Financial Relations Committee’s Report, he was prepared to accept it only where it has benefited his own district and where the report has urged that special consideration should be shown to the financial condition of the poorer districts. That to his mind is a very sound policy indeed, but the report also laid down certain principles to be observed in respect of trunk roads. There he denied that there was any policy at all. On that point, I am afraid I must differ from him, because it is perfectly clear that you could never devise a policy

[Mr. T. E. Moir]

[26th March 1926]

which will satisfy all the conflicting claims of different localities. My hon. Colleague the Chief Minister quoted one or two instances in which an attempt to lay down such policies broke down owing to that very obstacle. It seems to me that we have a very definite policy. Perhaps, I have a greater reason to complain of that policy because the whole financial burden is thrown upon the Government in respect of trunk roads. The policy which was suggested and which is at present in operation is that Government assumes responsibility for the maintenance of trunk roads. The provision which it should make was determined on certain principles and no better principles have yet been devised. It is also in view of an agreement arrived at on the recommendations of the Financial Relations Committee that Government are responsible for the construction of all bridges on all trunk roads. Of course it is absolutely impossible that a policy of that kind can result in the Government granting to each district or to each local authority a percentage grant or a grant on the basis of population or a grant on the basis of total mileage under the area under their control. For after all a trunk road is a trunk road and it does not matter whether its extent is small in a certain district or great in another district, or whether it originates in a particular district and ends in another district. Of course the actual length of trunk roads in one district may vary very considerably from their length in another district. Take for example the district of Chingleput through which trunk roads to all parts of the Presidency radiate from Madras. It would naturally be assumed that that district would have a far greater length of trunk roads than another district through which only one of these diverging lines of traffic pass. And the reason for differentiating trunk roads is that they carry through traffic and thereby throw upon the district through which they pass expenditure which is much in excess of their own requirements. I share the regret of my hon. Colleague, the Chief Minister, that we have not been able to do more this year in the shape of grants to bridges for local bodies, but as he has explained, we are hampered by the bill for the restoration of bridges destroyed in the floods. We hope that we shall soon be released from these commitments and I trust that when this is done we shall be able to make larger grants next year, and in years to come and thus give greater satisfaction to members of this House irrespective of which area in this Presidency they represent."

Mr. A. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—"In view of the double assurances given by the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government and the hon. the Finance Member—I do not know which assurance I have to value more but in any case I believe these assurances will help the president of my district to go on with the work—I do not press my motion."

The motion was by leave withdrawn.

* Mr. B. RAMACHANDRA REDDI :—"I will just make a few observations and then withdraw my motion. My case has after all been left in oblivion. I am sorry to say that you are partly responsible for this because you pooled all the complaints together and the first that ran the race got the prize."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—"It is not merely a matter of time."

* Mr. B. RAMACHANDRA REDDI :—"The hon. the Chief Minister said that the responsibility lies on the three hon. Members of the Treasury Bench and consequently shifts it a little bit. I should think that since the responsibility lies on three Members it is all the more easy for him to satisfy our

[26th March 1926]

[Mr. B. Ramachandra Reddi]

claims. Now the question of constructing a causeway on the river Palar had the honour of being advocated by Mr. Ramaswami Mudaliyar and the river Palar had the honour of being crossed by many hon. Members of this House including the hon. the Finance Member. But, Sir, I should say the river Pennar had no such honour. I only ask the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government to reconsider the question and give a sort of concession to my district to relieve the difficulties under which the vast ryot population are suffering from."

The motion was by leave withdrawn.

Mr. A. CHIDAMBARA NADAR :—"I beg to move

'that the allotment of Rs. 39,01,000 for grants-in-aid be reduced by Rs. 100.'

"Sir, during the visit of His Excellency the Governor to Tuticorin recently a deputation waited upon him to urge the necessity for constructing a road from Muthulapuram to Sivagiri and His Excellency promised to consider the matter sympathetically. Sir, the road from Muthulapuram to Sivagiri runs through two districts and cover about 45 miles. It will be a very important road for the agriculturists, for at Muthulapuram a cattle fair is held every year and ryots from all villages flock there for purchasing their cattle. Moreover the road will connect so many important agricultural villages and it will be a boon to the ryot population. Somehow it has been found impossible for the two districts, namely, Ramnad and Tinnevely, to take up this matter. Probably the matter concerns two districts and it is owing to this that the matter has been left in abeyance. So if the Government takes the initiative in the matter and constructs the road in question it will be a great boon to the ryot population."

* The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL :—"Mr. President, Sir, the hon. Member for Madura in making his speech has raised the question of constructing a road from Muthulapuram to Sivagiri. There is no such question under the consideration of the Government. In fact grants are not given for the construction of roads other than trunk roads or second-class roads. The road in question does not come either under the trunk roads or second-class roads. The construction of the road in question is a matter purely for the consideration of the local bodies concerned and as hon. Members are aware Government have granted funds to the local bodies for the construction of village roads. If the hon. Member applies to the local boards concerned for the construction of the particular road I am sure the application will be considered by them. It is not a road for which any grant from provincial funds can be expected."

Mr. A. CHIDAMBARA NADAR :—"I may say for the information of the House that the road runs through two districts and it is rather impossible to move the two district boards. Nor is it possible to move the taluk boards concerned. So the matter was taken up by His Excellency and he promised to consider it sympathetically. I do not know whether the hon. the Minister has received any communication from the Government. If so, I shall be glad to know it."

The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL :—"I cannot say that off-hand. If the hon. Member wants any information, I shall furnish him."

The motion was by leave withdrawn.

[26th March 1926]

* Rao Sahib P. V. GOPALAN :—“ I beg to move

‘that the allotment of Rs. 39,01,000 for grants-in-aid be reduced by Rs. 100.’

“ My object in moving this motion is to find out from the hon. the Chief Minister whether there is any proposal for the provincialisation of the assistant engineers. I am aware that the posts of the district board engineers are provincialised. The reason for my asking that assistant engineers should also be provincialised is this : they have got to serve two masters—one the district board president and the other the district board engineer. If the district board engineer is not in the good graces of the district board president, he tries to get transfer for himself from one district board to another. He can go on in this way from one district to another till he finishes off the 25 districts by which time he may retire from service with a pension. Whereas if the assistant engineer is not in the good graces of the president or the district board engineer his chances are not in any way encouraging. So, I wish to know from the hon. the Minister whether there is any proposal or means by which he can provincialise the posts of assistant engineers also. In this case we know that until and unless 75 per cent of the councillors or the district board members unanimously resolve that such and such an officer should be fined or transferred it is very seldom that he is very badly treated.

4-30
P.M.

“ I wish to know from the hon. Minister whether there is any possibility of provincializing the appointments of these assistant engineers working under taluk boards.”

* The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL :—“ Mr. President, Sir, the question of provincializing the district board assistant engineers was considered along with the question of provincializing the district board engineers, but was dropped. It is true that the Local and Municipal Conference held in 1920 recommended the provincialization of the assistant engineers. It is also true that the Financial Relations Committee recommended it. But the question was discussed at more than one meeting of the Local and Municipal Advisory Committee and the members were strongly opposed to the idea of provincializing these officers. They said that under the Act their pay was paid by the boards and therefore their appointments must be made by the boards themselves. They resent the idea of provincialization. Later on, a suggestion was made to the Committee whether they would accept an amendment of the Act of 1920 so that in making the appointments of assistant engineers, Government should be consulted and the Committee strongly opposed the suggestion and therefore it had to be dropped. Under the circumstances, it appears to me that it is not feasible to provincialize the cadre of assistant engineers.”

* Rao Sahib P. V. GOPALAN :—“ Was it the Local Self-Government Department Advisory Committee that decided against this proposal ? ”

* The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL :—“ Yes.”

* Rao Sahib P. V. GOPALAN :—“ If so, I should like to know whether that Committee did not object to the disciplinary control of the Director of Public Health over the health inspectors and to the control of the sub-assistant surgeons by the Surgeon-General ? ”

[26th March 1926]

* The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL :—“ If I remember aright I think there was a compromise in the matter.”

The motion was by leave withdrawn.

* Mr. MUHAMMAD GHOUSE MIAN SAHIB :—“ Sir, I beg to move

‘that the allotment of Rs. 39,01,000 for Grants-in-aid be reduced by Rs. 100.’

“ My object is to discuss that the grants to district boards for roads are not properly utilized and often mismanaged and to point out that the administration of local boards and municipalities is unsatisfactory. Sir, in this matter, other hon. Members have anticipated me and I have not got much to say. I expected that the hon. Minister would give an explanation as to why this present policy is being adopted. But the hon. the Finance Member gave an explanation of the present policy and it is a satisfactory one and therefore I do not press much further with regard to these grants.

“ Secondly, Sir, I wish to say that under the old Act there was an obligation on the boards to levy a cess like the railway cess and wherever the cess is accumulated, remunerative enterprises were undertaken. Under the new Act there is no provision for the collection of such a cess. In 1925 this Council introduced a legislation to amend section 236 of the Act by means of which the district boards were vested with the power of utilizing the accumulated railway cess for the construction of roads and bridges. In spite of such a legislation various boards are approaching the Government for grants and loans for the construction of bridges and roads and Government have been granting them on a large scale. I want to ask the hon. Minister why this policy is adopted.

“ Thirdly, Sir, with reference to the mismanagement of the grants by the local boards, I wish to state that some circular should be issued by the Government insisting upon the boards that tenders from the local board contracts should be called for not once in three years but every year. Again, Sir, contracts for the maintenance of roads—trunk roads, within the limits of a taluk board should be under the charge of the taluk board itself and not under the charge of the district board. Otherwise there is a chance of mismanagement of money; it would be giving an opportunity to these contractors to mismanage the money. I would request the Government to issue a circular to this effect to all the district boards.

* As regards the unsatisfactory nature of the administration of these bodies in general, I wish to confine myself to the nomination of Mussalman members.”

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—“ Order, order. That question has been dealt with on a previous occasion. The nominations to local bodies has nothing to do with Civil Works.”

* Mr. MUHAMMAD GHOUSE MIAN SAHIB :—“ In that case I do not discuss that question, Sir.”

* The RAJA OF RAMNAD :—“ Sir, from the wording of the motion of the hon. Member from Trichinopoly representing the Muhammadan constituency, I expected that he would bring specific instances of presidents of local boards embezzling or mismanaging the grants given to the boards. But from his speech . . . ”

[26th March 1926]

* Mr. MUHAMMAD GHOUSE MIAN SAHIB :—"I stated that the grants to the local boards are mismanaged; it might not be due to the presidents themselves but it may be due to several other reasons."

* The RAJA OF RAMNAD :—"When the hon. Member referred to the mismanagement in giving these grants, I thought that he was levelling a charge against the Government. Then he said that the taluk boards should be allowed to select the contractors for works on the trunk roads passing through their respective areas. I am not able to see what exactly his grievance is. As regards the selection of contractors by the taluk boards, I think my hon. Friend is misinformed. The district board has no area of its own; all the area is either taluk board or union board. Therefore in the very nature of things the selection of contractors cannot be left with the taluk board. Even in the matter of the works undertaken by the taluk boards themselves and works costing over a certain amount, the selection of the contractors has to be approved by the president of the district board. Likewise for works of the union boards over a certain amount, the selection of the contractors has to be approved by the presidents of the taluk boards. There are various rules regarding the selection of the contractors for works according to their value. I do not think the hon. Member has made out a case. When I first saw the motion I was startled and thought that the hon. Member was going to bring home to the minds of the presidents of the local boards their grave irregularities and their mismanagement. I am greatly relieved after hearing him that he has brought no such charges. His grievance is imaginary and after all it reduces itself to this that the taluk board presidents should be given the patronage of selecting the contractors. I do not think, Sir, that the contractor for the maintenance of the trunk roads can be left to be selected by the taluk board president."

* The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL :—"Mr. President, Sir, I must confess that I have not been able to follow the charges levelled by my hon. Friend. He began by saying that he wanted to know the policy underlying the distribution of these grants. He was however perfectly satisfied with the explanation of the hon. the Finance Member. Then he complained that the Government did not allow the application of some district boards to divert their accumulated railway cess towards the construction of roads and bridges. So far as I recollect, there has been no such application made by any president of the district board. Then he took the Government to task for the district boards not allowing the taluk boards to choose the contractors for the work of maintenance of the trunk roads within the area of the latter. That is indeed a matter between the district board and the taluk board and there are rules laid down which have to be followed in the matter of the distribution of the work between the taluk boards and the district boards. Government cannot be held responsible for any disputes between taluk and district boards in the matter of giving contracts. Sir, I have nothing more to add."

* Mr. MUHAMMAD GHOUSE MIAN SAHIB :—"What I said was completely misunderstood. My chief complaint was that the same contractor is being given contracts by the district boards for a number of years and for that reason I stated that the Government should send a circular asking that the contractor for doing the work of maintenance of the trunk roads lying within the area of the taluk board should be chosen by the taluk board and not by the district board. Secondly, Sir, section 236 of the Local Boards Act was

[26th March 1926] [Mr. Muhammad Ghouse Mian Sahib]

amended by this Council thereby giving power to the presidents of district boards to use the accumulated railway cess for the construction of roads and bridges. If the hon. Minister is not aware of it, I am not to blame."

* The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL :—"I should like to know which of the local boards have applied for this permission to divert their funds."

* Mr. MUHAMMAD GHOUSE MIAN SAHIB :—"Trichinopoly Board has applied for a loan for the construction of a bridge over the Marudiar."

* The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL :—"Application for a loan is altogether different from an application for diversion of funds."

* Mr. MUHAMMAD GHOUSE MIAN SAHIB :—"May I ask the hon. Minister whether he has not received any such application from any other board?"

* The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL :—"I ask the hon. Member to bring to the notice of Government any such instances so that they might take action if they have not already taken action. But the hon. Member is not in a position to give any instance."

The motion was by leave withdrawn.

* Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—"Sir, I move

that the allotment of Rs. 39,01,000 for grants-in-aid be reduced by Rs. 100.

4-45
p.m.

"I wish to refer first to the second point, viz., the neglect of the Charmeda Ghat road in South Kanara district. I shall be very short. I may refer to the enunciation of the principle laid down by the hon. the Finance Member that trunk roads are to be repaired at the cost of the Government and that certain fixed sum is given for that purpose. But I am at a loss to see how certain roads are treated as trunk roads and others not. There is a road called the Charmeda Ghat road in South Kanara. That is a most important road that connects our district with the rest of the Presidency and Mysore. It is a road on which runs the heaviest of traffic. This road divides into two roads: one going to Mercara and Mysore and the other going to Charmeda and Bangalore. This latter more important road in the whole district is treated as second-class road whereas the other road which leads to Puttur and thence to Mercara is treated as a trunk road. One would find it very difficult to travel on this road in a car or cart during the monsoon from the month of June to November. The road is not repaired. It is practically impossible to travel on this road specially when there is heavy rains. Many persons and myself have had sad experience of this road. I bear marks of cuts by being thrown off the car. The ruts on the road after the heavy rains are so deep. There is continuous jolting that one is likely to be thrown off during unguarded moments. The distance of the road is long. There is no road which is so steep as this road. Even the Ootacamund road is not so steep. The road covers a distance of 10 miles. I want to know why this road is not included in the list of trunk roads. There was lot of correspondence between the hon. the Chief Minister and the president of the district board on this matter. The hon. the Raja of Ramnad is speaking. Our district deserves better attention at the hands of this Council. Our district is much neglected."

* The RAJA OF RAMNAD :—"I did not hear some reference made to me."

[26th March 1926]

* Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—" This matter is not of a local character. It is of an imperial character. I hope this Council, the hon. the Minister and the hon. the Finance Member will pay greater attention to our neglected district on a point of such importance as having a proper traffic road between South Kanara and the rest of the Presidency."

* The RAJA OF RAMNAD :—" On a point of personal explanation, Sir. The hon. Member from South Kanara complains that I did not attend to his speech. Is there any rule or obligation that we should be all attentive to all his speech?"

* Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—" When we talk of matters of South Kanara, the hon. Members of this Council are somewhat indifferent (Laughter). I am referring to an imperial matter. There is no obligation on his part to listen to speeches made in the Council. He can talk away all the time. But nobody is entitled to talk so loudly for an hon. Member of the Council not being heard. I have heard complaints from the official reporters that they are not able to take down speeches fully as hon. Members converse so loudly. (Laughter). The press reporters feel it difficult to report the speech of the hon. the Finance Member. They complain that while one hon. Member is speaking some hon. Members of the House are conversing very loudly. I have been particularly careful to see that our conversation is not heard by other hon. Members or by the reporters."

" I am sorry I have been led away from the subject. Another point is that where a town is growing in population and exceeds, say, 10,000 in number, it must be converted into a municipality or at least into a union. In Malabar and South Kanara I find there are a number of towns whose population exceeds 5,000, the minimum number for a union. It is a well-understood principle under the Municipalities Acts in all the presidencies if the population of a town exceeds 10,000 it ought to be converted into a municipality. Take the town of Udipi which has a population of 13,000. Most of the money is utilized for roads within the town. In the case of Udipi—I have visited the town—the complaint of the people is that the taluk board pays no attention to the construction or repair of roads in the villages. The matter is before the Government at this time. I do not want to raise a particular point. I would urge upon the Government to lay down some general principles with regard to town-planning, town development, health, sanitation, etc."

* The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL :—" May I know how this is relevant to the question of paying grants for the maintenance of roads?"

* Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—" I refer generally to the construction of roads. The taluk board spends most of the money for town roads. (Laughter.) The word is pronounced as 'taluka' in the Bombay Presidency. I am sorry I have accustomed myself to pronounce it as taluka. I have been corrected by many persons. The taluk board has been spending most of its income on the construction of roads within the town itself and neglecting the other roads. What I say is that the Government should urge upon the taluk boards the duty of constituting municipalities where there is a population of over 10,000. Where the population is more than 5,000, a union board should be established. I urge that the Government should ask the district board of South Kanara why villages with a population of over 5,000 each have not been converted into unions."

[26th March 1926]

* The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL :—" Mr. President, I fully sympathize with my hon. Friend from South Kanara that the village roads and the road in South Kanara district referred to by him are in a bad condition. The hon. Member is aware that so far as village roads are concerned, they are the concern of the local boards. I am glad to tell him that last year a sum of Rs. 17,500 was granted to the South Kanara District Board for the improvement of rural communications. My hon. Friend would do very well to urge the claims of the particular road he has in view upon the attention of the taluk and district boards. So far as the Charneda road is concerned it is a second-class road and the Government give 50 per cent grants in the case of second class roads subject to a maximum for the district."

* Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—" I ask why is that road classified as second-class road, and some other road as first-class road."

* The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL :—" It has been classified as a second-class road by an expert committee. The Government give grants to the local bodies subject to a maximum of one lakh of rupees for the maintenance of roads. If, in spite of that, the second-class roads are not properly maintained, it will be open to the Government to reduce the amount of the grant. My hon. Friend ought to have moved the local boards to see that the roads are properly maintained. My hon. Friend has also raised the question as to why the road is not classed as trunk road. The question of the classification of trunk roads was considered by a committee and the committee did not come "

* Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—" May I know what committee enquired into the matter and when?"

* The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL :—" The Road Classification Committee was constituted for the purpose of considering whether any changes were necessary in the matter of the classification of roads into trunk roads and second-class roads. Unfortunately, that committee was not able to arrive at any definite decision. The matter was dropped; the Government propose to consider the question some time later. This time we hope that the committee to be appointed will come to a decision."

* Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—" Sir, I fear I have not made myself clear. I do not say that the grants given for the improvement of village roads were not utilized. The tendency of taluk boards—take the case of an important town like Udipi—is to spend most of the money on roads within the town. The inequality can be remedied by converting the towns into municipalities or unions. As regards the committee to be appointed I hope that we shall have an expert committee to decide the question. I think the hon. the Finance Member will agree with me that most important roads have been classed as second-class roads and less important roads have been classed as trunk roads."

The motion was by leave withdrawn.

The demand was put and carried and the grant was made.

[26th March 1926]

DEMAND XXX—CIVIL WORKS (TRANSFERRED)

p.m. * The hon. Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. PATRO :—" Sir, I beg to move

'that the Government be granted a sum not exceeding Rs. 105.89 lakhs for Civil Works—Transferred.'"

* Diwan Bahadur M. KRISHNAN NAYAR :—" No, it is Rs. 106.89 lakhs."

* The hon. Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. PATRO :—" If the hon. Member will have the patience to hear me . . ."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" Mr. Krishnan Nayar does not want, I am sure, to give the Government more money than it wants."

* Diwan Bahadur M. KRISHNAN NAYAR :—" I want corrections to be made and an accurate paper to be distributed to Members."

* The hon. Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. PATRO :—" I submit, Sir, that the demand is reduced by 1 lakh. If hon. Members will turn to the Civil Works Budget, on page 11 they will find under item 19 a sum of Rs. 2 lakhs provided under Medical—South Presidency—Purchase of permanent buildings for the School of Indian Medicine, Madras. Out of this Rs. 2 lakhs provided, the hon. the Minister was asked to transfer Rs. 1 lakh for rural water-supply and rural communications. So, Rs. 1 lakh having been deducted from the allotment of Rs. 2 lakhs that is provided in the Civil Works Budget for the purchase of new buildings for the school of Indian Medicine, the grant is reduced by Rs. 1 lakh here. Under supplementary grants, the hon. Member in charge will move for Rs. 12 lakhs as already notice has been given."

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" As it is 5 o'clock, I shall have to put the other demands to the House without any discussion."

Demand XXX for Rs. 105.89 lakhs for Civil Works (Transferred) was put and carried and the grant was made.

The following demands were also put and carried and the grants were made:—

Demand XXXI for Rs. 53.05 lakhs for Pensions.

Demand XXXII for Rs. 19.53 lakhs for Stationery and Printing.

Demand XXXIII for Rs. 2.45 lakhs for Stationery (for Transferred departments):

Demand XXXIV for Rs. 15.19 lakhs for Agency.

Demand XXXV for Rs. 3.70 lakhs for expenditure in England other than on stores.

Demand XXXVI for Rs. 85.43 lakhs for Loans and Advances by Provincial Governments.

* Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—" Sir, may I enquire what the exact programme of work for the next week is? I have received notice of some private Bills, to be introduced, also that of Mr. Manjappa Heggade. Shall we have non-official work at all? If there is any non-official work, I would be glad myself to bring some non-official business."

[26th March 1926]

* The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL :—" Mr. President, Sir, so far as the Bills relating to the District Municipalities Act are concerned, it is not proposed to move them on the 30th as originally proposed."

* The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—" You may remember, Mr. President, that on the last occasion about the 16th or 17th, I said if there was a general feeling that there ought to be one or two days for non-official business, they might be allotted. Sir, I find from such enquiries as I have made that there is no demand or inclination. The business of the Council will probably be over by lunch time on Monday."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" The House will now adjourn and meet again on Monday at 11 o'clock."

The House accordingly adjourned.

R. V. KRISHNA AYYAR,
Secretary to the Legislative Council.

APPENDIX.

[Vide answer to question No. 1845 asked by Mr. T. Adinarayana Chettiyar at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on the 26th March 1926, page 745 supra.]

List of Christian, Hindu and Muhammadan Preachers and Visitors to the Penitentiary, Madras.

The Reverend Father A. I. Theodore	...	Roman Catholic.
" Father R. Sullivan	...	Do.
" Father J. Fruitier	...	Do.
" W. R. Crichton	...	Church of England.
" S. S. Clarke	...	Do.
" R. Ezekiel	...	Do.
" Handly Bird	...	Lutheran Mission.
Colonel N. Muthayya	...	Salvation Army.
Major A. Cunningham	...	Do.
Captain V. Rathnam and two Indian gentlemen.	...	Do.
The Reverend Father S. Jacob	...	Armenian Church.
" Dr. A. G. Hogg	...	United Free Church of Scotland.
" C. Kingsley Williams	...	Wesleyan Mission.
Swami Saswathanandan	...	Ramakrishna Mission.
M.R.Ry. Rama Ayyar	...	Theosophical Society.
Maulvi Mahomed Khallilur Rahiman Sahib Bahadur.	...	Muhammadan.

Female Visitors.

Mrs. M. E. Cousins.	|	Srimathi Savithri Ammal.
„ N. Muthayya.		„ Visalakshi Ammal.

THE MADRAS LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

Monday, the 29th March 1926.

The House met at 12 minutes past 11, with Mr. President (the hon. Mr. M. RUTHNASWAMY) in the chair.

PRESENT:

Ramaswami Ayyar, K.C.I.E., The hon. Sir C. P.	Moidu Sahib, Mr. T. M.
Marjoribanks, C.S.I., C.I.E., The hon. Mr. N. E.	Muhammad Sahib, Mr. T. N.
Usman Sahib Bahadur, The hon. Khan Bahadur Muhammad.	Muttayya Mudaliyar, Mr. C.
	Narayanawami Pillai, Mr. T. M.
Moir, C.S.I., C.I.E., The hon. Mr. T. E.	Natesa Mudaliyar, Rao Bahadur C.
Raja of Panagal, The hon. the.	Noyce, C.S.I., C.I.E., Mr. F.
Patro, Kt., The hon. Rao Bahadur Sir A. P.	Obalesappa, Mr. B.
Sivagnanam Pillai, Kt., The hon. Diwan Bahadur T. N.	Pandrang Row, Mr. V.
Abdulla Ghatala Sahib, Mr.	Prabhakaran Tampan, Mr. K.
Ankinedu Prasad, Mr. S. R. Y.	Premayya, Mr. G.
Appavu Chettiyar, Mr. D.	Raghuchandra Ballal, Mr. K.
Arpadaswami Udayar, Mr. S.	Raja, Rao Bahadur M. C.
Arumuga Nadar, Mr. P. K. S. A.	Raja of Ramnad, The.
Bhanoji Rao, Mr. A. V.	Rajan, Mr. P. T.
Boag, Mr. G. T.	Ramachandra Reddi, Mr. B.
Chidambara Nadar, Mr. A.	Raman, Rao Bahadur P.
Devendrudu, Mr. N.	Ramachari, Rao Sahib K. V.
Ellappa Chettiyar, Rao Sahib S.	Ramaswami Mudaliyar, Mr. A.
Evans, C.S.I., Mr. F. B.	Ranganatha Mudaliyar, Mr. A.
Ghouse Mian Sahib, Mr. Muhammad.	Rencontre, Mr. A. F.
Gopalan, Rao Sahib P. V.	Ross, Mr. T. M.
Guruswami, Mr. L. C.	Sagaram, Mr. P.
Haji Qasim Sahib Bahadur, Khan Bahadur Haji Abd-ul-Jah.	Saldanha, Mr. J. A.
Heggade, Mr. D. Manjappa.	Sarabha Reddi, Mr. K.
Hingston, C.B.E., C.I.E., I.M.S., Lieut.-Col.	Sarvarayudu, Mr. K.
Kesava Pillai, C.I.E., Diwan Bahadur P.	Sitarama Reddi, Mr. K.
Khalif-ul-Jah Sahib Bahadur, Khan Bahadur P.	Srinivasan, Rao Sahib R.
Krishnan Nayar, Diwan Bahadur M.	Subbarayan, Dr. P.
Krishnaswami Nayudu, Rao Bahadur K.	Subramania Pillai, Mr. K. Chavadi.
MaoDougall, Kt., Sir Alexander.	Sundaramurti, Rao Sahib P. V. S.
Madanagopal Nayudu, Mr. R.	Tangavelu Pillai, Rao Sahib T. C.
Madhava Raja, Mr. V.	Veerian, Mr. R.
Madurai, Hony. Lieut.	Venkatachala Padayachi, Mr. K.
Mallesappa, Mr. T.	Venkatarama Sastri, Mr. T. R.
Marthandam Pillai, Mr. P. N.	Venkatareddi Nayudu, Kt., Rai Bahadur Sir K.
	Wood, Mr. C. E.

[29th March 1926]

I

NEW MEMBER.

Lieut.-Col. HINGSTON, O.B.E., C.I.E., I.M.S., was sworn in.

II

- QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

[Order made by the President of the Madras Legislative Council under Standing Order No. 15 on the 4th December 1924.]

1. Starred questions to be put at a meeting of the Council with their answers shall be printed and placed on the Council table an hour before the President takes his seat.

The Secretary shall call out the name of each interpellator in the order in which the names are printed, specify the serial number of his question and make a sufficient pause to give him or any other member a reasonable opportunity of rising in his place and putting a supplementary question. Supplementary questions must be put immediately after the principal questions to which they relate.

2. If a member responsible for a starred question happens to be absent when it is called, it will be open either to him or to any other member to put supplemental questions thereon after the other starred questions for the day have been answered, provided question-time is not thereby exceeded.

3. Questions, not starred, will not be called in Council, but they will be printed with their answers and placed on the table of the House along with the list of starred questions. Oral supplementary questions will not be allowed in regard to unstarred questions.]

STARRED QUESTIONS.

Agriculture.

Royal Commission on Agriculture.

* 1859 Q.—Mr. S. SATYAMURTI: Will the hon. the Minister for Development be pleased to state—

(a) whether he was consulted with reference to the appointment of a Royal Commission on Agriculture and the terms of reference thereto;

(b) if so, what his opinion was; and

(c) the reasons why he agreed to the very narrow terms of reference to the Commission?

A.—(a) Yes.

(b) & (c) The reply of the Madras Government to the communication from the Government of India on the subject is appended.*

Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR:—"With reference to the answer to clause (c), may I know what the terms of reference to the commission are?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir T. N. SIVAGNANAM PILLAI:—"The terms of reference will be published in the *Fort St. George Gazette*."

Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR:—"Do the Government of Madras propose to hold any enquiry of their own in case the Royal Commission does not materialize soon?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir T. N. SIVAGNANAM PILLAI:—"The answer, Sir, is in the negative."

* Printed as Appendix I on pages 903-904 infra.

[29th March 1926]

Establishment of an agricultural school in the Bellary district.

* 1860 Q.—Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR: Will the hon. the Minister for Development be pleased to state with reference to the representations made to him when he last visited Bellary district and the replies he made to them when an agricultural middle school will be established in the district?

A.—The Government are unable to specify any date.

Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR:—"If the Government are unable to specify the date, will they at least specify the conditions which will facilitate the opening of the school?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir T. N. SIVAGNANAM PILLAI:—"The conditions are only monetary."

Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR:—"May I know what is the idea of the Government regarding the amount that would be necessary?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir T. N. SIVAGNANAM PILLAI:—"That question, Sir, I remember, was answered once before, and if I remember right, I said that Rs. 36,000 would be required for initial expenditure and Rs. 10,000 for recurring."

Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR:—"For one school?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir T. N. SIVAGNANAM PILLAI:—"That is my memory, Sir. If notice is given, I shall verify."

Establishment of a sugarcane farm for the western taluks of Bellary.

* 1861 Q.—Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR: Will the hon. the Minister for Development be pleased to state, with reference to the representations made to him when he last visited Bellary district and the replies he made to them, when a sugarcane farm will be established for the western taluks?

A.—The Government cannot say definitely when a sugarcane station will be established for the western taluks of Bellary.

Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR:—"Sir, is it not a fact that the Sugar Committee which was last appointed recommended the appointment of a station in these taluks?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir T. N. SIVAGNANAM PILLAI:—"I have to inform the hon. Member that the answer that I gave for question No. 1860 ought to have been given for this question. As regards sugarcane, I believe they said that one farm should be opened in the Ceded districts."

Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR:—"May I ask, Sir, where do we have such a large area of sugarcane other than in the Bellary district within our province?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir T. N. SIVAGNANAM PILLAI:—"The agricultural statistics will bring out the facts."

[29th March 1926]

Appointment of millet expert in the Bellary district.

* 1862 Q.—Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR: Will the hon. the Minister for Development be pleased to state, with reference to the representations made to him when he last visited Bellary district and the replies he made to them, when the millet expert or his assistant will be employed in the district to conduct experiments there?

A.—It is likely that an Assistant will be sent to Nandyal in July 1926 so that he may study the millet problem in the Ceded districts, and keep in touch with the work at Hagari and Nandyal with a view to fit him for the work of the proposed sub-station in the Ceded districts.

Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR:—“May I ask, Sir, whether the expert at Coimbatore has anything to do with the operations at Hagari and at Nandyal?”

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir T. N. SIVAGNANAM PILLAI:—“So far as his subjects are concerned, he has got everything to do with the operations.”

Co-operative Societies.*Referring cases filed by the Salem Urban Co-operative Society for arbitration.*

* 1863 Q.—Mr. T. ADINARAYANA CHETTIYAR: Will the hon. the Minister for Development be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that the Deputy Registrar of Co-operative Societies, Vellore, has referred a large number of cases (filed) by the Salem Urban Co-operative Society, Limited, for arbitration, under rule 14 of the rules framed under the Co-operative Societies Act, for disposal to Mr. T. M. Chinnayya Pillai who is a member of the same Salem Urban Co-operative Society, Limited;

(b) whether the law and the rules prohibit a member of a society from ‘trying’ a case against another member of the same primary Co-operative Society; and

(c) why the cases were not referred to the local Assistant Registrar or to some person who was not a member of the society?

A.—(a) Nine cases were transferred to Mr. Chinnayya Pillai.

(b) There is no such prohibition in the Act or the Rules.

(c) The appointment of an arbitrator is left to the discretion of the Deputy Registrar.

Dismissal of officers in the Co-operative department, North Arcot district.

* 1864 Q.—Mr. T. ADINARAYANA CHETTIYAR: Will the hon. the Minister for Development be pleased to state how many Brahmans, how many non-Brahmans and how many Christians and Muhammadans who have been in service in the Co-operative department, in North Arcot district, were fined, suspended, dismissed or had their services dispensed with between 1st July 1923 and 31st December 1925 when the present Deputy Registrar of Co-operative Societies, Vellore, was in charge?

A.—The Government have no information.

[29th March 1926]

Appointment of honorary organizers of co-operative credit societies.

* 1865 Q.—Mr. R. VEERIAN: Will the hon. the Minister for Development be pleased to state—

(a) whether the practice of appointing honorary organizers of co-operative credit societies has been discontinued;

(b) if so, why this was discontinued;

(c) whether any remuneration, allowance or honorarium was paid to them; and

(d) if so, how much?

A.—(a) Yes, and the information was furnished to the hon. Member by the Registrar of Co-operative Societies in January 1926.

(b) Because their work is now entrusted to Honorary Assistant Registrars.

(c) & (d) The attention of the hon. Member is drawn to rule 102 (c) (1) of the Madras Travelling Allowance Rules.

Mr. R. VEERIAN:—“Sir, may I know whether the activities of the Honorary Assistant Registrars are confined to a more extensive area than in the case of the honorary organizers?”

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir T. N. SIVAGNANAM PILLAI:—“It may or may not.”

Mr. R. VEERIAN:—“My own information is, Sir, . . .”

The hon. the PRESIDENT:—“The Council is not interested in it.”

Mr. R. VEERIAN:—“May I know whether the Government do not think it advisable to have the appointment of honorary organizers continued so as to ensure better work being done in the organization of societies?”

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir T. N. SIVAGNANAM PILLAI:—“The Government do not think so.”

Mr. R. VEERIAN:—“May I know whether the Government are satisfied with the activities of the Honorary Assistant Registrars?”

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir T. N. SIVAGNANAM PILLAI:—“The answer is in the affirmative.”

Fisheries.*Grant of privileges to Mr. Anasthasius Motha in Tuticorin Pearl Fishery.*

* 1866 Q.—Rao Bahadur CRUZ FERNANDEZ: Will the hon. the Minister for Development be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that one Mr. Anasthasius Motha of Tuticorin has applied to Government for grant of privileges in the Pearl Fishery;

(b) if so, what orders have been passed on his application;

(c) whether it is a fact that he claims the said privileges as the Jathithalaivan of the Bharatha community;

(d) the grounds on which Mr. Anasthasius Motha bases his claim to the privilege in the Pearl Fishery;

(e) whether he has done any service to Government and helped the Fishery Department in the inspection of Pearl Banks and other allied work at any time during the past eleven years, i.e., after the death of his father Mr. Lazer Motha in July 1924;

[29th March 1926]

(f) if not, what is the necessity for Government to recognize his claim and grant him any privilege in the Pearl Fishery;

(g) whether it is a fact that a mazahar has been received by Government from the Bharatha people of Tuticorin objecting to the grant of any privilege to Mr. Anasthasius Motha; and

(h) whether it is a fact that Mr. Anasthasius Motha has not claimed the fishery "take" as a birthright inherited from his forefathers?

A.—(a) Yes.

(b) The Government have directed that the concession which the Jathithalaivans enjoyed prior to 1891 should be continued during the fishery now being held off Tuticorin, namely, the take of two boats of ten divers each every day of the fishery.

(c) Yes.

(d) & (h) On the ground that he is the Jathithalaivan of his community.

(e) No.

(f) The Government have granted him the concession as a matter of grace.

(g) The Government received several mahazars some objecting to and others favouring the grant.

MR. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR:—"May I know whether or not the question who should be called a Jathithalaivan is a matter for judicial adjudication?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir T. N. SIVAGNANAM PILLAI:—"The Government had been doing it before and they have done it now."

The RAJA OF RAMNAD:—"What is the community referred to here for which this person is said to be the Jathithalaivan?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir T. N. SIVAGNANAM PILLAI:—"The Bharatha community of Tuticorin."

Rao Sahib P. V. GOPALAN:—"May I know, Sir, what is the difference between the answers given to clauses (e) and (f), and why the Government have granted him the concession as a matter of grace?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir T. N. SIVAGNANAM PILLAI:—"We cannot get beyond the established custom and therefore we are obliged to grant it."

The RAJA OF RAMNAD:—"Arising from the answer, Sir, that there was some custom and the answer given in clause (f), may I know whether the concession was granted to him now or on previous occasions also?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir T. N. SIVAGNANAM PILLAI:—"On occasions subsequent to the time when he rendered the actual service."

Rao Sahib P. V. GOPALAN:—"May I ask whether this concession was granted to him after verification of the situation in Tuticorin by the hon. the Minister himself or whether it was on the recommendation of any officer subordinate to him?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir T. N. SIVAGNANAM PILLAI:—"On the report of the Collector of Tinnevely."

[29th March 1926]

The RAJA OF RAMNAD:—"Sir, with reference to the answer given by the hon. the Minister to the question I put last, it was said that the concession was granted subsequent to the services rendered by him. My question was whether it was granted only now or on earlier occasions also."

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir T. N. SIVAGNANAM PILLAI:—"There were times when he rendered actual service and there had been also subsequent occasions when he did not do actual service. That is the point of difference between the two."

The RAJA OF RAMNAD:—"Sir, I was not asking whether he did or did not render any service. But my question is whether the concession was given to him in connexion with the present or with earlier fisheries."

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir T. N. SIVAGNANAM PILLAI:—"In connexion with services rendered now and even sometimes before."

Rao Sahib P. V. GOPALAN:—"May I know whether he thinks that this concession is a hereditary right conceded to him?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir T. N. SIVAGNANAM PILLAI:—"He claims it as a matter of hereditary right but we gave it on other grounds."

The RAJA OF RAMNAD:—"What are the other grounds?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir T. N. SIVAGNANAM PILLAI:—"Custom."

Establishment, etc., of the Tuticorin Pearl Fishery.

* 1867 Q.—Rao Bahadur CRUZ FERNANDEZ: Will the hon. the Minister for Development be pleased to state whether he will lay on the table—

(i) a schedule showing the scale of establishment maintained at the time of the Tuticorin Fishery held in 1889 and 1890 and that proposed for the ensuing fishery together with their pay and allowances and their qualifications;

(ii) a statement showing the expenditure incurred in the maintenance of the Pearl Fishery Department at Tuticorin from 1890 to 1925 inclusive and also the estimated net revenue to Government from the ensuing fishery; and

(iii) a comparative statement showing the anticipated net revenue to Government and the probable income to the Jathithalaivan in the ensuing fishery?

A.—(i) A statement* showing the cost of the establishment maintained in the fisheries held in 1889 and 1890 and the scale of establishment maintained in the fishery that is now being held is laid on the table. Details and qualifications wherever available are furnished in the footnote to the statement.

(ii) The information is not readily available. The figures will have to be worked out by the Superintendent, Pearl and Chank Fisheries, but he and his staff are so busy with the fishery that is now going on off Tuticorin that they would not be able to undertake the work now. The net revenue from the pearl fishery that is now being held is estimated at Rs. 2 lakhs.

(iii) It is not possible to say now what income the Jathithalaivan is likely to derive from the fishery.

[29th March 1926]

Industries.*Concessions to depressed classes in Government Industrial Institute, Madura.*

* 1868 Q.—Mr. R. VEERIAN: Will the hon. the Minister for Development be pleased to state—

(a) who bears the cost of clothing, hostel charges and charges for books and necessary articles for apprentices' use in the school and in the workshop in the Government Industrial Institute, Madura, in the case of students belonging to each of the communities; and

(b) whether any concession is shown in the case of depressed classes in the matter of hostel charges, and charges for books and necessary articles for the apprentices' use in the school and in the workshop?

A.—(a) All apprentices irrespective of the community they come from must provide their own clothing, pay hostel charges and purchase their own books. Materials and tools for apprentices' use in the class room and workshop are supplied by the Institute.

(b) No.

Mr. R. VEERIAN:—"With reference to clause (a), may I know whether there is any separate hostel accommodation?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir T. N. SIVAGNANAM PILLAI:—"I do not know."

Mr. R. VEERIAN:—"May I know whether there is any cosmopolitan section?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir T. N. SIVAGNANAM PILLAI:—"I want notice."

Mr. R. VEERIAN:—"May I know whether the hon. the Minister in charge has suggested anything of the kind?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir T. N. SIVAGNANAM PILLAI:—"It is only on the settlement of the prior question that this question will arise."

The RAJA OF RAMNAD:—"From the answer given on the notice paper I find there is a hostel. Otherwise how can apprentices be required to pay hostel charges, as is represented in the answer?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir T. N. SIVAGNANAM PILLAI:—"I understood the hon. Member Mr. Veerian to refer to a separate hostel."

Mr. R. VEERIAN:—"May I know whether any distinction is made in providing meals in the hostel?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir T. N. SIVAGNANAM PILLAI:—"I should like to have notice."

Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR:—"Are apprentices selected by the local bodies?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir T. N. SIVAGNANAM PILLAI:—"Notice."

The hon. the PRESIDENT:—"That seems to be a separate question."

Mr. R. VEERIAN:—"May I know whether there are any members of the depressed classes undergoing training in the institution?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir T. N. SIVAGNANAM PILLAI:—"Notice."

[29th March 1926]

Scholarships to students in Government Industrial Institute, Madura.

* 1869 Q.—Mr. R. VEERIAN: Will the hon. the Minister for Development be pleased to state—

(a) whether scholarships are given to all the students in the Government Industrial Institute, Madura; and

(b) if so, what is the amount in each case?

A.—(a) & (b) No scholarships are given by Government, but apprentices who make satisfactory progress are paid wages for working days at the following rates:—

Probationary period	...	...	Re. 1 per mensem.
First year training period	...	...	As. 6 per diem.
Second	"	...	" 6 "
Third	"	...	" 8 "
Fourth	"	...	" 10 "
Fifth	"	...	" 12 "

Mr. R. VEERIAN:—"With reference to clauses (a) and (b), may I know whether any deposit has been taken from the students either at the time of admission or during the course of their training?"

The hon. the PRESIDENT:—"The question is about scholarships. The hon. Member is asking about deposits. That is a separate question."

Government Industrial Institutes in the Presidency.

* 1870 Q.—Mr. R. VEERIAN: Will the hon. the Minister for Development be pleased to state—

(a) how many Government Industrial Institutes, as the Government Industrial Institute, Madura, are there in the Presidency, giving the names of such places; and

(b) whether there is any proposal to start such Industrial Institutes by the Government in each district?

A.—(a) Only the Institute at Madura.

(b) No; the attention of the hon. Member is drawn to paragraph 5 of G.O. No. 2043, Development, dated the 28th November 1924, which was placed on Editors' Table.

Qualifications for admission into the Industrial School, Madura.

* 1871 Q.—Mr. R. VEERIAN: Will the hon. the Minister for Development be pleased to state what minimum educational qualifications are required for admission of students into the Industrial school at Madura?

A.—The candidate should have passed or have studied for one complete year in the old fourth standard or new fifth standard of an elementary school.

Mr. R. VEERIAN:—"Sir, may I know what sort of industrial education they impart there?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir T. N. SIVAGNANAM PILLAI:—"Instruction in machinery, in repairs to motor-cars and various other minor things."

[29th March 1926]

Mr. R. VEERIAN:—"In that case, Sir, may I know whether tailoring does not come within that category?"

The hon. the PRESIDENT:—"Why does the hon. Member make special reference to tailoring of all industries in the world?"

Mr. R. VEERIAN:—"Sir, because industrial education means metal work or wood work, etc. I wanted to know whether tailoring will not come within the several kinds of industrial education. Several people, Sir, may be interested in several branches. There should be variety in the course of instruction and I am only asking the hon. the Minister whether tailoring is also taught."

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir T. N. SIVAGNANAM PILLAI:—"I have no information."

Education.

Stipends to Indian Christians for training as mistresses.

* 1872 Q.—Mr. J. A. SALDANHA: Will the hon. the Minister for Education be pleased to state on what grounds the stipends given to Indian Christians for training as mistresses are fixed at the minima while Hindus, Muhammadans, Europeans and Anglo-Indians are allowed special rates?

A.—The attention of the hon. Member is invited to the answer given to question No. 1850.

Mr. J. A. SALDANHA:—"Sir, may I know what the rate would be of the stipends for Christians belonging to depressed classes?"

The hon. Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. PATRO:—"That is a theoretical question which I am not to solve at present."

Mr. J. A. SALDANHA:—"I cannot understand, Sir, which is a practical and which a theoretical problem. I want to know whether the hon. Minister is aware that many of these women teachers belong to the depressed classes and are exceedingly poor?"

The hon. Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. PATRO:—"I quite sympathize with them, Sir."

Mr. J. A. SALDANHA:—"In that case, Sir, I feel thankful to the hon. the Minister; but will the hon. the Minister be pleased to give some rates higher than the minimum rates in the case of these mistresses?"

The hon. Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. PATRO:—"Each case will be judged on its merits while a general rule has to be followed."

Mr. J. A. SALDANHA:—"The answer is puzzling, Sir. A general rule has to be followed and it should apply to each case. I wish to know whether in the case of depressed classes women teachers a rule is to be presumed that a minimum of Rs. 8-8-0 should be given or the rate of Rs. 10-8-0 or Rs. 9-8-0 now given to the Adi-Dravidas?"

"As there is no answer, Sir, may I take it that the answer is favourable?"

The hon. the PRESIDENT:—"The hon. Member may put any interpretation he likes."

29th March 1926]

Pay of teachers transferred from Government elementary girls' schools to local bodies.

* 1873 Q.—Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR: Will the hon. the Minister for Education be pleased to state—

(a) the number of teachers who held permanent pensionable appointments in the Government elementary schools for girls and whose services were transferred along with their schools to the local bodies from 1921 and onwards;

(b) whether the teachers concerned were consulted and agreed to such transfer of their services;

(c) whether the time-scales of pay of Rs. 20—1—30 for lower elementary grade teachers, of Rs. 25—1—50 for higher elementary grade teachers, and of Rs. 30—2—50—1—60 for secondary grade teachers, which were introduced in the case of all teachers who continued to be in the schools under Government management, were not extended to their colleagues in the schools transferred to local bodies; and if not, why not;

(d) whether the latter teachers are still considered to hold pensionable appointments and their service after their transfer to local bodies counts for pension;

(e) whether a memorial has been received from the teachers under reference praying that the time-scales introduced in the Government schools should be extended to them and that, to enable the local bodies to do so, the Government should help them with reasonable grants; and

(f) if so, the orders of the Government thereon?

A.—(a) & (b) The Government have no information.

(c) No time-scale of pay was sanctioned by Government for teachers in elementary schools for girls transferred to the control of local bodies.

(d) Yes.

(e) Yes.

(f) The local bodies concerned were informed that it was open to them to raise the salaries of the teachers if the additional expenditure involved can be met from their own funds.

Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR:—"Sir, when the teachers were transferred to the local bodies without their consent, did not the Government consider it necessary to see that their emoluments continued the same?"

The hon. Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. PATRO:—"It was open to the teachers to resign if they did not like to be transferred."

Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR:—"Were they given the option to retire immediately and draw any pension they were eligible for?"

The hon. Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. PATRO:—"When they did not like the conditions of service under the local bodies, it was open to them to exercise their discretion either way at the time of the transfer."

Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR:—"Of course they could have resigned, but were they given the right to a pension or would they have forfeited their right to it by their resignation?"

The hon. Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. PATRO:—"If they were qualified for the pension, they would be entitled to it."

[29th March 1926]

Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—"It is evident that they would not have put in 25 or 30 years' service; they might have put in 10 years. If their services ceased for reasons beyond their control ordinarily they would be entitled to proportionate pension. I wish to know whether these teachers were allowed the option to retire on the pensions that they could have got at that time."

The hon. Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. PATRO :—"Certainly, they have the option whether to continue to be teachers under the local boards or retire from service. If they retired and applied for a pension, the case would be one for consideration under the rules. But as it is, I cannot answer hypothetical cases."

Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—"It is the case of teachers whose pay was raised by the local bodies after their transfer and the question is will the Government give them pension on the new scale of pay or on the scale that they would be drawing on the date of their transfer?"

The hon. Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. PATRO :—"It is open to the local body to contribute pension charges but the liability of the Government is only to the extent that it was at the time when the transfer was made."

Scholarships to girls in board schools, Ponnani taluk.

* 1874 Q.—Mr. R. VEERIAN : With reference to question No. 1381 answered at the meeting, dated 12th instant, will the hon. the Minister for Education be pleased to state—

(a) how many of the girls in the Government girls' school transferred to Ponnani Taluk Board pay full fees, how many half-fees and how many girls pay no fees at all, together with the names of the communities to which they belong;

(b) whether this is a higher elementary school or secondary school; and

(c) why no scholarships are given to depressed class girls, whereas two scholarships are awarded to non-Brahman girls?

A.—(a), (b) & (c) The Government have no information. They have called for it.

Mr. R. VEERIAN :—"Sir, may I know whether any attempt has been made or whether any information has since been received?"

The hon. Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. PATRO :—"No information has yet been received."

Admission of Adi-Dravida pupils into Singanallur elementary school.

* 1875 Q.—Mr. R. VEERIAN : With reference to question No. 1382 answered at the meeting, dated 12th February 1926, will the hon. the Minister for Education be pleased to state—

(a) whether the report said to have been called for from the Director of Public Instruction has already been received;

(b) if so, whether the Government will be pleased to place the same on the Council table;

[29th March 1926]

(c) whether the Adi-Dravida boy said to have been admitted into the Vellakinar Higher Elementary School, Coimbatore taluk, on 9th December 1925 is still reading or not;

(d) for how many days he was reading in the school after his admission; and

(e) whether it is a fact that owing to discouragement and maltreatment meted out by the headmaster and other assistants, the boy was obliged to stay away from the school?

A.—(a) & (b) The hon. Member is referred to the answer to question No. 1671 put at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on the 19th March 1926.

(c), (d) & (e) The Government have no information. A report will be called for.

Mr. R. VEERIAN :—"Here also, Sir, the answer is that they have called for a report. May I know whether already attempts have been made or whether they are just going to make attempts at calling for the information?"

The hon. Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. PATRO :—"So many details of administration relating to a particular village out of many villages and to a particular school or school-boy, can only be had through the departmental head, the Director of Public Instruction. As we cannot get it in time, we say that a report has been called for."

Mr. R. VEERIAN :—"It may be a trivial matter to the hon. Minister. But so far as we are concerned, it is a very important matter."

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—"No one thinks that it is not important."

Mr. R. VEERIAN :—"It may be taken as a point of personal explanation, Sir."

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—"No personal explanation during question time is generally permitted."

Scholarship for girls in Government Training School for Mistresses, Coimbatore.

* 1876 Q.—Mr. R. VEERIAN : With reference to question No. 1241 answered at the meeting, dated 8th February 1926, will the hon. the Minister for Education be pleased to state—

(a) why thirty-six Brahman girls are allowed half-fee concession in the Government Training School for Mistresses, Coimbatore;

(b) when this concession was allowed; and

(c) whether the rule 92 of the Madras Educational Rules is applied in granting half-fee concession for Brahmans and other forward classes also?

A.—(a), (b) & (c) Under rule 92 of the Madras Educational Rules, poor girls of all classes and communities are eligible for half-fee concessions.

Mr. R. VEERIAN :—"Sir, the answer given is altogether puzzling. I find from the rules that this half-fee concession is allowed only to girls of Oriya, Muhammadan and the backward and depressed classes. I want to know why this is not extended to all girls."

[29th March 1926]

The hon. Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. PATRO: "That rule is by no means exhaustive."

Mr. R. VEERIAN:—"May I know whether they have issued any such rule since the last publication of the Madras Educational Rules?"

The hon. Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. PATRO:—"The list is not exhaustive and as such discretion is given to the heads of institutions."

Concessions to pupils in Queen Mary's College.

* 1877 Q.—Mr. R. VEERIAN: Will the hon. the Minister for Education be pleased to state—

(a) the number of girl students belonging to the depressed classes in the Queen Mary's College as well as in the Lady Willingdon College in each form;

(b) how many of them are paying full school fees, how many are paying half fees and how many are paying no fees at all in each college in each form;

(c) how many girl students belonging to the non-depressed classes are paying half fees and how many are paying no fees at all in each form in each college; and

(d) how hostel accommodations are provided in the case of girls of different communities?

A.—(a) to (c) The Government have no information. A report has been called for.

(d) The attention of the hon. Member is invited to the annual reports on the working of the colleges, which have been placed on the Editors' Table.

Excise.

Selection of sites for toddy and arrack shops near Ambur.

* 1878 Q.—Mr. R. VEERIAN: With reference to my question No. 1025 answered at the meeting of the Council on the 15th December 1925 regarding the selection of sites for toddy and arrack shops near Ambur, North Arcot district, will the hon. the Minister for Education be pleased to state whether the Government have made enquiries into the matter, and if so, with what results?

A.—The Collector proposes to change the site of the toddy shop for the lease 1926-27. The arrack shop will remain in the present site for the next lease. The Collector proposes to take up the question of changing its site for the lease 1927-28 after the toddy shop is removed.

11-30
a.m.

Mr. R. VEERIAN:—"May I know, Sir, whether the Government have not already received any proposal for the change of the toddy shop from its present site?"

The hon. Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. PATRO:—"The Collector proposes to take it up at the next lease."

[29th March 1926]

Liquor shops in Anantapur district.

* 1879 Q.—Mr. G. RAMESWARA RAO: Will the hon. the Minister for Education be pleased to state—

(a) the number of liquor shops of all categories in Anantapur district in the years 1924, 1925 and 1926;

(b) whether any new shops have been opened either for foreign liquor or other intoxicants;

(c) if so, how many, where and why; and

(d) whether licensing fee is reduced or proposed to be reduced in the case of foreign liquor shops?

A.—(a) The only figures available are for the financial years 1923-24 and 1924-25 and they will be found in the Abkari Administration Reports of the respective years which have been placed on the Editors' Table.

(b) & (c) The Government are not aware that any such new shops have been opened.

(d) The Commissioner of Excise is the competent authority to sanction alterations in licence fees. So far as Government are aware, the Commissioner does not propose to make any changes in licence fees in respect of foreign liquor shops in the mufassal.

Public Health.

Employment of sisters of charity, etc., as nurses.

* 1880 Q.—Mr. J. A. SALDANHA: Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state in which hospitals and asylums in this Presidency maintained or aided by Government and local authorities are sisters of charity or voluntary nursing establishments belonging to religious or charitable bodies employed as nurses or midwives; and at what cost or rates of pay?

A.—The information is not available. It has been called for.

Criminal Tribes.

Criterion for declaring a tribe as 'criminal'.

* 1881 Q.—Mr. G. RAMESWARA RAO: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(a) who the officer is that takes the initiative in proposing declaration of a class or tribe as a criminal tribe;

(b) whether there is any other officer that checks and scrutinizes the reasons and bases of the proposal;

(c) what in general are the tests which justify a declaration under the Act;

(d) what in general are the tests for excluding individuals from the scope of the Act;

(e) whether there is any periodical report intimating the Government of the progress of the registered members in their conduct or attitude in general;

[29th March 1926]

(f) whether any non-officials are consulted either in connexion with declaration or cancellation and removal of individual names from the registers; and

(g) whether Tahsildars or Deputy Collectors have a voice in the matter of registration or cancellation and if so, to what extent?

A.—(a) The initiative is usually taken by the District Superintendent of Police concerned.

(b) Yes. The proposal is checked and scrutinized by the Deputy Inspector-General of Police, the District Magistrate and the Inspector-General of Police before it is considered by Government.

(c) A tribe is notified only if Government are convinced that the members of the tribe are addicted to the systematic commission of non-bailable offences.

(d) The selection of members of a notified tribe to be registered is within the discretion of the District Magistrate.

(e) No.

(f) No.

(g) It is open to the District Magistrate to consult his Tahsildars or Deputy Collectors if he wishes to do so.

Mr. C. MUTTAYYA MUDALIYAR :—" Arising from the answer to clause (c) of this question, may I know if there is any percentage that is required in the nature of crime to declare a class of people as criminal tribes? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—" There is no percentage, Sir."

Mr. C. MUTTAYYA MUDALIYAR :—" Arising from the answer to clause (f), may I know whether the Government will consider the desirability of appointing some non-officials of the locality who may be consulted either for declaration of a tribe or removal of persons from the register? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—" It is a matter left entirely to the discretion of the Collector, Sir. It is the Collector that decides the cases of individuals for registration."

Depressed Classes.

High school for depressed classes at Masulipatam.

* 1882 Q.—Mr. R. VEERIAN: Will the hon. the Home Member and the hon. the Minister for Education be pleased to state—

(a) the reason for awarding scholarships to only three Adi-Andhra pupils out of fifty-three peoples recommended some time back by the General Secretary, Andhra Deena Seva Sangham, Masulipatam, to the Commissioner of Labour;

(b) whether there are any special high schools for girls and for Muhammadans in order to suit the special requirements of girls students and Moslem pupils in the Presidency;

(c) why a separate high school for the depressed classes at Masulipatam was not considered favourably by the Government; and

[29th March 1926]

(d) whether the memorial, dated 20th January 1926, submitted to the hon. the Minister for Education by the General Secretary, Andhra Deena Seva Sangham, Masulipatam, has been received?

A.—(a) The Government have no information.

(b) Yes.

(c) The hon. Member is referred to the answer to clause (a) of question No. 1849.

(d) Yes.

The Depressed Classes Advisory Committee.

* 1883 Q.—Mr. R. VEERIAN: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(a) how many depressed class representatives in the Madras Legislative Council belonging to Madras City were appointed to the Depressed Classes Advisory Committee;

(b) what are the functions of this Committee;

(c) why no representatives belonging to the southern districts in the Madras Presidency were appointed to this Committee; and

(d) how many members attended each Committee meeting?

A.—(a) Two.

(b) The functions of the Committee are advisory.

(c) The need for such an appointment has not been felt hitherto as the President of the Committee may nominate temporarily local members for the discussion of local subjects.

(d) Five members attended the meeting held on the 13th February 1926. The Government have not kept a record of the proceedings of the meetings held in 1924 and 1925.

Mr. R. VEERIAN :—" May I know who makes recommendations to this Depressed Classes Advisory Committee, Sir? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—" Nobody needs make any recommendation."

Mr. R. VEERIAN :—" Who appoints members to the Committee? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—" The Government."

Mr. R. VEERIAN :—" Then, if nobody is making any recommendation, how did the Government come to know the names of these members whom they appointed? "

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" It was stated that recommendations were not at all necessary."

Mr. R. VEERIAN :—" Who will take the initiative for making recommendations? Somebody must make recommendations suggesting the names of the depressed classes members who would be useful to serve on the Committee? "

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" That is only when the Government wants recommendations. It is not always necessary."

[29th March 1926]

Mr. R. VEERIAN :—" Here they appointed members. I wanted to know whether they have considered recommendations, or consulted any person or whether they appointed members of their own accord. If recommendations were made, I want to know by whom they are made."

The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—" No recommendations have been made."

Management of the Adi-Dravida Night school at Govindapuram.

* 1884 Q.—Mr. R. VEERIAN: With reference to question No. 1182 answered at the Council meeting, dated 18th December 1925, will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state when the activities of the operations of the Labour department are likely to be extended to the North Arcot district with a view to take up the management of the Adi-Dravida Night school at Govindapuram, Vaniyambadi?

A.—It is proposed to extend the operations of the Labour department to the North Arcot district during 1926-27.

Mr. R. VEERIAN :—" May I know, Sir, in what quarter of North Arcot this Labour department will work?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—" I want notice of the question, Sir."

Mr. R. VEERIAN :—" May I know whether there is any possibility of making this department work in the Vellore taluk?"

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" Order, order. That is a suggestion for action."

Forest Panchayats.

Institution of forest panchayats in South Kanara in 1924-25.

* 1885 Q.—Mr. K. RAGHUCHANDRA BALLAL: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(a) how many forest panchayats have been instituted in South Kanara in 1924 and 1925;

(b) what the functions of the said panchayats are;

(c) whether the members of the said panchayats are officials or non-officials;

(d) whether such members are appointed by nominations or elections; and

(e) whether a statement regarding the working of the said panchayats will be placed on the table of this House?

A.—(a) There were nine panchayats under the forest village system working in South Kanara during the year 1924-25.

(b) The information is appended.^a

(c) The members of the panchayats were all non-officials.

(d) The members were all elected by the ryots.

(e) The District Forest Officers' reports on the working of the panchayats in North and South Mangalore divisions are appended.^a

^a Printed as Appendix III on pages 906-909 infra.

29th March 1926]

Jails.

Treatment of State prisoners Das, Ganguly, etc.

* 1886 Q.—Sriman SASIBHUSHAN RATH Mahasaya: Will the hon. the Home Member and the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that Bengal State prisoners Das, Ganguly and Gupta have been kept in the jail at Trichinopoly and Sen, Sarkar and Muzumdar in the jail at Cannanore;

(b) whether all of them are in good health; if not, who of them are not in good health;

(c) whether it is a fact that Civil Surgeons recommended examination by specialists of such of them as are ill; and

(d) whether it is a fact that all or any of them are or were being consigned to cells while in the jails of this Presidency?

A.—(a) & (b) The hon. Member is referred to the answer given to question No. 1480 asked at the meeting of the Legislative Council on the 2nd March 1926.

(c) No.

(d) Yes. They are all provided with ordinary cellular accommodation.

Transfer of Bengali State prisoners to Cannanore jail.

* 1887 Q.—Mr. S. SATYAMURTI: Will the hon. the Home Member and the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Bengali State prisoners Messrs. Das, Ganguly and Gupta have been transferred to Trichinopoly and Messrs. Sen, Sirkar and Muzumdar to Cannanore jails;

(b) whether it is a fact that they have been put in punishment cells;

(c) whether it is a fact that they have been deprived of the privileges enjoyed by them in the jails in Burma and Bengal in which they were previously stationed;

(d) whether Messrs. Das and Ganguly had been suffering from duodenal ulcer and nasal catarrh and cystitis respectively in the places in which they were previously stationed and whether they were recommended by the medical officers of the respective jails to be placed under the treatment of specialists; and

(e) whether it is a fact that no treatment has been given them till now?

A.—(a) to (e) The hon. Member is referred to the answer given to question No. 1480 asked at the meeting of the Legislative Council on the 2nd March 1926.

Diwan Bahadur M. KRISHNAN NAYAR :—" I wish to know from the hon. Member whether in the case of these prisoners, this Government or the Government of India or the Government of Bengal incur the expenditure necessary for their diet and other necessities."

The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—" I think it is not incurred by this Government."

[29th March 1926]

Labour.*Beedi factories in Madras.*

* 1888 Q.—Mr. R. VEERIAN: With reference to question No. 1125 answered at the meeting, dated 16th December 1925, will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state whether the beedi factories in Madras come under the Factories Act or not?

A.—There are no beedi factories at present on the registers of Factory Inspectors. They do not necessarily come under the Act unless on any one day in the year they use power and employ not less than twenty persons simultaneously, or are declared 'factories' under section 2 (3) (b) of the Act.

Mr. R. VEERIAN:—"May I know whether the Government are not going to see that there is no employment of child labour in these factories in large numbers? They employ child labour, Sir, which is highly objectionable from several points of view, at least from the point of view of public health. May I know whether the Government are not going to take any steps?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—"That is not the information of the Government, Sir."

Land Revenue.*Loans for Land Improvement and Agriculturists Loans acts.*

* 1889 Q.—Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) the amount of loans issued under the Land Improvement and the Agriculturists Loans Acts in each of the taluks of the Bellary district, every year from 1921 and onwards respectively; and

(b) the respective amounts thereof that was due for payment, remitted and suspended every year after the issue of the loans, together with the reasons, if any, for the remission or suspension as the case may be?

A.—(a) The hon. Member is referred to statements 16 and 17 appended to the annual jamabandi report which contain particulars of loans transactions in the Bellary district. Figures for each taluk are not available with Government.

(b) The Government have no information beyond that given in clause (a). Rules IX and X of the revised loans rules lay down the circumstances in which suspensions and remissions are granted.

Removal and planting of survey stones in Anantapur district.

* 1890 Q.—Mr. G. RAMESWARA RAO: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether survey stones are now retained only at trijunction points;

(b) whether stones at other places are being removed by the Survey department in Anantapur district and are being planted at other places;

[29th March 1926]

(c) whether the stones so removed are being paid for by the Government and whether they are being charged for when they are planted at the required places in Anantapur district; and

(d) whether the Government are thus making any profit to the detriment of the ryot?

A.—(a) Yes. The hon. Member is also referred to answer to question No. 1839.

(b) & (c) The Government have no information but will inquire.

(d) The Government do not make a profit from the maintenance of survey marks; only actual expenses are charged.

Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR:—"Am I to understand that the Government charge no more than what did actually cost them for the survey stones supplied by them? In clause (b) it is stated that the Government do not make a profit from the maintenance of survey stones. I want to know, with reference to the cost of survey stones, whether they charge no more than what the stones actually cost them."

The hon. Mr. N. E. MARJORIBANKS:—"That is what the answer states, Sir."

Concessions to bullock drivers regarding darkhast lands.

* 1891 Q.—Mr. R. VEERIAN: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state whether it is a fact that the bullock drivers attached to 14th and other Bullock Corps during the great recent war who had been on firing line supplying food and rations to sepoy and other fighting ranks, exposed to immense dangers are regarded as non-combatants and as not entitled to the concession allowed by the Government in respect of darkhast lands?

A.—Bullock drivers of the Indian Army Service Corps are classed as non-combatants—vide Army Regulations, Volume II, Appendix XXXI, and those who served in this capacity in the great war are accordingly not now eligible for darkhast concessions, which after April 1924 have been restricted to combatants.

Mr. R. VEERIAN:—"These bullock drivers also served in the great recent war, Sir, in supplying meat to the sepoy in the firing line risking their lives. May I know whether the Government do not consider the advisability of extending to them the same concession as is granted to the ex-military men?"

The hon. Mr. N. E. MARJORIBANKS:—"I gather that the hon. Member is suggesting that the classification according to the Army Regulations is wrong. I am afraid the Government cannot depart from the classification made under the Army Regulations."

Assignment of lands in Melathangal.

* 1892 Q.—Mr. T. ADINARAYANA CHETTIYAR: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that more than 100 acres of cultivable lands in Melathangal, Wandiwash taluk, North Arcot district, enjoyed under sivarijama by caste ryots for more than 40 years have been assigned to Adi-Dravidas;

[29th March 1926]

(b) how many families of caste ryots were affected or rendered landless by such assignment; and

(c) whether it is a fact that these people applied for the assignment of the disafforested lands in the Nambedu reserve?

A.—The Government are not aware of the facts of the case referred to but will enquire.

Village Establishments.

Dismissal of village officers in Gudiyattam taluk.

* 1893 Q.—MR. T. ADINARAYANA CHETTIYAR: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that thirty-two village officers and menials were either dismissed or suspended, for very trivial offences, in the taluk of Gudiyattam since the present Tahsildar, Mr. Gnanaprakasam, assumed charge; and

(b) what is the reason for this abnormally large number of punishments for petty offences?

A.—The Government have no information.

Public Service.

Prohibition of applicants approaching Government Members for recommendation.

* 1894 Q.—MR. J. A. SALDANHA: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state whether any rules or orders have been issued or are contemplated to be issued prohibiting applicants for posts approaching hon. Members of the Executive Council or hon. the Ministers for recommendations to heads of departments or officers on their behalf?

A.—The question is under consideration.

Car Festivals.

Examination of temple cars before festivals.

* 1895 Q.—S. R. Y. ANKINEDU PRASAD Bahadur: With reference to G.O. Mis. No. 1132, Public, dated 29th November 1925, regarding instructions issued for the examination of temple cars before festivals in modification of G.O. No. 2036 W., dated 11th August 1898, will the hon. the Law Member and the hon. the Minister for Education be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Superintending Engineer, Madras Circle, has given any other reasons for the issue of this recent Government Order than the reason given by him stating that the Public Works Department officers were not receiving the notices of requisitions to examine cars in proper time;

(b) if he has given any other reasons, whether the Government will be pleased to state them; and

(c) if the Government were not furnished with any reasons by the Superintending Engineer, Madras Circle, other than the reasons mentioned in

(a) whether the Government will be pleased to inquire how many accidents had taken place during the past five years to persons on account of the cars not having been properly examined by the Public Works Department officers for want of sufficiently long period of notice?

[29th March 1926]

A.—(a) No.

(b) The question does not arise.

(c) The Government do not consider that such an inquiry is necessary.

Alleged accidents during car festivals.

* 1896 Q.—S. R. Y. ANKINEDU PRASAD Bahadur: Will the hon. the Law Member and the hon. the Minister for Education be pleased to state—

(a) whether the accidents, if any, taking place during our festivals were due to want of proper management of the crowd at the time of these car festivals or to the bad construction of these cars; and

(b) whether any representation has been made recently either by the public or by any responsible individuals as to the increase of accidents owing to bad construction of cars?

A.—(a) The Government cannot supply an answer unless specific cases of accidents are placed before them

(b) No.

Damages by collapse of temple cars.

* 1897 Q.—S. R. Y. ANKINEDU PRASAD Bahadur: Will the hon. the Law Member and the hon. the Minister for Education be pleased to state whether the Government will be pleased to publish a list of cases where serious damage was caused to persons by the collapsing of temporary temple cars built of light material like the palmyra posts?

A.—The Government have no information.

Civil Justice.

Seating arrangements for litigants in the Courts of South Kanara.

* 1898 Q.—MR. D. MANJAYYA HEGGADE: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state whether there are special seating arrangements for litigants and their party in District Munsifs' Courts and Criminal Courts of South Kanara?

A.—The Government have no information but have called for a report.

Disabilities of the depressed class in the Vadikapaliam village court.

* 1899 Q.—MR. R. VEERIAN: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government are aware that while giving evidence in the Vadikapaliam village court, Pollachi taluk, the members of the depressed classes are made to stand during sun and rain outside the court premises; and

(b) whether the Government have received the representation sent to them by me requesting them to set right this defect; and if so, what steps they intend taking in the matter?

A.—(a) No.

(b) Yes. A report has been called for from the Collector.

MR. R. VEERIAN:—"May I know whether the Government have issued any circular not to have any rented building or own building in an inaccessible place, to the depressed classes especially?"

[29th March 1926]

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—"I am afraid I do not follow the question, Sir. The point is that some persons while giving evidence in Vadikapalliam village court in the Pollachi taluk find it necessary or are compelled to stand outside the court premises during sun and rain. The present supplementary question is whether there is any circular issued by the Government asking or making it necessary that no rented building should be utilized."

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—"Will the hon. Member put the question about this particular place?"

Mr. R. VEERIAN :—"In this particular place they have rented a building which is inaccessible to the depressed classes."

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—"Order, order. The Government have called for a report, and the hon. Member must wait for the report before he can put a question on the matter."

Mr. R. VEERIAN :—"I readily understand that. I only wanted to know whether they have infringed the rules, that is, the rule in the circular issued by the Government directing them not to have courts in rented buildings. They have now a rented building which is inaccessible."

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—"The hon. Member should not assume that the rules of the Government are infringed."

Number and disposal of suits in Coimbatore District Munsif's Court.

* 1900 Q.—Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR : Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(a) how many suits were filed in the Principal District Munsif's Court of Coimbatore in each of the years 1921 to 1925, how many were transferred and how many were disposed of;

(b) how many of them were money suits based on documents, how many of those were contested and in how many of them were the disputes only as between the defendants in the suit; and

(c) what was the average number of adjournments in the contested suits in every year?

A.—(a) A statement showing the number of suits instituted and disposed of in the Court of the Principal District Munsif, Coimbatore, during the years 1921 to 1924 is appended. Figures up to 1st October 1925 are also given. The Government have no information as to the number of suits that were transferred.

(b) & (c) The Government have called for the information.

Electricity.

Pykara Hydro-Electric project.

* 1901 Q.—Mr. J. A. SALDANHA : Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state with regard to the projected Pykara Hydro-Electric project—

(a) the name of the company to which the concession to develop the water resources of the Pykara and Avarai Halla rivers had been granted; when it was granted; within what area it was worked and with what success and profit it was worked by the company;

[29th March 1926]

(b) whether the Government project includes the Cholatipuzha scheme;

(c) what will be the extent of the operations of the Government project and what will be the total approximate cost;

(d) what probable return is expected, on what basis it is estimated and with what guarantee; and

(e) wherefrom the plant and machinery will be obtained and after what preliminaries?

A.—(a) To Messrs. Alfred Dickinson & B. D. Richards on behalf of a Syndicate to consist of Messrs. Dickinson and Richards, and Messrs. Balfour Beatty & Co., Limited, and the General Electric Company, Limited, London. The terms are set out in G.O. No. 257 I., dated 18th October 1922, and were published, as the House was informed in the reply given to question No. 796 of Mr. A. Ramaswami Mudaliyar in October. The concession was not worked.

(b) The Cholatipuzha scheme is a possible further development of the Pykara scheme, but it is not included in the project as at present contemplated. Details are given in Mr. Forbes' report which was placed on the table last year.

(c) The Pykara scheme, as has been stated many times already in this House, provides for the generation of about 37,000 kilowatts at a generating station at the foot of the Pykara falls through a pipe line fed from a reservoir just above the Pykara bridge. Power will be supplied to the Nilgiris and Coimbatore, in the first instance and then on to Dindigul, and to Villupuram and Madras. The total cost as at present estimated is about 238 lakhs.

(d) A return of 10 to 12 per cent is anticipated—but revised figures are still awaited. There is a safe load in the Nilgiris (including the Cordite Factory), in Coimbatore and Madras and from the South Indian Railway, if the scheme matures as now projected.

(e) Probably mostly from England—in consultation with the firm of Messrs. Merz and McLellan, Consulting Engineers to the Railway Board and the Government of India, who are examining the scheme.

Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—"With reference to clause (e), may I enquire whether the scheme was advertised in all papers in the United States and other countries so that tenders might be obtained from all firms all over the world in order that we might at the same time get the cheapest and the best plant available in all places?"

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—"The remarks of the hon. Member will be borne in mind."

Mr. K. SITARAMA REDDI :—"In the answer to clause (c), it is stated that power will be supplied in the first instance to the Nilgiris and Coimbatore, and then on to Dindigul, Villupuram and Madras. May I take it that all the intermediate places between Dindigul and Villupuram will be served and towns will be given power to have electric installations?"

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—"That is the idea, Sir."

[29th March 1926]

Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—“The answer to clause (e) says ‘Probably mostly from England.’ So it seems to me that the Government have already made up their mind, and I do not understand whether the Government is really in earnest about getting the cheapest and best plant from wherever it can be got.”

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—“It is not a question of earnestness or no earnestness. The question of plant and machinery has not arisen in any live form yet and, as I said, the remarks of the hon. Member will be borne in mind.”

Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—“I may point out that this matter was raised in the form of a question by my hon. Friend Mr. Venkataramana Ayyangar in which it was then suggested that the scheme might be advertised far and wide. May I know whether steps were taken by the Government on this suggestion or whether the Government have already made-up their minds to get it from England or another place?”

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—“I may at once say that if the cost is not very different, the Government would prefer to order material from England in consultation with the High Commissioner or the Indian Stores Department which exists there for the purpose of checking and scrutinizing these things. If there is great disparity of prices in these contracts, of course Government will try to secure the best and cheapest available in the market.”

The RAJA OF RAMNAD :—“Is it not the usual practice in such cases to ask the High Commissioner for India to make these purchases from the best and cheapest market possible?”

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—“That I understand is the usual practice.”

Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—“In this case, which is a scheme costing, I believe, something like Rs. 238 lakhs, is it not advisable in the interests of economy, that there should be departure from the usual practice and that the materials be purchased from the best and cheapest market available?”

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—“The usual practice is to get materials from the best and cheapest market possible, Sir.”

Tamparaparni-Papanasam Hydro-Electric Scheme Project.

* 1902 Q.—Mr. K. Chavadi SUBRAMANIA PILLAI : Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether “the Tamparaparni-Papanasam Hydro-Electric Scheme Project” has been engaging the attention of the Government from 1924;

(b) whether the scheme has been taken on hand and if so, to what extent;

(c) whether the scheme above referred to will be of any use for agricultural improvements;

(d) whether the scheme has been undertaken by Government or private agency;

[29th March 1926]

(e) whether any Government expert has inspected the place and made arrangements for construction of dams on the upper and lower portions of the Papanasam Hills and any expenditure was incurred thereon; and

(f) whether there is any other proposal to improve the irrigation sources of the Tamparaparni river by constructing reservoirs in Papanasam Hills?

A.—(a) Yes.

(b) & (d) The scheme is under investigation.

(c) The Government hope that power may be used for well irrigation.

(e) Mr. Hawkins and his assistants have visited the place—estimates for the construction of a reservoir are in preparation. There has been no expenditure on works so far.

(f) No.

Mr. K. Chavadi SUBRAMANIA PILLAI :—“With reference to the answer to clause (e) of this question, may I know when the estimates will be ready for the Papanasam scheme?”

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—“It is impossible to say, Sir. It depends really upon whether in view of the railway requirements it would be necessary to start work on the full Pykara scheme immediately. The Government have made up their minds to start Pykara, and the question of other schemes coming in, in addition to Pykara, will depend largely upon the question of the electrification programme of the South Indian Railway Company.”

Mr. P. N. MARTHANDAM PILLAI :—“Will the hon. Member be pleased to state even approximately the time when the scheme may be expected to commence?”

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—“The whole question of the South Indian Railway electrification will probably be settled in the course of the next four or five months.”

Irrigation.

Lands irrigated by the proposed Basavanna channel extension.

* 1903 Q.—Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR : Will the hon. the Law Member and the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state the extent of wet and dry lands capable of irrigation from the proposed Basavanna channel extension within fifty and hundred yards respectively from the municipal limits of Hospet, Bellary district, and how much of the latter has been treated as ayacut under the new channel, in calculating the return from it?

A.—The information is not available.

Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—“There is no prohibition, I think, of wet cultivation within 50 yards of municipal limits, but if there is such a limit as I am told, would not the Government be pleased to call for information on the point as possible wrong may be averted?”

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—“I shall do so.”

[29th March 1926]

Wages, etc., of coolies to be employed in the Mettur project.

* 1904 Q.—Mr. R. VEERIAN: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

- (a) how many coolies are likely to be employed in the Mettur project;
- (b) how many have already been employed;
- (c) whether the operations of the Labour department are going to be extended so as to take charge of those coolies;
- (d) how many depressed class coolies have already been employed;
- (e) whether monthly salaries or daily wages are paid to the coolies;
- (f) what salaries or wages are paid to men and women coolies and adults;
- (g) whether housing, school or other accommodations or facilities have already been made for the labourers;
- (h) by whom the labourers are employed at present;
- (i) to whom the labourers will have to apply for getting work; and
- (j) how many maistris and clerks are likely to be appointed to see to the coolies?

A.—The hon. Member is referred to the answer given to a similar question put by him last December. No further details can be supplied yet: as construction has not yet begun, and the extent to which coolie labour will be required is not yet settled.

Police.

Punitive police in the Presidency.

* 1905 Q.—Mr. G. RAMESWARA RAO: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

- (a) what are all the places in the Presidency where punitive police is stationed and at what cost in the year 1925-26;
- (b) how long the punitive police have been stationed in the said localities; and
- (c) whether the punitive police would be discontinued from the coming official year in all or any of the said places?

A.—(a) Teliki in the Gooty taluk of the Anantapur district is the only place where additional police are stationed at present in this Presidency. The cost of the force is estimated at Rs. 4,845 per annum recurring and Rs. 3,900 non-recurring.

(b) Since 1st June 1925.

(c) The police have been stationed at Teliki for three years, but the period is subject to revision in consideration of the conduct of the inhabitants of the proclaimed area. The District Magistrate has been asked to report on this point on or about the 15th April 1926.

Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR:—"I find, Sir, with reference to question No. 1859, that it was sent on 23rd January 1926. It appears to have been sent from your office on 12th March 1926. I do not know, Sir, what the reasons are. It may be that you made intermediate references and that it took some time for these things to be decided."

[29th March 1926]

The hon. the PRESIDENT:—"I know it was due to my absence from Madras for more than a month."

Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR:—"It is more than that, Sir. It was sent on 23rd January 1926 to your office and despatched out of your office on 12th March 1926. And I may tell you that if these questions are not referred to immediately, sometimes wrong is done to the people. You may not be aware of that, but those acquainted with the ways of working of the administrative departments know that such things do happen."

The hon. the PRESIDENT:—"This delay is evidently one that took place in the Council office, and I may assure the hon. Member that the delay was unavoidable."

UNSTARRED QUESTIONS.

Fisheries.

Pearl and chank fisheries on the South-east Coast.

1906 Q.—Mr. J. A. SALDANHA: Will the hon. the Minister for Development be pleased to state—

- (a) the extent of Government interest in the pearl and chank fisheries on the South-east Coast of the Presidency;
- (b) the share of the Bharathars in the fisheries;
- (c) the expenditure on the establishment and maintenance during the three years ending 31st March 1926;
- (d) the profits or loss to Government during those years; and
- (e) the present condition of the fisheries and its prospects in the year 1926-27?

A.—(a) These fisheries except where they have been assigned away belong entirely to the Crown.

(b) None.

(c) & (d) The hon. Member is referred to the Civil Budget Estimates.

(e) A pearl fishery is now being held off Tuticorin and the results so far obtained are highly satisfactory. Another fishery will probably be held in February-March 1927. As regards the chank fisheries the Government understand that they will yield poor results in the current and next year owing to want of divers who would prefer to work in pearl fishery.

Industries.

Progress of Bee-keeping in this Province.

1907 Q.—Rao Sahib R. SRINIVASAN: Will the hon. the Minister for Development be pleased to state—

- (a) whether bee-keeping on an industrial scale exists in this Province;
- (b) whether honey and bee-wax are exported to other countries or imported into this Province;
- (c) if the answer be in affirmative to (b), what is the average number of pounds (lb.) of honey and of bee-wax per annum;
- (d) whether Government propose to encourage bee-keeping or start a bee farm; and

[29th March 1926]

- (e) (i) whether the Government have information as to what are the kinds of honey bees in this Province,
 (ii) which of them have the most honey-keeping power,
 (iii) if they are wild whether they can be tamed, or
 (iv) be crossed by foreign imported bees and domesticated?

A.—(a) As far as the Government are aware, bee-keeping is not carried on on any commercial scale in this Presidency.
 (b) The Government have no information.
 (c) The question does not arise.
 (d) No.
 (e) No.

Export of ducks, etc., from this Province.

1908 Q.—Rao Sahib R. SRINIVASAN: Will the hon. the Minister for Development be pleased to state—

- (a) (i) what is the approximate number of eggs of ducks and fowls exported per annum,
 (ii) and to what countries;
 (b) whether Government have any records to show the approximate number of ducks, geese and turkeys exported from this Province and to what countries;
 (c) whether any kind of poultry imported into this Province;
 (d) if the answer be in affirmative,
 (i) what are the breeds, and
 (ii) from what countries;
 (e) (i) whether incubators are used by large number of breeders,
 (ii) or any other artificial methods adopted to hatch eggs; and
 (f) whether there are any demands for feathers from other countries?

A.—(a) to (f) The Government have no information.

Study of the technique of aeroplanes.

1909 Q.—Mr. J. A. SALDANHA: Will the hon. the Minister for Development be pleased to state whether it is a fact that Government contemplate introducing or encouraging the introduction of a course for the study of the technique of aeroplanes in the trades school or any other Industrial School under their control or receiving grant-in-aid from Government?

A.—The answer is in the negative.

Education.

Schools for depressed classes in the Presidency.

1910 Q.—Mr. L. C. GURUSWAMI: Will the hon. the Minister for Education and the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

- (a) the number of depressed classes students in the high schools and colleges throughout the Presidency;
 (b) the number of separate schools for depressed classes districtwar;
 (c) the number of depressed classes boys in the elementary standard in general schools throughout the Presidency; and

[29th March 1926]

(d) the number of scholarships allotted and awarded both by the Educational Department and the Labour Commissioner and the number of applicants for the above two kinds of scholarships during 1924-25 and 1925-26?

- A.—(a) & (b) The hon. Member is referred to the general educational tables and supplemental statistics appended to the Report on Public Instruction in the Madras Presidency for 1924-25 and to Appendix II to the report of the Commissioner of Labour recorded in G.O. No. 2914, Law (General), dated 21st September 1925, which has been placed on the Editors' Table.
 (c) The total number of pupils of the depressed classes admitted into schools under public management in 1924-25 was 12,942. Figures in respect of schools under private management are not available.

(d) The following statement gives particulars of the scholarships under the control of the Commissioner of Labour:—

Year.	Total number of scholarships and fee-remissions available.	Number of applications received.	Number eligible for grant.	Number awarded, including renewals.
1924-25	525	1,119	767	496
1925-26	525	1,903	1,188	516

As regards the scholarships under the control of the Director of Public Instruction, the hon. Member is referred to the scholarships notification published annually in the *Fort St. George Gazette*. There is no information as to the number of applicants for these scholarships and the number of scholarships actually awarded.

Local Boards and Municipal Councils.

Nominations to the local bodies in Tanjore district.

1911 Q.—Mr. P. S. RAJAPPA: Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

- (a) how many candidates defeated at elections have been nominated to the various taluk boards and the district board of Tanjore; and
 (b) how many gentlemen of communities already strongly represented on these local bodies by elections have been nominated, their names, the communities to which they belong and the number of that community by election at the date of such nominations?

A.—(a) Three persons defeated at election have been nominated; one both to the Tanjore District Board and to the Mayavaram Taluk Board and two to the Tanjore Taluk Board.
 (b) If the hon. Member brings to notice any specific nominations of the kind referred to, enquiries will be made.

[29th March 1926]

Public Health.*Health Officers in South Kanara district.*

1912 Q.—MR. D. MANJAYYA HEGGADE: Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state the number of health officers working in the district of South Kanara, the duties attached to their office and the expenditure incurred in maintaining this department in the district?

A.—There are two Health Officers in the South Kanara district—the District Health Officer and the Health Officer of the Mangalore municipality. The average annual cost of these officers is Rs. 5,292 and Rs. 2,400 respectively. The cost is met from Provincial funds; but 25 per cent of the average cost of the Municipal Health Officer together with the proportionate leave and pensionary contribution is recovered from the municipal council.

The duties of Health Officers are prescribed in G.Os. No. 1960^a, P.H., dated the 21st September 1925, and No. 143^a, P.H., dated the 18th January 1926, copies of which are appended.

Roads and Communications.

Publication of G.O. No. 2660, L. & M., dated 25th September 1924.

1913 Q.—RAO SAHIB R. SRINIVASAN: Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state whether the G.O. No. 2660, L. & M., of the 25th September 1924, regarding use of public roads, wells, etc., was published in all district gazettes in English and vernaculars, also in village sheets as supplement to the district gazettes?

A.—The Government Order was published in all district gazettes in English and in the chief vernacular of the district. The Government have no information as to whether it was published in the village sheets of the district gazettes.

Town-planning.*Schemes under the Madras Town-Planning Act.*

1914 Q.—MR. J. A. SALDANHA: Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) from which municipalities and other areas in this Presidency outside the City of Madras schemes have been submitted under the Town-Planning Act;

(b) what orders have been passed for expediting the preparation of schemes under that Act outside the City of Madras; and

(c) whether the Udipi Taluk Board ever submitted a town-planning scheme for developing the Udipi town?

A.—(a) The Municipal Councils of Chittoor, Salem, Trichinopoly, Tirupati, Guntur, Vizagapatam, Palacole, Madura and Anakapalle, and the Kulittalai, Saidapet and Pattukkottai Taluk Boards have submitted town-planning schemes.

^a Printed as Appendix V on pages 910-916 infra.

[29th March 1926]

(b) A copy of G.O. Mis. No. 2499, P.H., dated 7th December 1925,^a in which the Government impressed upon municipalities containing a population of over 40,000 the necessity for taking immediate action under the Madras Town-Planning Act, 1920, to control town development within their jurisdiction, is laid upon the table. In regard to other towns and local areas the Government have from time to time on receipt of the inspection notes of the Director of Town Planning requested the local bodies concerned to take prompt steps for the preparation of schemes, wherever they are reported to be urgently needed. They have under section 12 of the Madras Town-Planning Act, 1920, called upon the Nilgiri District Board and the Municipal Councils of Ootacamund, Madura, Palamcottah, Rajahmundry, Trichinopoly and Vizagapatam to submit certain schemes for their sanction. The question of issuing notifications under section 12 in respect of certain areas in the Conjeevaram and Tuticorin Municipalities is also under the consideration of the Government.

(c) No.

Public Service.*Employment of Mappillas in the Revenue department, South Kanara district.*

1915 Q.—KHAN BAHADUR HAJI ABD-UL-LAH HAJI QASIM SAHIB BAHADUR: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) the total population of Mappillas of South Kanara district;

(b) the proportion of their population to the total population of the district;

(c) the number of Mappillas employed in the Revenue department in the district, with the salary of each; and how many of them are acting and their services;

(d) the proportion of that number to the total number of hands employed in the Revenue department in the district;

(e) whether any Mappilla has ever been appointed as Tahsildar or Deputy Tahsildar in the district; and

(f) if not, whether there are any who are qualified for such appointments now by passing the requisite tests?

A.—(a) 130,562.

(b) 10.4 per cent.

(c) & (d) The hon. Member is referred to the Revenue Establishment list of the South Kanara district which is available in the library.

(e) In order to answer the question it would be necessary to examine the district establishment lists for an indefinite number of years past. The Government regret they cannot oblige the hon. Member in this respect.

(f) One is technically qualified for the post of deputy tahsildar.

^a Printed as Appendix VI on pages 916-917 infra.

[29th March 1926]

Employment of Mappillas in the Revenue department, South Kanara.

1916 Q.—Mr. ABBAS ALI KHAN: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) the number of Mappillas employed in the Revenue department in the South Kanara district, with the salary of each; and how many of them are acting and their services;

(b) the proportion of that number to the total number of hands employed in the Revenue Department in the district;

(c) whether any Mappilla has ever been appointed as Tahsildar or Deputy Tahsildar in the district; and

(d) if not, whether there are any who are qualified for such appointments now by passing the requisite tests?

A.—The hon. Member is referred to the answers to clauses (c) to (f) of question No. 1915.

Employment of Mappillas in the Revenue department, South Kanara.

1917 Q.—Mr. T. M. MOIDU SAHIB: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) the total populations of Mappillas in South Kanara district;

(b) the proportion of their population to the total population of the district;

(c) the number of Mappillas employed in the Revenue department of the district, with the salary of each and how many of them are acting and what their services are;

(d) the proportion of that number to the total number of hands employed in the Revenue department in the district;

(e) whether any Mappilla has ever been appointed as Tahsildar or Deputy Tahsildar in the district; and

(f) if not, whether there are any qualified for such appointments in the department by passing the requisite tests?

A.—The hon. Member is referred to the answer to question No. 1915.

Civil Justice.*Adoption of minor girls among Devadasi community.*

1918 Q.—Mr. P. SAGARAM: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state how many cases were instituted in 1925 under sections 372 and 373, Penal Code, from the Devadasi community for adopting minor girls for the purposes of prostitution?

A.—The Government have no information.

Police.*Memorials from the Sub-Inspectors of City Police.*

1919 Q.—Mr. J. A. SALDANHA: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether Government have received any memorials from the Sub-Inspectors of the City Police complaining of the appointments that were made by the late Commissioner, Mr. Hannington;

[29th March 1926]

(b) whether Mr. Ramanatham Pillai had been acting as an Inspector for three years and the Commissioner reported well of his work, but, when the confirmation time came, his claims were overlooked and preference was given to a junior Inspector, Mr. Ratnaswami Ayyar, who had put in a few months' service in the City;

(c) whether one Mr. Venkatarama Ayyar, a Sub-Inspector of Police from the mufassal, was brought to the City Police and straightaway given the selection grade in preference to many seniors in the City Police; and

(d) what action Government propose to take to redress the grievances of the Madras City Sub-Inspectors?

A.—(a) No.

(b) & (c) The Government have no information.

(d) Does not arise. Promotion of Inspectors and Sub-Inspectors are made by the Commissioner of Police.

Scale of pay of Sub-Inspectors of the City Police.

1920 Q.—Mr. J. A. SALDANHA: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether, when the incremental scale of pay of the Sub-Inspectors of the City Police was started, some of the Sub-Inspectors were injuriously affected by the new scheme, and whether on the recommendation of the then Commissioner the case of an Anglo-Indian Sub-Inspector was favourably considered by the Government and he was given the maximum pay;

(b) whether it is a fact that three Indian Sub-Inspectors who were affected more injuriously than the Anglo-Indian Sub-Inspector appealed to the Government, and their cases were not considered;

(c) whether it is a fact that, subsequent to this, the case of two Anglo-Indian Inspectors who were also affected by the incremental scale of pay and who appealed to the Government were considered favourably by the Government; and

(d) whether it is a fact that the Indian Sub-Inspectors have again appealed to the Government; and if so what orders the Government have passed on them?

A.—(a) Some Sub-Inspectors of the City Police were adversely affected by the introduction of the time-scale of pay in 1922. The case of an Anglo-Indian Sub-Inspector was favourably considered by Government and he was given, not the maximum pay, but Rs. 126 per mensem in the scale of Rupees 90—3—135—140—5—150 with effect from 10th October 1922.

(b) Three Indian Sub-Inspectors considered themselves to have been adversely affected and represented their cases to Government. Government were unable to consider the cases favourably, as they had previously declared that no more applications would be considered.

(c) The cases of two Anglo-Indian Inspectors were favourably considered by Government but only one case was subsequent to the date of the orders passed on the memorials referred to in

[29th March 1926]

clause (b). Favourable consideration was given to the case subsequent to the date of the order, as it was then understood that there were no similar cases to be brought forward.

- (d) Two out of the three Sub-Inspectors have again appealed to Government. The matter is under consideration.

Retrenchment Committee.

Action taken on the Madras Retrenchment Committee's recommendations.

1921 Q.—Mr. P. C. VENKATAPATI RAZU: Will the hon. the Law Member, the hon. the Member for Revenue, the hon. the Home Member, the hon. the Member for Finance, the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government, the hon. the Minister for Education and the hon. the Minister for Development be pleased to place on the Council table a statement showing the action taken by the Government on the recommendations of the Madras Retrenchment Committee that were under consideration by the time of the issue of G.O. No. 666 of 11th September 1924?

A.—A statement showing the action taken on the recommendations of the Madras Retrenchment Committee that were reported to be under consideration at the time of issue of G.O. No. 666, Finance, dated 11th September 1924, has been separately placed on the Council Table.

State Prisoners.

Detention of deported Mappilla State prisoners.

1922 Q.—Mr. J. A. SALDANHA: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether there are in South Kanara any Mappilla State prisoners deported or exiled from Malabar in connexion with the Mappilla rebellion;

(b) if so, how many of them are detained in South Kanara, what their names are, on what allowances and subject to what conditions they are detained;

(c) whether the woman named Chettali Beyumma is one of such State prisoners detained at Mangalore and what her antecedents are;

(d) for what reasons she has been deported and subject to what conditions as to allowances, housing, etc.;

(e) what children or grandchildren or other relations she has got who can take care of her; and

(f) whether she applied to Government for being allowed to return to her home; what orders were passed and why she is still detained at Mangalore?

A.—(a) Yes.

(b) One; her name is Chettali Beyumma; she is granted an allowance of Rs. 12 per mensem. She is not allowed to quit Mangalore.

(c) She is the one State prisoner detained at Mangalore.

(d) She was removed from Malabar for active participation in a particularly bad case of forcible conversion. In regard to her maintenance allowance attention is invited to the answer to clause (b).

[29th March 1926]

(e) The prisoner has a son who is a State prisoner detained in Madras, a widowed daughter and grandchildren. The Government are not prepared to allow the prisoner to return to Malabar, and her relatives are not in a position to make her any allowance.

(f) Yes. The Government have declined in the interests of the public peace of Malabar to permit her to return.

[Note.—An asterisk (*) at the commencement of a speech indicates revision by the Member.]

III

MOTION FOR THE ADJOURNMENT OF THE BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE RE THE PARALYSIS OF INDUSTRIES.

* Mr. J. A. SALDANHA:—"Sir, I beg to ask for leave to make a motion for the adjournment of the business of this Council

for the purpose of discussing a definite matter of urgent public importance, namely, the critical situation created by the paralysis of several industries in the Presidency and the urgent necessity of Government taking immediate steps for the relief of the distress caused and devising measures for resuscitating the deserving industrial concerns that have closed or are closing."

* The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR:—"I rise to a point of order, Sir. As appears from the notice itself, it is not a matter of any urgent importance. The paralysis if it exists (laughter) has been, it seems to me, a chronic one."

* Mr. J. A. SALDANHA:—"There are many industries in this country that suffer from this paralysis, and there is no doubt that this is a state of things which has come to a critical condition this year at this time."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT:—"Is it a recent event?"

* Mr. J. A. SALDANHA:—"The critical situation is a recent one, Sir."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT:—"In order that motions for adjournment may be in order, the hon. Members must show that the events have been recent, and that they refer to definite matters of public importance."

* The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR:—"May I be permitted to say also that the right is given in regard to a matter of urgent public importance? The concatenation of many matters giving rise to this situation is hardly within the scope of an adjournment motion, Sir."

* Mr. J. A. SALDANHA:—"I may draw attention to the administration report of 1924-25 in which it is stated that the financial stringency which prevailed during the greater part of the year was reflected not only in governmental activities but also in a number of firms which ceased to exist. I am not in possession of the report for 1925-26. But I have heard from enquiries that during this year the number of concerns that have closed on account of financial stringency is greater now than at the beginning of the war. The number of insolvencies owing to the closing of the concerns has also increased. This is so throughout the Presidency and especially in South Kanara the number of firms that have been closed now is more than what has happened during the last ten years."

11-45
a.m.

[29th March 1926]

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" Are they State undertakings ? "

* Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—" Not State undertakings. I mean private undertakings."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" I think from what the hon. Member has stated so far there is not enough ground to proceed further."

* Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—" I have not yet finished."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" Order, order. The speech is not at all necessary at this stage. I am not at all convinced that it is a definite matter of urgent public importance and I think the hon. Member has other ways of bringing the matter before the House. I regret I cannot allow the motion to proceed."

IV

COMMUNICATIONS TO THE COUNCIL.

The Secretary then laid on the table a copy of

(i) G.O. No. 228^a, Development, dated 17th February 1926, passing orders on the report on the audit of the accounts of the British Empire Exhibition ;

(ii) G.O. No. 382^b, Revenue, dated 5th March 1926, publishing amendment to the rules under the Madras Survey and Boundaries Act, 1923.

V

DEMANDS FOR SUPPLEMENTARY GRANTS FOR 1925-26.

Grant I—Land Revenue.

* The hon. Mr. N. E. MARJORIBANKS :—" Mr. President, on the recommendation of His Excellency the Governor, I beg to move

'that the Government be granted an additional appropriation of Rupees 1,16,792 under Land Revenue—5-b—Survey and Settlement.'

"This sum is made up of certain number of excesses against which certain number of savings are to be set off. The first main item of excess has reference to the Survey office and it is made of three lesser items one of which is an amount of Rs. 6,900 being an excess in the pay of the officers which was due partly to the absence of the Director of Survey on leave in India so that the leave pay had to be drawn in India and to the return to duty of the assistant photographic expert. The next item is Rs. 15,100 which is due to the provision made for draughtsmen for mapping the towns that have been surveyed and preparing an outline sheets for the Survey of India Party. The whole cost of the latter is recovered and also one-fourth of the former. That gives a set-off of Rs. 7,000. Lastly there is a small item of Rs. 1,000 for excess cost of electric current. The next main item is the principal one and it is made up of small items with which I do not think the House would be very much interested and one considerable item which is an excess of Rs. 1,55,000 on account of excess demarcation charges. These are

^a Placed on the Editors' Table. ^b Printed as Appendix VII on pages 918-919 infra.

29th March 1926] [Mr. N. E. Marjoribanks]

due to the recent amendment of the Act by which a much larger proportion of these charges are debited to Government than used to be the case formerly. This excess could not have been foreseen as the programme of the department was to survey different areas than those that they did survey. The idea was that during the current year the staff would be employed in the resurvey of Ellore and Ernagudem taluks in the West Godavari district. But it was decided that the question of this resurvey required further examination and therefore they were employed on resurveying the irrigated areas in proprietary estates in the delta. All the charges of those surveys fell on the Government and this entailed an excess charge. Again, Sir, there is a set off of Rs 70,000 which we have saved in the Settlement Department by adopting a less elaborate and detailed procedure. The net amount is Rs. 1,16,792 for which I ask for an additional grant."

Rai Bahadur Sir K. VENKATAREDDI NAYUDU :—" May I know, Sir, whether it is decided definitely to abandon the idea of surveying the Ellore and Ernagudem taluks ? "

* The hon. Mr. N. E. MARJORIBANKS :—" I am not certain, Sir, whether a definite order has been issued ; but the present intention of Government is not to resurvey those areas."

Rai Bahadur Sir K. VENKATAREDDI NAYUDU :—" In view of the fact that the resettlement of the district is in sight and considering the numerous disputes and the subdivisions that have taken place and are still taking place, I must press upon the Government to reconsider the question of the desirability of resurveying those districts. They are upland taluks mostly inhabited by the backward classes—some of them Koyas—and there are zamindars. I am not speaking merely of the zamindars of the delta taluks but I am speaking of the zamindars of the non-deltaic tracts. They require resurvey for Government lands also. The quarrels between the ryotwari holders themselves and the quarrels between the ryotwari holders on the one hand and the inamdars on the other have found their place even in courts of law. Some of my people do really feel that there is some necessity in those taluks for a resurvey. I must expect that Government would not pass immediate orders but would consider the desirability of a resurvey in the light of the additional information that they might get from their officers."

* The hon. Mr. N. E. MARJORIBANKS :—" One of the main reasons that has influenced Government is the belief that the resurvey was strongly opposed by the House. I am very glad to find that the House is not unanimous and that the House is prepared to consider cases where there is a necessity for resurvey. However, I rather think that it is not so much a resurvey, i.e., the redoing of what has been done in these areas that is necessary as a supplemental survey. In any case when the registration comes to be corrected and what are called rough pattas are issued at resettlement all applications for further survey will then be attended to. If they come in such numbers as to make a complete resurvey necessary, that course will be taken. We hope when we actually apply the test we will be able to get the work done by a less elaborate process than an entire resurvey for the whole area. What the hon. Member has said however will be borne in mind when the final order is issued on the matter."

The demand was put and carried and the grant was made.

[23th March 1926]

Grant VII—Irrigation—Reserved—Public Works Officers.

* The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—"On the recommendation of His Excellency the Governor, I move

'that the Government be granted an additional sum of Rs. 1,256 under Irrigation reserved 47-R (f)—Miscellaneous—Special Commissions of Enquiry'

to meet the expenditure in connexion with the Ceded Districts Irrigation Committee. As will be evident from the note the Committee started work in July 1925 and submitted a preliminary report in the following month. Government thereupon asked the Committee to make its final recommendations and it is now submitted. This amount is for the labour in connexion with the final report which is a valuable document which the Government is now considering and with a large portion of which the Government are in agreement."

The motion was put and carried and the grant was made.

Grant IX—General Administration—Legislative Bodies.

* The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—"On the recommendation of His Excellency the Governor, I move

'that the Government be granted an additional sum of Rs. 18,000 under 22 R. B. a. General Administration—Legislative Bodies—Provincial Legislative Councils'

for meeting the travelling allowance of Members of the Legislative Council during the year. The position is this. A provision of one lakh was made in 1925-26. A supplementary grant was made by this House as that was not found to be sufficient. This is not expected to cover the expenditure and this grant is therefore necessitated."

Mr. P. T. RAJAN :—"I formally move

'that the allotment of Rs. 18,000 for travelling allowance be reduced by Rs. 100.'

"This is merely to raise the question of more accommodation to Members of the Council. I should say that there is no accommodation for Members whatsoever. The House Committee has pointed out . . ."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—"The question of accommodation to Members is not relevant to this question which is one of travelling allowance."

Mr. P. T. RAJAN :—"When we get a daily allowance of Rs. 10 I thought this could also come in. I had given notice for the reduction of allotment in the budget motions, but unfortunately owing to illness I could not be present. I think I could take this opportunity to discuss the desirability of providing more accommodation and further giving quarters to M.L.C.'s from the mufassal as has been done in the other Councils and as you were good enough to point out in your circular."

* The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—"Though the discussion that has just been initiated is, strictly speaking, not relevant to the particular matter, you will observe, Sir, that a note has been circulated to hon. Members of this House embodying the results of the inquiry and the observations for

29th March 1926]

[Sir C. P. Ramaswami Ayyar]

which you have made yourself responsible, Sir. That matter will be borne in mind by the Government and it will be noticed also that Government have a building programme for which money has been voted and we shall see what could be done. Of course, the problem is not an easy one; but I assure hon. Members that Government are considering seriously the question of quarters and accommodation for Members of Council. The construction of living quarters is a much bigger question and I do not think I can deal adequately with it at this meeting."

The motion was by leave withdrawn.

* Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—"Sir, I rise to oppose this motion altogether. According to the circumstances, as I already said, under which this Council is working, this Council is not functioning as it was expected to function and the administration is not responsible to its dictates. Our solemn expression of views has been flouted on several matters . . ."

* The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—"On a point of order, Sir. It is probably not permissible for me to dogmatise on the rest of the undelivered speech. The first two sentences uttered by my hon. Friend raise very large questions which hardly arise from the subject of the extra ten rupees allotted to the hon. Members of this House."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—"Let me see what the hon. Member is driving at."

* Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—"I am driving at the point that this amount should not be granted for the reasons I am going to give, if I am relevant. (Laughter.) This Council has failed to function for the purpose for which it was expected by the electorate. I am opposing this motion for the sake of expressing our resentment at things which are surely shared by our constituencies, and I am entitled to give expression to those feelings of keen disappointment of our electorate that this Council has not done anything and has been unable to do anything to further our national interests and development. Our Ministers . . ."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—"This question refers to travelling allowance of Members. Will the hon. Member confine himself to the ordinary Members of the Council?"

* The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—"Any devastating criticism on Members of the House as a whole may possibly be in order but not that appertaining to any particular set of Members."

* Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—"This Council as it stands is not able to do anything and therefore I appeal to the House that we can refuse to sanction this grant. Of course, His Excellency the Governor may restore it. But we shall not be a party to sanctioning the travelling allowance to ourselves. (Laughter.) Our travelling ought to be in the interests of the electorate. The money is now simply wasted. So I say we should refuse the travelling allowance to ourselves."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—"The hon. Member can easily do it by not sending in his travelling allowance bill." (Laughter.)

* Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—"I can do it myself if I wish. But I appeal to the Council to refuse this grant as a whole to express its dissatisfaction at the

[Mr. J. A. Saldanha]

[29th March 1926]

position in which it is placed. If His Excellency the Governor certifies it, let them have the grant, but not on our responsibility. I am sure the feeling is shared by all the Members that this Council does not serve the purpose for which it should function. (The hon. Sir C. P. Ramaswami Ayyar: "Question.") Even if the hon. the Leader of the House does not relish it, it is just our purpose to express our feelings, even if I should say things which might make him angry." (Laughter.)

* The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR:—"If the only object of my hon. Friend is to make me angry, I am afraid that object will be frustrated."

* Mr. J. A. SALDANHA:—"That shows how callous is the Leader of the House to the feelings of the electorate. (Laughter.) That is why we should express our resentment by not voting this grant. It is from the pockets of the electorate that we take our travelling allowance and they are paying their taxes out of which this also comes. It is but right that we should give expression to the feelings of their keen disappointment at the way in which this Council is functioning. Therefore, I object to this travelling allowance grant being passed. I hope the whole House will join with me in showing their resentment which has been expressed also by hon. Members on the Ministerialist side in various ways, in lectures, in papers and public prints. Now I want to know what we have done in this Council, and after all what is the sum total of good we have done to the country. As I fancy, this Council is only engendering a spirit of servileness on one side and eloquence on the other side. I recognize feelings are given expression to in most eloquent terms on the Ministerialist side, but all that eloquence is simply wasted. Therefore we should ask our Ministers also . . ."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT:—"Will the hon. Member confine himself to the defects of the Members of the Council?"

* Mr. J. A. SALDANHA:—"One thing is certain that a good deal of our time is wasted. If we had proper Standing Orders regulating our eloquence, our speeches and other things, much time would be saved. As matters stand, we have not got . . ."

* The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR:—"This motion deals with the regulation of travelling allowance and not with the regulation of eloquence." (Laughter.)

* Mr. J. A. SALDANHA:—"What I ask is this: why such a large amount is asked from us? The question is whether we have been economical, and who is responsible for all those moneys wasted on select committees and a number of meetings."

* The RAJA OF RAMNAD:—"Is it open to the hon. Member to cast a slur on the work of other Members of this Council? He is entitled to cast a slur on his own work."

* Mr. J. A. SALDANHA:—"How am I to cast a slur on my own work? (Laughter.) I for one fancy I am as good as any other of us. (Laughter.) What I say is this: how is it that we have brought about such a state of things that we are not able to make both ends meet and have we tried our utmost by proper husbanding our resources in making . . ."

29th March 1926]

* The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR:—"Sir, I think I must point out at this stage that it is a recognized practice that

'debate on supplementary and excess grants is restricted to the particulars contained in the estimates on which those grants are sought, and to the application of the items which compose those grants; and the debate cannot touch the policy or the expenditure sanctioned, on other heads, by the estimate on which the original grant was obtained, except so far as such policy or expenditure is brought before the Committee by the items contained in the supplementary or excess estimates.'

"I would ask you, Sir, to enforce that rule and see that the debate is kept within the legitimate ambit of the discussion of travelling allowance to hon. Members of this House."

Rai Bahadur Sir K. VENKATAREDDI NAYUDU:—"Sir, I have absolutely no objection to that ruling being applied to the present case. But if it is intended to have it as a general rule as applicable in other cases, I must point out to you that the rule which is to be found in May's book is not to be applied to our Council but the regulations that we have got ourselves. When the proper case comes, it will be my duty to place before you the question whether such a rule could be applied here."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT:—"I have already ruled once or twice, apart from May's Parliamentary practice, that debate on supplementary grants should be restricted to items mentioned by Government. As regards the subject of the hon. Member Mr. Saldanha, I was just waiting to see him get into deeper waters (laughter), in order that I might get an opportunity of ruling him out on the point of relevancy. I was just waiting how he was going to develop his argument as to the way in which the Council has been conducting its proceedings."

* Mr. J. A. SALDANHA:—"I have not more to say Sir. (Laughter.) I think my time is limited. I have not prepared a long speech. My notes are only brief. (Laughter.) I think the drift of my speech is that we are not having our tours as they ought to be."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT:—"That is too large a question to raise on this supplementary grant. I would like the hon. Member to confine himself to the question of travelling allowance for Members of the Council, as to why this should be increased."

* Mr. J. A. SALDANHA:—"If they had functioned properly, this trouble of excess expenditure . . ."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT:—"That trouble has not arisen out of this supplementary grant, as the hon. Member will realise that if what he says is true the defective constitution of the Council is due to other causes than this question of excess expenditure."

* Mr. J. A. SALDANHA:—"My reason may be right or wrong." (Laughter.)

* The hon. the PRESIDENT:—"It is not only that the hon. Member should be right, but it is also much more important for the conduct of business in this House that he should deal with relevant matters."

* Mr. J. A. SALDANHA:—"But I submit it is relevant to say that I am opposed to this grant and that we should not pass this travelling allowance." The motion was put and passed, and the grant was made.

[29th March 1926]

Grant XII—Administration of Justice.

* The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR:—"I move, Sir, on the recommendation of His Excellency the Governor,—

'that an additional sum of Rs. 32,000 for "Pay of officers—Voted" under "24 (e) Administration of Justice—Civil and Sessions Courts—ii. Mufassal Civil and Sessions Courts—Administration of Justice (Reserved)" be granted.'

"As has been pointed out in the explanatory note, this is really the result of a saving. The saving of rupees one lakh arises on account of various district and sessions judges belonging to the Indian Civil Service having taken leave. The Provincial Service officers who have been acting for them in those vacancies as district and sessions judges have to be paid and for that purpose a sum of Rs. 32,000 is required. The saving will be Rs. 1 lakh under "Pay of officers—Non-voted."

* Rao Bahadur C. NATESA MUDALIYAR:—"I move
'to reduce the allotment of Rs. 32,000 by Rs. 100.'

"This is merely a token motion, Sir. Out of the 14 district and sessions judges that are appointed, I mean those recruited directly from the bar and those that were promoted from among the subordinate judges."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT:—"Before the hon. Member proceeds with the speech, may I ask Government whether this item includes provision for any additional officers in either of the services."

* The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR:—"No."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT:—"Then, I do not see how the question of representation of communities arises."

Rai Bahadur Sir K. VENKATAREDDI NAYUDU:—"If it does not involve the appointment of additional men, I cannot understand how this supplementary demand arises, and how a saving can come in by way of this demand."

* The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR:—"The saving arises in the non-voted portion of the budget."

12-15 P.M. "Certain civilian members of the service who were district judges took leave and the Provincial Service officers are appointed to act for them. The sum of Rs. 32,000 represents the salary payable to these Provincial Service officers who have acted for the district judges. By virtue of these district judges civilian officers not being available and drawing full pay, a saving is effected."

Rai Bahadur Sir K. VENKATAREDDI NAYUDU:—"Could not the Government appropriate under one of those Devolution rules, rule 39 or rule 38?"

* The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR:—"They could not."

* Diwan Bahadur M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—"Regarding the relevancy of Mr. Natesa Madaliyar's motion, apart from the merits of the question, though no new appointments are made, the motion before the House is for a particular grant for appointment of certain district judges. Does not that give the right to any hon. Member of this House to raise the question as to the recruitment of these district judges? If that be the case, does not that

[29th March 1926] [Mr. M. Krishnan Nayar]

give my friend the right to move this motion? It seems to me, subject to your ruling, that he has the right. And my friend, according to my view, is entitled to raise the question of appointment to that cadre."

* The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR:—"The answer to that is this. On the main motion when I asked under the voted grant for the salary of the Provincial Civil Service officers who have been functioning as district and sessions judges, the question would undoubtedly arise, as a matter of fact it was raised, and the matter was included in the 100 rupees reduction and the 32 lakhs reduction of which notice has been given by Mr. Natesa Mudaliyar. The point that I am now raising is that after having given notice of a motion to reduce the grant by 32 lakhs or in the alternative by Rs. 100 under the main head you cannot raise the same question under a supplemental demand which is only a matter of accountancy in the events that have happened."

Rai Bahadur Sir K. VENKATAREDDI NAYUDU:—"I take it that this grant is asked for under Rule 31. I am open to correction if I am wrong."

"When money has been spent on any service for which the vote of Council is necessary during any financial year in excess of the amount granted for that service and for that year, a demand for the excess shall be presented to the Council by the Finance Member and shall be dealt with in the same way by the Council as if it were a demand for a grant."

* The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR:—"This is not an excess grant; this is a supplementary grant."

Rai Bahadur Sir K. VENKATAREDDI NAYUDU:—"Under what rule does it come?"

* The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR:—"Under rule 32 (1)—

"An estimate shall be presented to the Council for a supplementary or additional grant when (i) the amount voted in the budget of a grant is found to be insufficient for the purposes of the current year, etc."

"What has happened is that the salary voted in regard to the Provincial Service officers is found insufficient for the purposes of the current year, because a larger number of Indian Civil Service officers have taken leave than was anticipated at the time. Therefore, in the place of the Indian Civil Service officers who have taken leave, Provincial Service officers have been put in."

Rai Bahadur Sir K. VENKATAREDDI NAYUDU:—"Does it say that the demand is subject to the same rules as any other demand under the budget? I am not able to put my finger on the rule."

* Rao Bahadur C. NATESA MUDALIYAR:—"According to the grant, here, it is an additional sum of Rs. 32,000 for 'Pay of officers—voted' under Administration of Justice. I go upon this. It is an additional grant that is wanted. An additional grant should be treated as a budget grant. And the communal representation question on the Judicial services was not discussed at the budget time. What was discussed was only communal representation of the services in the High Court itself, the ministerial offices in the High Court. The appointments of district munsifs, sub-judges and district judges were not discussed at the time of the budget. So I am here to move that a 100 rupees should be reduced from 32,000 under Administration of Justice. I think I have every right to do that. Of course, Sir, I wait for your decision. I think I have every right to move it because this additional grant is to be treated as a budget grant. If you give me permission I will go on."

[29th March 1926]

Rai Bahadur Sir K. VENKATAREDDI NAYUDU :—" Referring to the same rule, I find in clause (iii) these words—

'Supplemental or additional estimates shall be dealt with in the same way by the Council as if they were demands for grants.'

"Therefore, there can be no difference between this demand and any other demand that we passed a few days ago."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" Motions for reduction must be relevant to the items indicated by Government. With regard to the point raised by Mr. Natesa Mudaliyar, I think he is correct in stating that this particular question of representation in the Judicial services had not been reached during the general budget. It was only a discussion on the Ministerial offices. I think Dr. Natesa Mudaliyar may move his motion."

* Rao Bahadur C. NATESA MUDALIYAR :—" Thank you very much, Sir. As I began, Sir, out of 14 appointments of district and sessions judges held by Indians either recruited directly or promoted from among the subordinate judges, only seven are held by members of the various communities in this land comprising 97 per cent of the population. Sir, the proportion is far below what it ought to be and what is desirable. The proportion is so low because in the initial recruitment of district munsifs, the desired proportion has not been observed. There are 201 district munsifs of which there are only 50 belonging to the 97 per cent communities. Secondly, there are 61 sub-judges of which only 16 belong to 97 per cent communities. Even in recruitment, among 49 acting district munsifs, there are only 19 belonging to the 97 per cent communities. Sir, these services are in the hands of two authorities, the High Court and the Government. We have our grievances against both of them. Sir, the High Court is beyond our jurisdiction. But the Government is responsible to us. We only request the Government to see whether they cannot come to a decision. According to the Letters Patent, the High Court is beyond our jurisdiction. Certainly, we have got very great respect for the High Court collectively and also to individual members that occupy the bench there. Section 8 of the Letters Patent authorizes the King-Emperor to appoint the Chief Justice and the High Court Judges and empowers these with the framing of rules as occasion may require, subject to any rules and restrictions which may be prescribed by the Governor in Council. This too is only for the ministerial appointments. I want to know from the hon. the Law Member whether any rule is there in the Letters Patent vesting the power of appointing district munsifs with the High Court. (An hon. Member: The Civil Courts Act.) The Civil Courts Act, I think, is within the bounds of this Council, if not the Assembly, to be amended. So, I request the hon. the Law Member to see that the Civil Courts Act is amended."

"Sir, in this connexion I request the hon. the Law Member, in replying to me, to reply calmly, and in keeping with the dignity and responsibility of his position, and the dignity of every Member of this House."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" Is the hon. Member referring to any language used by the hon. the Law Member?"

* Rao Bahadur C. NATESA MUDALIYAR :—" I am requesting the hon. Member not to work himself up to an anger as he did on another occasion. It creates an impression that the Law Member rebukes the hon. Members of this House."

[29th March 1926]

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" Neither the hon. the Law Member nor any other member of the House is responsible for comments made outside the Council on the speeches of hon. Members. And with regard to the objection taken by Dr. Natesa Mudaliyar to the attitude of the hon. the Law Member, I would ask him to confine himself to the language used by the Law Member, and not to any kind of attitude and very indefinable things like attitude, because we cannot decide whether a particular attitude is parliamentary or not."

* Rao Bahadur C. NATESA MUDALIYAR :—" Language used in a certain way is quite different from language used in an ordinary way. I request the hon. the Law Member to reply to me calmly."

* The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—" Sir, I cordially accept the invitation that has been extended to me by the hon. Member from Madras, and I reply to him calmly. I do not propose to deal any further with the posthumous rehabilitation of old speeches which has been attempted. But let us analyse the contents of the speech made by the hon. Member for Madras. He first of all spoke of district munsifs. I think it has been stated more than once on the floor of this House that the appointment of district munsifs is vested in the High Court under section 7, I believe, of the Madras Civil Courts Act which was recently amended by this House. That appointment or right of appointment is vested in the High Court. But I do not wish to content myself with that answer. I wish to go further and say that the High Court has been apprised of the sentiments of this Honourable House with regard to paying due attention to the representation of various communities in the ranks of district munsifs; and it has to be remembered as I have no doubt that the hon. Member from Madras will remember, that there are members of various communities, Brahman, non-Brahman and Indian Christians, represented on the High Court. When it is remembered also that the appointment of district munsifs is not made by the Chief Justice or by any one or more judges, but is made at a meeting of the judges, he will see that the Government cannot well dictate to them, not only cannot dictate to them the policy, but cannot do more than point out what sentiments are entertained by this Honourable House."

"Now, Sir, my Friend is perfectly correct in asking that, so far as subordinate judges and district and sessions judges are concerned, it is quite open—subject of course to the relevancy of the debate on which you have ruled and to which ruling I bow—it is quite open to the Council to dissect the policy of the Government. Let me expound the policy. Now I have in my hand the latest list of district and sessions judges and subordinate judges. I find that Mr. K. S. Menon, Mr. Lobo, Mr. Narayanan Nayar and Mr. Zynuddin are among the permanent district judges. The other permanent district judges are Mr. Balasubramanya Ayyar, Mr. Viswanatha Sastri and Mr. Lakshmana Rao. So that among the permanent judges, speaking only of the Brahman and non-Brahman communities at the present moment, there are three permanent Brahman judges as against four non-Brahman or rather non-Brahman plus Muhammadan district judges. Let me also say this, that the Government definitely gave the permanent judgeship to Mr. T. V. Narayanan Nayar before Mr. R. Gopala Rao who had acted for a longer period than Narayanan Nayar. I do not want to discuss names any further. I only wish to point out that the Government and the High Court acting together are not swayed by communal feelings in this matter; and if, as is

[Sir C. P. Ramaswami Ayyar] [29th March 1926]

now and then sought to be said, the Government—meaning my three Colleagues and myself—are swayed by any particular communal or anti-communal feelings; they have not at least been translated into action.

12-30 P.m. "Let me go further and read the list of acting district and sessions judges at the present moment. There are (1) Mr. Fazuluddin Sahib, (2) Mr. Sundaram Chettiyar, (3) Mr. Venkatarama Ayya, (4) Mr. Anantha Narayana Ayyangar and (5) Mr. Govinda Menon. Can it be said that there is any bias towards one community or another? I submit that there is not. But it is undoubtedly a fact that there are amongst the subordinate judges a large proportion of them belonging to one community, and I for one cannot accept the doctrine that an efficient subordinate judge can be superseded for the purpose of satisfying a person who is not his superior or at least his equal. I shall not be a party to any system by which a person belonging to a particular community will be put above persons who are seniors and more efficient than himself simply because the former belongs to a particular community. I shall not subscribe and shall not be a party to any principle which it would be impossible for me to translate into action. Government will not, in the administration of justice or in conferring patronage relating to or pertaining to the administration of justice, be swayed by the feeling that a particular person belonging to a particular community should be put over his compeers who are far senior to him and not inefficient. I am afraid that neither the High Court nor the Government can accept such a proposition. I therefore oppose this motion."

* Rao Bahadur C. NATESA MUDALIYAR :—"I thank the hon. the Law Member for the conciliatory manner in which he started to reply me. I am sorry he said that he would not consider the cases of sub-judges."

* The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—"I did not say so. I said that the fact remained that there were many sub-judges a large proportion of whom belonged to the Brahman community and they were in turn promoted from sub-judgeships to district judgeships. There might be inequalities which might be considered wrong by hon. Members of this House. All that I was anxious to impress on the House was that promotion would normally be granted as in other services with strict advertence to merit plus seniority."

* Rao Bahadur C. NATESA MUDALIYAR :—"I thank him for this conciliatory answer too, but the mistake lies in the initial recruitment of district munsifs. District munsifs are not recruited from various communities. We have got any number of sub-judges who want to go as district judges. I request the hon. the Law Member to see that district munsifs are recruited from various communities. Of the 49 district munsifs that were recruited recently there were only 19 belonging to the various communities such as Muhammadans, Indian Christians, non-Brahmans and Anglo-Indians and others. I only request the hon. the Law Member to interview the judges of the High Court and see that non-Brahmans are given adequate representation in the Judicial service. With these few words I withdraw my motion which is only a token motion."

The motion was by leave withdrawn.

Grant XII that Government be granted an additional sum of Rupees 32,000 for 'Pay of officers—Voted' under 24 (e)—Administration of Justice—Civil and Sessions Courts—ii. Mufassal Civil and Sessions Courts—Administration of Justice—Reserved was put and carried.

29th March 1926]

The amendment of Mr. Muhammad Ghouse Mian Sahib for a reduction of the above grant by Rs. 100 to request the Government to recommend to the High Court to frame rules for relieving the difficulties of official receivers under the Provincial Insolvency Act was ruled out of order by the hon. the President because it was not relevant to the item indicated in the demand.

Grant XXXI—Stationery and Printing—Transferred.

* The hon. Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. PATRO :—"I beg to move—
'that Government be granted an additional sum of Rs. 51,700 under Stationery and Printing—Transferred.'

"Sir, Stationery and Printing go together. At the end of the year the Superintendent of Stationery allocates to the Transferred and Reserved departments the necessary amount that should be brought under each head and owing to this adjustment it was found that there was a deficit of Rupees 51,700 on one side and it was proposed to be recouped from the other side. So it is only a matter of adjustment and the sum for which the sanction of the Council is sought for is proposed to be allocated under the Transferred head."

* Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—"I beg to oppose this grant for this reason. I want to ask the hon. the Minister for Education to take into consideration the great delay in the publication of several administration reports of the Government, Civil Lists and other things."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—"Has the publication of the reports anything to do with this demand?"

* The hon. Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. PATRO :—"This motion has nothing to do with the delay in publication of the Civil Lists. My hon. Friend for South Kanara must approach a different quarter for eliciting the explanation he desires to get."

The motion was put and carried and the grant was made.

Grant XXXII—Agency Tracts—Reserved.

* The hon. Mr. N. E. MARJORIBANKS :—"On the recommendation of His Excellency the Governor, I beg to move

'that Government be granted an additional appropriation of Rs. 1,142 under Agency tracts—Reserved—41-R.g. Civil Works—Agency—Grants-in-aid—Recurring—Miscellaneous grants to local bodies'."

"Mr. President, this sum represents the remission of centage charges to the Polavaram District Board and is proposed in consideration of the backward nature of the tract and the inadequate funds of the board. The money was paid by the Board and the Government agreed to give back the money. A sum of Rs. 5,000 is being found by reappropriation and for the balance the Council is asked to give its sanction."

The demand was put and carried and the grant was made.

[29th March 1926]

* The hon. Mr. N. E. MARJORIBANKS :—" On the recommendation of His Excellency the Governor, I beg to move

'that Government be granted an additional appropriation of Rs. 8,050 under Agency tracts—Reserved—32 R.b. Medical—Hospitals and dispensaries—iv—Grants to local bodies.'

"Sir, in February 1925 Government waived the contribution of Rupees 8,050 due to them by the Polavaram District Board on account of the pay of medical officers at the taluk headquarters for the years 1923-24 and 1924-25. As, however, the contribution had been already credited to Government it is proposed to refund this sum to the Polavaram District Board with the sanction of the Council."

The demand was put and carried and the grant was made.

Grant XII.

* The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—" On the recommendation of His Excellency the Governor, I move

'that the Government be granted an additional sum of Rs. 5,600 under "Grant XII—Administration of Justice—Reserved" for the continuance of the warder guard system in the sub-jails in the Kurnool and Coimbatore districts during 1925-26.'

"Sir, I will explain the matter. The system of warder guards was tried as an experimental measure in place of police guards in order to protect sub-jail prisoners from police interference in the sub-jails of Coimbatore and Kurnool districts. After a few years' working, it was found that there were defects in the system and Mr. H. G. Stokes was requested to examine and report on the system. He recommended the abolition of the system and reversion to the old system of police guards on grounds of economy as well as efficiency.

"The warder guard system was not abolished from 1st March 1925 and orders were issued only in February 1926 directing its abolition and the reversion to the old system of police guards from 1st March 1926—vide G.O. No. 414, Law (General), dated 9th February 1926. Thus additional appropriation is necessary.

"I may say, Sir, that there will be a corresponding saving in the police grant as no specific provision was made for police guards in the current year's budget."

The demand was put and carried and the grant was made.

Grant XVII.

* The hon. Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. PATRO :—" On the recommendation of His Excellency the Governor, I move

'that Government be granted an additional sum of Rs. 20,000 under 31-A. c. Education—University grants to non-Government Arts Colleges—Grant-in-aid—Educational—Voted—Teaching, for the payment of a teaching grant to the Madras Christian College in the year 1925-26.'

"Sir, the Director of Public Instruction forwarded to the Madras Government an application from the Madras Christian College authorities stating that their finances were in a very bad condition and unless a special grant was made

[29th March 1926]

[Sir A. P. Patro]

it would not be possible for the college authorities to make both ends meet. The college authorities represented that there was a large deficit in their finances and all the possibilities of working on economic lines had been considered. Therefore it was found that there was an equitable case made out and that they deserved a special consideration from the Government considering their services in the cause of education. The institution deserves support. This grant is a special grant outside the Grant-in-Aid Code and it has to be made with the sanction of the Council."

The demand was put and carried and the grant was made.

VI

EXCESS GRANT FOR 1924-25.

Grant XXXIV—Stationery and Printing—Transferred.

* The hon. Mr. T. E. MOIR :—" Sir, under rule 31 of the Madras Legislative Council Rules, I move that an excess grant of Rs. 27,695 be voted by the Council to regularize the expenditure incurred in the year 1924-25 in excess of the voted grant under Grant XXXIV—Stationery and Printing—Transferred. 12-45 P.M.

"Hon. Members will see that in paragraph 17 of the Report of the Public Accounts Committee very full explanation is given of the reasons which rendered it necessary to move this excess grant. In respect of the current year, hon. Members will observe, that many demands for additional grants are moved. If this procedure had been more fully understood, a similar motion would have been moved this time last year. But owing to the fact that under the procedure then in force in the office of the Superintendent of Stationery, the calculation of the actual value of the stores supplied on behalf of the Transferred departments were not made till the end of the year. The Superintendent of Stationery discovered on the 16th March last year that an additional grant was necessary. But the attention of the various departments had been drawn by the Finance Department to the necessity of sending in demands for supplemental grants to the Government before the 10th March. The Superintendent was under the impression that he was therefore too late to press the case. If he had informed us on the 16th March last year that he had discovered this defect, we could have rectified it by moving a demand for additional grant in the House at the end of March last year. A grant from the House is necessary now to regularize the expenditure and close the accounts for 1924-25. I therefore move this grant."

* Diwan Bahadur M. KRISHNAN NAYAR :—" Sir, I wish to make only one observation on this matter and that is this. Though the Superintendent of Stationery discovered this mistake on the 16th March just a week after the latest date for the proposals for additional allotment to reach the Government, one year has elapsed now before it has come before the House. I hope that the suggestion of the Public Accounts Committee of which my hon. Friend the Finance Member is the Chairman, to examine the accounts of the Stationery department and see whether a change in the system is necessary, will be acceded to."

* The hon. Mr. T. E. MOIR :—" Yes, Sir, I may say at once that the failure to notice the excess was due to the fact that the stores supplied to the Transferred departments were not valued as they were issued. The calculation was undertaken only at the end of year. The defect was discovered too late.

[Mr. T. E. Moir]

[29th March 1926]

In future, stores issued for the use of the Transferred departments are to be valued as they are issued, so that there will be no difficulty in checking month by month whether there is any prospect of the budget allotment being exceeded."

The hon. the President put the question to the House.

Mr. B. RAMACHANDRA REDDI:—"I have got an amendment* against my name."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT:—"That is hardly relevant to the grant under discussion."

The demand was put to the House and carried; the grant was made.

VII

FURTHER DEMANDS FOR GRANTS FOR 1926-27.

Demand XXXVII—Administration of Justice.

* The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR:—"Sir, on the recommendation of His Excellency the Governor, I move

'that Government be granted an additional sum not exceeding Rs. 6,200 for the Administration of Justice.'

"This is to provide for the appointment of two Additional District Munsifs in the Ramnad district. One is at Paramakudi for eight months and another is at Devakotta for six months. From the point of litigation these are congested localities. The figures of arrears are 804 suits for Paramakudi and 487 suits for Devakotta."

* Diwan Bahadur M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—"Sir, I want to make a few remarks not by way of opposing this grant. My hon. Friend is aware that there is a large number of District Munsifs who have been acting for a number of years, say for four or five years and more and I hope my hon. Friend will see to it that they are confirmed very soon."

* The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR:—"That matter has been pointedly brought to the notice of the High Court and they are considering it."

Mr. MUHAMMAD GHOUSE MIAN SAHIB:—"Sir, I beg to move

'that the allotment of Rs. 6,200 for Administration of Justice be reduced by Rs. 100.'

"I wish to elicit information as to how many Muhammadans have been appointed as District Munsifs from 1916 and to suggest that Government should recommend to the High Court that more Muhammadans should be appointed as District Munsifs this year and the years to come."

* Mr. B. RAMACHANDRA REDDI:—

To reduce the allotment of Rs. 27,695 under "Stationery and Printing—Transferred" by Rs. 1.

(To ask for information as to what extent stationery of Indian manufacture is bought by the Government and especially from the Government factories; and to discuss the necessity of encouraging Indian industries by Government patronage.)

[29th March 1926]

* The hon. the PRESIDENT:—"This particular motion is moved by the Government for the appointment of additional District Munsifs in the Ramnad district. Does the hon. Member suggest that Muhammadans should be appointed to these posts?"

Mr. MUHAMMAD GHOUSE MIAN SAHIB:—"Yes, Sir."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT:—"It is against policy for the Council to suggest the posting of officers to particular districts."

Mr. MUHAMMAD GHOUSE MIAN SAHIB:—"If this motion of mine is carried, it will be possible for the Government to suggest to the High Court that more Muhammadans should be appointed as District Munsifs."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT:—"This is a motion for the appointment of additional District Munsifs to a particular district. No hon. Member can suggest to Government to post particular District Munsifs to particular districts. I rule the motion out of order."

The motion of the hon. Member Mr. Manjappa Heggade* is also out of order because this motion of Government is in regard to the Ramnad District Court. Motions for reduction must be relevant to that motion. The hon. Member's motion is irrelevant to this particular motion of the Government. Does any other hon. Member wish to speak? (After a pause) I shall put the question to the House.

The demand was put to the House and carried; the grant was made.

Demand XXXVIII—Education—Transferred.

* The hon. Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. PATRO:—"Sir, on the recommendation of His Excellency the Governor, I move

'that Government be granted an additional sum of Rs. 14,000 for Education—Transferred.'

"This amount is proposed to be granted to the University of Madras towards the establishment of a Research Institute for the advanced study of Vernaculars such as Tamil, Telugu, Kanarese and Urdu. On the recommendation of the Academic Council, the University found that such a scientific study of the Dravidian languages would be very useful to South India. A central institution is proposed to be established by the University and directed by persons well-qualified to conduct a scientific study of the vernaculars. It is known that the study of Sanskrit is concentrated in important colleges in the Presidency. Similarly Arabic also is concentrated in some of the most important Islamic Colleges. But in regard to the vernaculars there are well-versed pandits scattered all over the Presidency without any co-ordination of work amongst them. In order to bring them together and enable them to do research work the University proposes to establish a research institute for the scientific study of these vernaculars."

* Diwan Bahadur M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—"Sir, I wish to get information on two points from the hon. Minister. My hon. Friend said that

* Mr. D. MANJAPPA HEGGADE:—

To reduce the allotment of Rs. 27,695 under "Stationery and Printing—Transferred" by Rs. 1.

(To raise the question of the desirability of transferring District Munsifs of three years' standing in a place.)

[Mr. M. Krishnan Nayar]

[29th March 1926]

well-qualified persons will be appointed for the scientific study of these languages. I should like to know what pay these officers who are to be appointed to these posts will get. If no definite information is available on that point, I should like to know at least approximately the pay that is proposed to be paid to them. I want also to know whether the pay that is to be paid to the teachers, readers, or the professors is the same for all the languages or is different for the different languages. The second point is this and it is a very important one from my point of view. My hon. Friend stated that the Dravidian languages that are to be developed are Tamil, Telugu, Kanarese and Urdu also. I was surprised that my hon. Friend did not refer to Malayalam at all. I do not know whether it is . . .

* The hon. Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. PATRO :—"I do not know that such a mention is necessary at all. I need not have mentioned any language at all. When it is stated that all the Dravidian languages will be included it is patent that Malayalam also will be one of them."

* Diwan Bahadur M. KRISHNAN NAYAR :—"I would certainly have taken it in that light if the hon. Minister had stopped with saying, 'Dravidian languages' and did not go on to mention specifically Tamil, Telugu, Kanarese and Urdu. Urdu is not a Dravidian language, I understand. It is probably a slip."

* The hon. Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. PATRO :—"As regards the first point, Sir, I may say that there will be one Director of Dravidian vernaculars on Rs. 400, five readers one each for Tamil, Telugu, Kanarese and Malayalam and another for Urdu which is also taken up separately though it is not one of the Dravidian languages, and eight studentships, three for Tamil, three for Telugu, one for Malayalam and one for Kanarese. The University will also work out a scheme by which men well-versed in the different languages will be brought together in the Central Research Institute and asked to lecture on the Dravidian vernaculars."

Mr. MUHAMMAD GHOUSE MIAN SAHIB :—"Sir, I move

'the allotment of Rs. 14,000 be reduced . . .'"

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—"May I ask the hon. Minister whether the Dravidian languages include Urdu also?"

* The hon. Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. PATRO :—"I used the word 'vernaculars' advisedly. It is one of the vernaculars of the province."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—"I am afraid the hon. Member Mr. Ghouse Mian Sahib cannot move his motion.* This motion restricts itself to the provision for research in the Dravidian languages. As Government do not contemplate to include Urdu also in the Dravidian languages I do not think the hon. Member can move his motion. The hon. Member may oppose the motion if he likes."

* Mr. Muhammad Ghouse XXXVIII 14,000 100 (i) to emphasise on the Government Mian Sahib.

the desirability of providing and including Urdu, Persian and Arabic along with the study of Dravidian languages in the University Research Institute, and

(ii) to emphasise the abolition of the separation of the School Assistants from Deputy Inspector of schools and to equalise the ranks.

[29th March 1926]

Mr. MUHAMMAD GHOUSE MIAN SAHIB :—"The proposal originally submitted contained provision also for the study of Persian, Urdu and Arabic languages. But Government have not made provision now for these languages. I therefore want to move this motion."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—"I am sorry the hon. Member cannot move his motion, but he can make a speech opposing the motion of the Government."

Mr. MUHAMMAD GHOUSE MIAN SAHIB :—"Inasmuch as the hon. Minister stated that the policy of the Government was to provide for the research study of Urdu also, I am not going to move this motion, Sir."

* The hon. Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. PATRO :—"I shall communicate the desire of the hon. Member to the authorities of the University. It is not a Government scheme; it is the scheme of the University which has to deal with it independently of the Government. I shall communicate the views of the hon. Member to the University."

* Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—"Sir, may I enquire whether Kanarese includes also Tulu which is spoken by the majority of the Kanara people?"

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—"Is it a written language?"

* Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—"It is written in Kanarese characters; it does not matter. For instance, English is not written in the English alphabet but it is written in the Roman alphabet. (Laughter.) It is not a defect. But while Kanarese itself is spoken only by a very small percentage of the people though it is the official language, a very large number of people speak the Tulu language in Kanara."

"As a matter of fact, Kanarese is spoken by only a very small percentage of people in South Kanara though it is the official vernacular. I would draw the attention of the House and of the hon. the Minister to the fact that Tulu plays an important part among the languages of South Kanara. I want to enquire whether Tulu will be included side by side with Kanarese . . ."

* The hon. Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. PATRO :—"The hon. Member from South Kanara, has just now informed the House that it is not a written language. Erukala is a dialect of the Telugu language. There are several dialects of the Telugu and Tamil languages. It is not possible to include all those dialects within the scope of the research."

* Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—"Tulu also should be included . . ."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—"That is a matter for the University. The Government is only concerned with the provision of money for the University."

* The RAJA OF RAMNAD :—"May I know what the dialects are of the Tamil language? The hon. the Minister said the dialects of the Tamil language."

* Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—"Before we sanction the grant we want to know what the scope of the research work is. It may be for philological work, or for increase of literature or for cultivation of the language. The most backward languages play as much important part as the most advanced languages. I was told that Tulu was not a written language. In what sense? Tulu has got some literature at least, though not very large, and it is written in Kanarese or in some other characters. It is not a defect for a language to be

[Mr. J. A. Saldanha]

[29th March 1926]

written in another language. English language is not written in English alphabet. It is written in Roman alphabet. It might have been written with Greek characters also. We do not say that English is not a written language. Tulu has some literature and is spoken by the majority of the inhabitants in South Kanara"

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—"The hon. Member would be more relevant on the floor of the Senate than on the floor of the Council. The Government are concerned with the grant of money for the advanced study of Dravidian languages."

* Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—"If the University does not place before the Council the scope of research, I oppose the grant. I have been taking an interest in the matter, attending the Oriental Congress and dealing with the philology of the languages, on which I have written certain articles. I would like to know what the University is going to do. The term 'advanced study of Dravidian languages' is indefinite. We have the linguistic survey of Dr. Grierson. It does not go into the literature of the languages. It goes into the philology of the languages. The Senate need not pursue"

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—"That is a question to be put to the University."

* Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—"I will oppose the motion unless the Senate gives more information. Is the object of the University to teach the language or is it to teach the science, the history and origin of the languages and the relation of the languages? It has been said on the floor of this House that Telugu is an Aryan language. Every one knows that it is a Dravidian language. The University should employ professors who know something of the science of the languages. If that is the object of the University, we can grant the amount. If it is the cultivation of the languages it is done in the schools."

"One hon. Member said that Tulu was not a written language. If it is not a written language, it is not spoken by barbarians. I know that Dr. Caldwell has devoted much attention to Tulu, Kodugu and such other languages which have no written literature. In his survey, much attention is paid to the philology of the backward languages. We should pay as much attention to the backward languages as to the advanced languages. The cultivation and teaching of a language is different from a study of the science of a language. Let the University tell us what its object is. We should not be allowed to grope in the dark when we have to grant the money. We get it from the tax-payer and we are the custodians of that money. Are we to hand over the money because the University wants it? The hon. the Minister does not know the A, B, C of the science of languages. He said that Tulu was not a written language. Of course it is a very backward language. It is for that reason that I would include it among the languages in which research work should be undertaken. Tulu is a most interesting language. It is spoken by a very high class of people. I, for one, would object to this grant without the hon. the Minister enlightening us with something more reasonable and tangible rather than telling us that the money is wanted for research work and telling us anything about the nature of the research work."

* Mr. D. MANJAYYA HEGGADE :—"I know more of the Tulu language than the hon. Member because it is my mother tongue. We speak Tulu in our homes. There is no literature in that language. It is not a written language."

29th March 1926]

* Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—"I wish to ask the hon. Member who has just spoken one or two questions"

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—"The hon. Member cannot make two speeches. The hon. Member to whom the question will be put will have to make another speech."

* The hon. Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. PATRO :—"Sir, after the most crushing reply given by the hon. Member Mr. Manjappa Heggade to Mr. Saldanha, there is very little for me to reply. We appreciate his enthusiasm for the Tulu language. But I must say that his acquaintance with the language is very poor indeed to enlighten this House. If he had known what was meant by the scientific study of the languages, he would not have been puzzled so much. When I used the words 'research institute' I expected the hon. Member to know that the objects he mentioned were included in the scope of the research. Otherwise, those words would have no meaning. The hon. Member might have taken some more trouble to understand the subject without attributing ignorance to others. We are accustomed to such display of ignorance whenever he speaks on any serious matter. I am sure that the House would not take his remarks seriously. Surely, the hon. Member's intentions are good. 'Scientific study' includes all the objects which the hon. Member referred to. The University has worked out the details of the scheme. It is quite unreasonable to say that the University has not worked out any details and that the Government have not considered them. The demand that is asked for is for the establishment of a research institute. Anybody with a little understanding can easily understand that the University, the Academic Council and the Syndicate have worked out the details of the scheme and that the Government have considered them. It should not be said that the scheme is unreasonable or not unworkable. I am sure that the hon. Member would now realize that the comparative study of philology was included within the scope of the scientific study of the languages. The hon. Member need not have confused himself over the subject."

(Mr. D. Manjappa Heggade rose to move his amendment.)

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—"The amendment of the hon. Member wants that a committee should be appointed by the Government. That is not relevant to the motion."

"The question is that the Government be granted a sum of Rs. 14,000 under Education (Transferred)."

The motion was put to the House and carried and the grant was made.

Demand XXXIX.

* The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL :—"Sir, on the recommendation of His Excellency the Governor, I beg to move

that the Government be granted a sum of Rs. 12,50,500 under Grants XXI and XXIX for Public Health and Vital Statistics and for Civil Works—Grants to local bodies.

"Sir, in the current year's budget a provision of 6½ lakhs has been made for the improvement of village roads and 6½ lakhs for rural water-supply schemes. As the grants were actually distributed to the local bodies late in the year, the amount that has been spent by them till now is only Rs. 18,299

[The Raja of Panagal]

[29th March 1926]

for water-supply schemes and Rs. 33,872 for the improvement of roads. A further expenditure amounting to Rs. 50,000 may be incurred in the current year. It is proposed to give the unspent balance amounting to Rs. 11,48,000 plus an additional amount of Rs. 1,02,000 to the local bodies.

1-16 P.m. "It is proposed, Sir, that the local boards should get these grants, and if in case they show progress in the programme of works, I have the authority of my hon. Colleague, the Finance Member, to say that further grants will be given about June."

* Mr. K. Chavadi SUBRAMANIA PILLAI :—" Mr. President, Sir, I beg to move

'that the grant of Rs. 12,50,000 under Demand No. XXXIX provided for grants to local bodies for rural water-supply and village roads be reduced by Rs. 100.'

"My object in moving this motion is this: I wish to invite the attention of the Government to the undoubted fact that any responsible Government is expected to do as much good as possible to the majority of their subjects who are living in rural areas. It is therefore highly necessary that the needs of the village population should be attended to in very great earnest. The present condition of the villages in some rural areas is hopelessly bad. It is our duty to keep communications in good condition. The people in very many villages have no roads and communications to go to their adjacent villages. The sanitation is very bad in some villages owing to want of proper water-supply. On the whole, many villages suffer very much for want of public health and convenience though the masses in rural areas have been given political powers to vote and select representatives to all councils. Further, the lion's share of the Government revenue is from rural areas and it is therefore indispensably necessary that the condition of the village life should be improved as much as possible. The special attention of the Government is also drawn to the following facts. So far as Tinnevely district is concerned, in certain portions of the rural areas, there are no branch roads to some villages from the trunk roads or other main roads and consequently the communications are retarded. The manures and foodstuffs cannot easily be taken to their villages. In some villages, the people are not able to use manure at all to their fields for want of communications with the result that there will be no proper yield in their fields. The people suffer very much and depend solely on their adjacent villages for food-stuffs and the consequence is that the prices of food grains are increasing and famine will result from it. In some portions of the rural areas, there are no good roads to the villages either from the trunk roads or from other main roads. This causes much inconvenience to the people of those villages who have to go in a roundabout way to the main roads from their villages by cart-tracts. The funds of the district boards and taluk boards are not sufficient to meet the requirements of the people.

"During fasli 1333 (1st July 1923 to 30th June 1924) very heavy rains fell in Tinnevely district about December 1923, when the Tambaraparan river rose in heavy floods. There were breaches in several tanks and there were considerable damages to the fields and roads. During 1925 also there was heavy rain and some portions of the roads in the rural areas were affected very much. The chief portions of the main roads affected

29th March 1926] [Mr. K. Chavadi Subramania Pillai]

by the breaches are above and below Srivaikuntam and Marudur anicuts. Almost all the portions of the Tinnevely-Tiruchendur road were washed away. The road from Tinnevely to Sankaranayanarkoil was also very much damaged by the breaches in the Chittar river and many other roads had also the same fate. These damaged portions of the roads were temporarily repaired by the local boards. To bring all of them to their original condition means spending lot of money which the taluk boards or the district boards are not at present able to do for want of funds. These roads as well as the branch roads in rural areas should be repaired permanently. The road leading to Trivandrum high road from Palamcottah was alone repaired by the district board during His Excellency's visit. The other roads were not properly repaired by them for want of funds. There should be a grant of at least 3 lakhs of rupees to repair these roads. The hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government is kindly requested to devote his personal attention to this branch of work and place necessary funds at the disposal of the local boards and see that the existing trunk roads and other main roads and the roads in rural areas are completely repaired at Government cost, as the local boards are not now in a position to do the work themselves or at least to contribute anything for it.

"Now, coming to water-supply in rural areas, the people require wells in many villages. There are now drinking water wells in some villages which are not sufficient to meet the requirements of the people of those villages. In many villages, I have personally seen the people bathing and washing their clothes in dirty water stagnating in large pits by rains and they also sometimes use that useless water for drinking purposes. This water is full of germs and there is no wonder they are attacked by various epidemic diseases. Improvements on these lines are indispensable and the hon. Minister is required to allot liberal grants for sinking wells in all the villages which require them or for opening tube wells at least in their places with a view to facilitate the supply of good drinking water to the villages in the rural areas. The grant for rural water-supply and village sanitation should be recurring.

"As regards the distribution of grants to local bodies, I would request the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government to take into account the resources of the districts as well as their needs. All the district boards and taluk boards are not equally rich. There are some poor boards like the Tinnevely Board which should be treated in a fairer way. I am at a loss to know the principles adopted by Government in distributing grants to local bodies. What I would like to suggest is that an advisory committee consisting of some official and non-official members of the Council should be appointed for distribution of grants to the local bodies. They should deeply consider the financial status of all the local bodies in this Presidency, their resources and needs and distribute grants in proportion to the present condition of the local bodies. The hon. the Minister is kindly requested to do the needful."

Mr. D. MANJAYYA HEGGADE :—" Sir, I beg to move

'that the allotment of Rs. 12,50,000 for additional grants to local bodies for rural water-supply and village roads be reduced by Rs. 100.'

"The scheme to grant aid to rural dispensaries has gone far, no doubt, to bring medical aid to the doors of the people in rural areas; but . . ."

[29th March 1926]

* The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL :—" May I point out, Sir, that this motion is out of order because the grants asked for are not connected with the establishment or the introduction of rural dispensaries, but relate to public health and vital statistics and to village communications."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" This grant is for public health and vital statistics. It does not include rural dispensaries."

Mr. D. MANJAYYA HEGGADE :—" It does include, Sir ?"

* The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL :—" No. This is only about village water-supply schemes ; but the question is . . ."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" I am afraid I must rule it out of order ; as also Mr. Raghuchandra Ballal's motion."

* Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—" May I request the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government to give us some idea of the distribution of the grants among the different districts, to give us, if he has prepared, a statement of the grants for each district, showing how the total was come to ?"

Mr. T. M. NARAYANASWAMI PILLAI :—" May I know, Sir, the considerations or principles which have influenced the distribution of these grants ?"

* The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL :—" Sir, the Government quite realize the necessity for improving the village communications and village water-supply schemes. They also realize that it is high time that something should be done to give greater facilities for water-supply in the rural areas. It is with this object in view that the Government provided for these grants in the current year and it is also with the same object that they propose to have this grant repeated for the next year. Properly speaking, the improvement of village communications and village water-supply forms the concern of local boards. However, as the hon. Member from Tinnevely has pointed out, the financial position of most local boards is not as satisfactory as it should be, and the Government are of opinion that they should encourage them by giving these grants. Sir, the hon. Members from South Kanara and Trichinopoly have asked whether there are any principles in making these grants. I have only to tell them that, generally speaking, each taluk board is given Rs. 10,000—Rs. 5,000 for water-supply schemes and Rs. 5,000 for village communications. Normally local boards are expected to supplement an equivalent amount and have the schemes executed. As I have already stated, in case these local boards carry out pending schemes and are in need of more funds, the Government will consider such cases and give them further grants about June this year."

The demand was put to the House and carried and the grant was made.

Demand XL—Agriculture.

* The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir T. N. SIVAGNANAM PILLAI :—" Sir, on the recommendation of His Excellency the Governor, I beg to move
'that Government be granted a sum not exceeding Rs. 79,500 under Agriculture.'

"This amount was provided in the current year's budget for the acquisition of land required for a paddy-breeding station in Malabar. The

[29th March 1926]

[Sir T. N. Sivagnanam Pillai]

acquisition proceedings were expected to be finished before the close of this year, but it is now found that they will not be closed until some time in the beginning of the next year. Hence, I propose to surrender this amount this year and bring in the further demand for the next year."

* Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—" Sir, before the question is voted upon, I should like to know from the hon. the Development Minister in what respects paddy cultivation in that particular area is suffering, and how the new station he proposes to establish there is calculated to improve the yield. My point is this, Sir. If the cultivation there is being carried on in the very best possible way and if there is not very much to teach the cultivators, then it may not be worth while to establish a station there and spend large amounts of money on that. I find, Sir, that Mr. Krishnan Nayar wants to reply to me ; but I would rather prefer the hon. the Development Minister, who presumably knows more about it than even my friend, to do it."

* Diwan Bahadur M. KRISHNAN NAYAR :—" Sir, of course the hon. the Development Minister will reply to my friend ; and as he quite rightly pointed out, the Development Minister knows and is expected to know very much more than a Member from Malabar ; but as a Member coming from Malabar, I may give some particulars for the information of my friend. In the first place, Sir, the origin of this farm arose from the frequent reports of the head of the Agricultural Department. The Director of Agriculture reported for many years, year after year, that the whole of the quantity of paddy produced in Malabar was not sufficient for the consumption of the people of Malabar for even six months. There is an idea abroad, Sir, that Malabar is a large rice producing country and that it is a fertile land. No doubt it has a fertile soil and it is a rice producing district in the Presidency ; but it has been shown by statistics that the whole quantity of paddy produced in one year in Malabar is not sufficient for the consumption of the people of the district even for six months. So, the Director was stating that it was possible with improved methods of paddy cultivation and adoption of improved seeds that the existing production could be increased considerably. Therefore he recommended, as I submitted already, in his reports year after year that a paddy farm should be established somewhere in South Malabar which has more paddy cultivation than North Malabar. Moreover, Lord Pentland while he was Governor of this Presidency visited Taliparamba and made an endorsement in the visitors' book supporting the recommendation of the department. Subsequently, a motion was moved in this Council recommending to the Government the establishment of a paddy farm in South Malabar and that motion, I believe, was carried without any opposition. I do not remember whether my friend the Member for Bellary took part in the debate.

"Knowing as I do the great interest that he takes in the welfare of the people, particularly of the agricultural population of the Presidency, it is very likely that he would have taken part in the discussion on this subject. And it was in accordance with a vote of this Council that it was resolved that a paddy farm should be opened in Malabar. It is in accordance with the resolution of this Council that the hon. the Minister for Development came forward with a demand last year for money. As the hon. Minister has stated, acquisition proceedings are not expected to be over during the current year, and therefore it is proposed to surrender this amount."

[Mr. M. Krishnan Nayar]

[29th March 1926]

"In this connexion I have one word to say against the hon. the Development Minister. And that is this. The question came before the Agricultural Advisory Committee in August last and some members including myself, and my hon. Friend Mr. Tampan made certain suggestions with reference to the farm. The hon. Minister then said that if the suggestions were adopted, the money could not be spent in the current year and that he wanted to spend the money in August. He said that he could not agree to the suggestions on that ground. I am now surprised that though all the months from August to December have passed the hon. Minister was not able to spend the money. Now that the hon. Minister comes forward with a demand for the next year, I do not oppose it."

* The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir T. N. SIVAGNANAM PILLAI :—" Sir, my hon. Friend, Mr. Krishnan Nayar, has already referred to the various points which I should myself have referred to. As he comes from the Malabar district, he knows all that could be said about it. I will only add that among the several districts in the Presidency, Tanjore comes first as a big paddy producing district, next comes Kistna and the third is Malabar. It is on that account that Malabar was chosen. I request that the grant may be passed."

* Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—" May I have some idea about the initial cost and the recurring expenditure? "

The demand was put and carried and the grant made.

Demand XLI.

* The hon. Mr. T. E. MOIR :—" Sir, I move

'that the Government be granted a sum not exceeding Rs. 2,73,100 under Demand XLI.'

"This is purely a book transfer. The necessity for this demand arises from this fact, namely, that owing to a mistake in the construction of section 41 of the Indian Civil Service Act, various appointments including the 'listed' posts which were held by Provincial Civil Service officers were treated as non-voted. The departments failed to observe that such classifications depended on the framing of rules under that clause and section of the Civil Services Act and that those rules had not yet been framed. Accordingly such transfer of these posts from voted to non-voted cannot take place until the rules are promulgated and they come into force. In the meantime the provision in the budget for the coming year must be shown under the 'voted' and not under the 'non-voted' head. It will be necessary therefore in the final edition of the budget to transfer the amount shown under these different grants from the 'non-voted' to the 'voted' head. I move therefore that the demand be granted."

The demand was put and carried and the grant made.

Demand XLII.

* The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—" Sir, on the recommendation of His Excellency the Governor, I move

'that the Government be granted a sum of Rs. 3,500 for additional staff in the Secretariat on account of the elections.'

The demand was put and carried and the grant made.

The House rose for lunch.

29th March 1926]

After Lunch (2-35 p.m.).

VIII

DISCUSSION ON THE REPORT OF THE PUBLIC ACCOUNTS COMMITTEE.

* The hon. Mr. T. E. MOIR :—" Mr. President, Sir, I move

'that the Report of the Public Accounts Committee on the Audit and Appropriation Reports on the accounts of the Government of Madras for 1924-25 be taken into consideration.'"

* The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—" I second it."

* Diwan Bahadur M. KRISHNAN NAYAR :—" Sir, I wish to make some observations on this report, and firstly I shall deal with the financial state of the Presidency as disclosed in the report itself. It seems to me, Sir, that the financial outlook is not very bright. As has been shown in the report—figures are given in the report till last year—ever since the introduction of the Reforms the budgets in this Presidency have been deficit budgets, and we have seen also in the recent budget discussion that for the year which is now to close, namely, 1925-26, and for the year which is about to commence, namely, 1926-27, the prospects are also gloomy. They are also deficit budgets. For the next year, 1926-27, there is a deficit of about Rs. 76 lakhs and odd which has been reduced to about Rs. 26 lakhs by the remission of a portion of our contributions, to the central coffers, to the extent of about Rs. 57 lakhs. The deficits are not of very small figures. For instance, in 1921-22 it was about Rs. 108 lakhs; the next year, 1922-23, it was about Rs. 17 lakhs and odd; in the next year, 1923-24, it was Rs. 9 lakhs and odd; in 1924-25, that is, the year with which the report deals, the deficit was Rs. 29 lakhs and odd; and for the year that is about to commence, namely, 1926-27, the deficit is about Rs. 76 lakhs, or in one sense Rs. 26 lakhs and odd. Looking to our income, it does not seem to be very elastic. Practically it seems to me that we have reached more or less the maximum of the revenue that we may expect for the future. For, the most important of the items that yield revenue are these three items, Land Revenue, Excise and Stamps. The income under these three items together, under Land Revenue, Excise and Stamps, constitutes a very large portion, that is, about 88 per cent or 89 per cent of our total revenue of Rs. 16 crores. And the income under these three heads is, I submit, quite inelastic. For the land revenue has been steadily rising; from about Rs. 5 crores or so about 25 years ago, it has come to more or less the maximum figure that we can expect."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" I am sorry to interrupt the hon. Member, but he seems to be making a speech on the budget."

* Diwan Bahadur M. KRISHNAN NAYAR :—" May I submit that these matters are contained and are dealt with in this report? "

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" That may be so. Those are only incidental to the report. The Committee on Public Accounts in coming to its decisions in regard to the Audit and Appropriation reports on the accounts of the Government for the year 1924-25 have necessarily to review the finances of the Presidency. I think any speech on the report of the Public Accounts Committee ought to confine itself to the remarks of the Committee in regard to the audit and appropriation in the finance of that year. Merely

[The President]

[29th March 1926]

because the report mentions or gives a statement reviewing the finances of the Presidency, I do not think it is open to hon. Members to make another budget speech on the finances of the Presidency."

* Diwan Bahadur M. KRISHNAN NAYAR :—" As a matter of fact, the report under consideration, if it is bereft of the remarks of the Accountant-General and also of the Committee dealing with these budget items, can be reduced to one page or two pages. Practically it is the Accountant-General that reviews. It is the Accountant-General that submits this appropriation report to the Committee. And it is the Committee that has considered it and passed it. So that practically the observations of the Accountant-General in this appropriation and audit report cover, may I say, more than three-fourths of the report, and it is upon this basis, upon the report of the Accountant-General that the Committee have come to their conclusions, and in the speeches on this report we naturally have to refer to the conclusions of the Committee, which themselves are based upon the Accountant-General's report; and it is not possible to refer to the conclusions of the Committee or agree with them or differ from them or in any way criticize them, adversely or favourably, without reference to the basis on which they themselves based their conclusions. And may I say that in the past year and in the year before last the discussion on the report of the Public Accounts Committee ranged over a very wide ground? If you rule that I should not make a speech, I shall sit down."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" My main object in calling the attention of the hon. Member to the point that I raised was to make the discussion on the report real, namely, to confine all remarks to the observations made by the Committee in regard to audit and appropriation. If speeches on the general financial position of the country were relevant, we should be once more inaugurating a general budget discussion, I may also point out that the Committee on Public Accounts has nothing to do with either the levying of taxation or with its expenditure. What the Committee is concerned with is to see that money is spent according to the decisions of the Council. If the hon. Member wants to use his statements in regard to the general financial position as just a preface or introduction to his remarks on the observations made by the Public Accounts Committee, I would certainly allow him to do so. But if he is taking this opportunity to review the general financial situation of the country, I must enter a caveat against that procedure."

2-45
p.m.

* Diwan Bahadur M. KRISHNAN NAYAR :—" Whether I agree with you or not, of course I am bound by your ruling. But before you finally give your ruling, may I submit this, Sir? The whole report of the Committee itself is based upon the observations of the Accountant-General and he himself deals with the finances of the Presidency. In fact, it is referred to in this report and the report contains very large extracts from his report on appropriation. He not only refers to the particular financial year but he refers to the finances of the previous years and makes observations on the finances of those years. My point is this. As I began, the financial outlook of the Presidency is not very good and it is necessary for us to take particular care as to how we handle this. That is the point on which I was about to speak. The Council discussed at length the whole question last year and the year before last. So that with your leave I shall proceed to develop the first point, viz., that land revenue, the most important item of revenue which we have, has come to the end of its resources and that practically we have reached

29th March 1926]

[Mr. M. Krishnan Nayar]

the maximum. With reference to excise, as the hon. the Finance Member himself stated we have reached the maximum, and it seems to me that having regard to the various activities of the public outside the Council and of the Members within the Council and the movement and activities of the temperance reformers, it is not possible to have a higher figure than that which we have already had. As the figures show we have reached the maximum that we can have and the hon. the Finance Member has expressed the same view. Then with regard to stamps—which is one of the three items which go to make up 88 per cent of our revenues—as a matter of fact the rate was enhanced in 1922 and since then it has risen to an extent of 55 lakhs. A similar amount is also provided now and we cannot get more than that. On the other hand our expenditure seems to me to be increasing steadily. With reference to the General Administration, I shall not give the figures but shall go on making my observations as the figures are in the appropriation reports. With reference to General Administration, the Administration of Police and the Administration of Justice there is a steady increase and it is not likely to decrease."

* The hon. Mr. T. E. MOIR :—" On a point of order, Mr. President. The probable expenditures are not in this report. The hon. Member is comparing the expenditure in 1924-25 with the expenditure for the current year and the expenditure of future years. That is a matter which is entirely beyond the scope of the report which is now before the House. When the report of the coming year comes before the House it may be permissible to refer to the fact that such and such increase has been made in the current year compared with past years. But I would ask your ruling, Sir, as to whether it is permissible on this report to deal with figures with which this report has no concern whatsoever. Our appropriation and audit reports deal entirely with and are confined exclusively to the accounts of 1924-25. They have nothing to do with the accounts of the current year, still less with the accounts of the coming year."

* Diwan Bahadur M. KRISHNAN NAYAR :—" The observations that I have made stand good, thoroughly good, even if reference to the current year and the next year is made."

* The hon. Mr. T. E. MOIR :—" On a point of order, Sir. I was not questioning the correctness or the accuracy. I was merely questioning the relevancy."

* Diwan Bahadur M. KRISHNAN NAYAR :—" Even so far as relevancy is concerned, even if I omit the reference to future years, all that I have submitted for the past years will go a great way in strengthening my case. I shall take the standard set up by my hon. Friend and quote the observations with regard to the years 1921-22, 1922-23 and 1923-24. With reference to all these three years the report deals exhaustively. Reference is made there to past years and I take it that my friend does not object to past years. If even these are omitted, there is nothing in the report. So that it seems to me that in 1924-25 we have reached the maximum of our revenues. On the other hand our expenditure is steadily increasing. That observation holds good for 1924-25 and past years."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" But my objection has not yet been met by the hon. Member. What has the Public Accounts Committee to do with the income and expenditure which has been sanctioned by the whole Council?"

[29th March 1926]

* Diwan Bahadur M. KRISHNAN NAYAR :—"The Accountant-General has dealt with the subject."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—"The Accountant-General has still less jurisdiction over the finances of the Presidency. The sanctioning of the income and expenditure is a power which rests with the Council. What the Accountant-General and the Council has to see is that the expenditure authorized by the Council is properly spent by Government. The hon. Member should confine himself to the remarks of the Public Accounts Committee."

* Diwan Bahadur M. KRISHNAN NAYAR :—"With reference to my observations I submit this. The duty, the scope and the function of the Accountant-General is to deal with the appropriation. How can anybody deal with appropriation except by dealing with the figures, figures of income and expenditure? How can that be done?"

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—"If the hon. Member referred to income and expenditure, I will have no quarrel. He is raising the whole question of policy with which neither the Public Accounts Committee nor the Accountant-General has anything to do."

* Diwan Bahadur M. KRISHNAN NAYAR :—"The Accountant-General is an expert. He has dealt with the income and expenditure in detail."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—"He can do it in so far as that has been sanctioned by the Legislative Council."

* Diwan Bahadur M. KRISHNAN NAYAR :—"Yes, in dealing with the sanction he says this should be done. If it is done otherwise, these will be the dangers. That is the way in which the Accountant-General and the Public Accounts Committee have proceeded. It is with inconvenience to me that I am speaking. If discussion is not wanted, I will be too glad to resume my seat."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—"My business is to see that the discussion is relevant. It is the report of the Public Accounts Committee that is before the House and not the general financial policy of the Presidency."

* Diwan Bahadur M. KRISHNAN NAYAR :—"At page 4 of this report the Committee begins a quotation from the Accountant-General's report. The report itself says: 'The Accountant-General reviews the finances of the Presidency in paragraphs 24 to 39 of his appropriation report which are reproduced below. Then the extracts are reproduced.'"

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—"Finances as settled by this Council."

* Diwan Bahadur M. KRISHNAN NAYAR :—"Exactly, Sir, the appropriation report has to deal with the finances as settled by the Council. The Accountant-General deals with the appropriation report with reference to the finances as settled by the Council. So that if either in the report of the Accountant-General or in the report of the Accounts Committee of this Council no reference can be made to the appropriations and to the grants that have been sanctioned in the Council, discussion then becomes a nullity and an unreality. As I said Accountant-General's observations are quoted in pages 4 to 11 with reference to these points. If the Accountant-General cannot deal with these things how can he deal with the finances of the Presidency? In his appropriation report that is what he has done. If that is taken away there is nothing practically in the appropriation report. Practically the whole of the appropriation report is a review of the finances

29th March 1926]

[Mr. M. Krishnan Nayar]

of the Presidency. That is what the Committee has discussed and recommended. That is what is reproduced from paragraphs 24 to 39. The Committee further says:

"The Committee endorses the opinions expressed by the Accountant-General at the end of paragraphs 35 and 38 of his report and trusts that the Government will see that the resources of the Presidency are not frittered away by the expenditure of capital upon unproductive purposes."

"What is this except commenting upon the appropriation of this Council? I have no desire even to seem to differ from your ruling. All that I would submit is this. If we are permitted neither in the Public Accounts Committee nor in the report of the Accountant-General, to refer to the question of general finances."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—"My objection was only to raising the question of financial policy of Government and the Council. The hon. Member is certainly competent to review the remarks of the Accountant-General or of the Committee in reference to the appropriation of the expenditure. He is quite competent to do that. But he cannot raise general questions of financial policy."

* Diwan Bahadur M. KRISHNAN NAYAR :—"It is with reference to that that I wish to draw your attention. The Committee endorses the opinion of the Accountant-General at the end of paragraphs 35 and 38 of his report and trusts that the Government will see that the resources of the Presidency are not frittered away by the expenditure of capital upon unproductive purposes."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—"Remarks on the appropriation of expenditure are quite legitimate."

* Diwan Bahadur M. KRISHNAN NAYAR :—"No, it is not with the appropriation that the Accountant-General makes the remark. He says that the Government should see that the resources of the Presidency are not frittered away. It is not with reference to the resources of the Presidency alone. He trusts that the Government will insist upon all heads of offices exercising such control as to ensure that the spirit of financial rules is rigidly applied and to follow the principle that no financial rule should by being vaguely worded constitute a financial danger and invite laxity in interpretation. So that I was submitting that our expenditure on all these important subjects, General Administration, Administration of Police, Jails and other heads is rapidly increasing and in the words of the Accountant-General it is necessary that we should take very great care to see that the finances of the Presidency are not frittered away. The commitments that we have made are very large. With reference to the Andhra University Act we have committed ourselves to fifty lakhs."

* The hon. Mr. T. E. MOIR :—"What has the Andhra University which 3 p.m. is provided for in the budget of 1925-26 got to do with the accounts of the year 1924-25?"

* Diwan Bahadur M. KRISHNAN NAYAR :—"I shall answer in the words of the Accountant-General. He refers to this identical aspect, and my hon. Friend, as Chairman of the Public Accounts Committee, did not say that the Accountant-General went out of his way and ought not to have made those remarks, because I do not see any remarks to that effect in this report of the Public Accounts Committee. In paragraph 39 of the Appropriation Report, the Accountant-General says: 'Government have roughly estimated the cost

[Mr. M. Krishnan Nayar] [29th March 1926]

of the proposed Andhra University at Rs. 50 lakhs non-recurring and at about Rs. 1½ lakhs net recurring. The question of the contribution from public revenues to the cost is not yet ripe for decision, and so on; so that if my hon. Friend thought that the contribution to the Andhra University has no place in a discussion on appropriations relating to finance, he ought to have found fault with the Accountant-General."

* The hon. Mr. T. E. MOIR:—"I said in relation to the finances of the year 1924-25."

* Diwan Bahadur M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—"It was with reference to the finances of the year 1924-25 that the Accountant-General made those remarks, and not with reference to any other year, and my hon. Friend, as Chairman of the Finance Committee, himself an expert on matters of finance."

* The hon. Mr. T. E. MOIR:—"May I explain that this report was not dealt with in the Finance Committee?"

* Diwan Bahadur M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—"My hon. Friend certainly should not take advantage of a slip. I did not mean the Finance Committee. Probably he regards it as an advantage gained against me. What I meant was the Public Accounts Committee. What I was saying was that he himself an expert in matters of finance, as Chairman of the Public Accounts Committee, did not find fault with the report of the Accountant-General in dealing with this matter in his appropriation report. But for these interruptions, I would have finished my speech by this time. What I was going to submit was that, with reference to various matters, not only regarding Andhra University—I referred only to this particular matter in the course of my observations—but also education and grants to local bodies the Accountant-General has made his remarks. He says in fact that a very large amount amounting to about 9 per cent of our total finances is given to local bodies to assist them in the matter of water-supply, sanitation, etc."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT:—"Were they not all made under the authority of the Council?"

* The hon. Mr. T. E. MOIR:—"These come under the Local Self-Government Department and these accounts are audited by the Local Fund Audit."

* Diwan Bahadur M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—"As a matter of fact, they are made under the authority of this Council. In fact, if they were not made by this Council, no observations could be made on them. Here again, I shall quote from the Accountant-General's report which deals with appropriations, and the Accountant-General has nothing to do except with appropriations. He says in paragraph 33 of his report: 'Nearly 9 per cent of the revenues are disposed of in this manner.' In fact, this is one among many items, so that what I wish to submit is that a large portion of our finance is spent on local bodies. Again elementary education, public buildings and communications and other things are also referred to in his report. They are no doubt necessary for the convenience of the people and progress of the country. But we must cut our coat according to the cloth. In addition to these, we have large commitments. There is reference also in the Accountant-General's report that we have committed ourselves very largely to heavy loan transactions with reference, for instance, to the Pykara Electric scheme, where the commitment amounts to nearly Rs. 200 lakhs—the exact figure is Rs. 193 lakhs. Again, with reference to the Cauvery-Mettur project

[29th March 1926] [Mr. M. Krishnan Nayar]

we have committed ourselves to Rs. 6 crores, and it may come to very much more than Rs. 6 crores, and the Polavaram Island project of Rs. 18½ lakhs is also referred to by the Accountant-General. There are so many other schemes. All these things are rapidly increasing, and there is our loan fund also referred to in the Budget. I shall not refer to what took place about it at the budget discussion. I believe it comes to Rs. 1,200 lakhs. A portion of it, I know, is not repayable, and on another portion we shall be able to realize interest from those to whom we have ourselves lent. But we have to pay interest on the whole of this amount and then we have to pay back also a portion, Rs. 9 lakhs a year, so that with reference to the payment of interest on the total loan account and a part of the debt itself we have to spend a very large sum. I am not shutting my eyes to a possible answer to this question, namely, that the Pykara and the Mettur projects are expected to bring in large amounts as profits in future. They may be, but they are speculations. It may be that all our speculations, calculations and suppositions may not be realized. We do not know when they will be realized, so that it is only a matter for the future. So far as the present is concerned, what I submit is that the financial position of the Government—I do not say it must cause a feeling of despair because there are silver linings in the cloud—must make us anxious and careful in dealing with all these schemes, and it looks rather gloomy. I shall not dwell more upon this, though I wanted to say very much more, having regard though not actually to your ruling which I shall respect but to your idea on the matter.

"Another matter that I wish to refer to is this: as the Finance report shows, various departments, not only one department, seem to be remiss in the matter of spending all the amounts that are actually entrusted to them. For instance, I find in the year under review a large amount of Rs. 63 lakhs and odd out of the grants made by this Council was not actually spent by the departments concerned, and in this matter not only one department but many departments are at fault. The various departments which have not spent the whole of the amount that was allotted to them, and the amounts that were actually spent by them are all given at page 19 of this report of the Public Accounts Committee. The Revenue Department, the Excise Department and almost all other departments are guilty in this respect, and the total amount unspent in the year under report is Rs. 63 lakhs. I submit that my hon. Friend the Finance Member should pull up these departments and make them spend as much as possible, spend legitimately and satisfactorily, the whole amount that is allotted to them, the effect of which will be to increase the progress of the country.

"Then, with reference to departmental control itself over the expenditure what we find in this: we find that the heads of departments have some times no accurate knowledge of the actual amounts which are appropriated by the Council and other competent authorities. In most of these cases they are non-voted. Some heads of departments do not know the exact amounts. This may lead to serious consequences. It is not only one department that is guilty of this. They are referred to at some length in some portions of the report of the Accountant-General. For instance, the Chief Conservator and the Department of Education."

* The hon. Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. PATRO:—"What about the Education Department?"

[29th March 1926]

* Diwan Bahadur M. KRISHNAN NAYAR :—" My hon. Friend cannot say he does not err. If he errs at all it is with many other departments."

* The hon. Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. PATRO :—" We do not want to err."

* Diwan Bahadur M. KRISHNAN NAYAR :—" I am sure my hon. Friend does not want to err. As a matter of fact, none of us want to err. But in spite of that we very often do err, and when we do err, others have to point it out."

* The hon. Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. PATRO :—" With regard to the point about which the hon. Member was speaking, page 19 of the report says that under 'XVIII. Education' there has been saving of only Rs. 9,950 out of a Budget of Rs. 1½ crores."

* Diwan Bahadur M. KRISHNAN NAYAR :—" I have finished that point already. What I am now at is this: that some of those departmental heads have no idea of the actual amounts allotted to them, and consequently they spend over their departments' amounts without any adequate idea of how much they are to spend."

* The hon. Mr. T. E. MOIR :—" I may ask the hon. Member one question in connexion with his remark that the heads of departments do not know the amounts that have been placed at their disposal. I should like him to point out those departments."

* Diwan Bahadur M. KRISHNAN NAYAR :—" At page 24 of the Public Accounts Committee report we find: 'The Chief Conservator of Forests reported that the final appropriation under "Conservancy and Works" according to his figures was Rs. 16,86,579 while the correct figure was Rs. 16,96,860.' There is a difference of about Rs. 10,000. With reference to other matters, other departments are referred to in paragraph 76 of the Accountant-General's report, such as the Director of Public Instruction and the Commissioner for Government Examinations. My point is this: very often there is a difference between the figures both of expenditure and of appropriations as given by departmental heads, and the corresponding figures for those identical items as shown in the books of the Accountant-General. There will be no danger if the departmental head is under the impression that he has only one lakh whereas he really has more than one lakh; if he thus spends less, the balance will accrue to the finances. But if the impression happens to be otherwise, namely, that he has Rs. 1½ lakhs while he has only one lakh of rupees it may lead to serious consequences. I find that the Accountant-General has referred to these, and I find also that the Government has found out the importance of this, and they have directed that hereafter there should be monthly reconciliation both of expenditure and of appropriation of the amounts spent by the heads of departments and the amounts entered in the Accountant-General's books. I find also that the Government have passed an order by which what is called departmental control is introduced with effect from 1st April 1925 in reference to departments excepting Public Works and Forest departments. With reference to these departments a scheme of departmental supervision has been introduced with effect from 1st April 1926, and I echo the observations of the Public Accounts Committee that hereafter at least, with reference to future years at all events, by reason of the orders the Government have passed, there will be improvement."

29th March 1926] [Mr. M. Krishnan Nayar]

"Then I wish to make some observations regarding certain institutions with reference to which the system of commercial accounts has been introduced by the Government. For instance, with reference to the Russellkonda Mill and with reference to many other institutions, the Government have introduced a system of commercial accounts. The Accountant-General's observations commence from paragraph 56 of the report and here and there the Committee make their observations. Now the Russellkonda Saw Mill is a thing in which my hon. Friend, the Home Member, is particularly interested. What happened with reference to this saw mill was this. The Accountant-General deals with it in pages 65 and 66 and the Committee also have made certain observations. The scheme with reference to this saw mill was disallowed by this Council—I believe it was in 1921. It was restored by the certification of His Excellency Lord Willingdon, the then Governor. It was under such auspices that the scheme was inaugurated and this mill unfortunately has been working at a loss all along. There was not a single year in which the scheme brought in any profit. For instance, the loss incurred during the last three years, i.e., up to 1923-24 is Rs. 12,475 and in this amount is not included interest on capital amount. If we add the interest, it comes to Rs. 88,000 and odd. The result has been that the mill has not been working since April 1925. The matter came up before the Forest Advisory Committee. I understand that they have said that if Government will give the mill timber at a particular rate, for a period of six months, the mill may work, and at the end of six months the position will be examined again, and, if the Government think that it is undesirable and unnecessary to continue it further, the whole thing will be turned down. I shall leave the matter there."

"With reference to the Chaliyam cannery, we have heard a great deal about it. The Accountant-General refers to it, as also the Committee. We have heard a great deal at question time about the Chaliyam factory. It was stated that preserved mackerel and other kinds of fish were accumulating in tins and that fish preserved becomes better, the longer it is kept. On the other hand we see that the authorities have ordered the destruction of some of these and the value of these tins is lost. I hope my hon. Friend, the Development Minister, will look into the matter and close the whole establishment. As a matter of fact, this concern has always been ending in loss. For instance, during 1924-25, the year under report, 10,857 tins were ordered to be written off."

"Then the Mount Stuart Forest scheme. I have not much to say against it. I find it has been procuring profits, though in the particular year under report it has not been so satisfactory. The net result in 1924-25 was a loss of Rs. 1,800. The accounts are not ready for 1925-26. But the scheme has been on the whole procuring profit."

"With reference to the Nilambur Forest scheme, I am very glad to see that it has always brought profit; it has never ended in loss."

"With reference to Government Cinchona plantations, I find profit in the years before 1925-26 on an average of 3 lakhs. In one year, it was 4 lakhs; in 1921-22, it was nearly Rs. 3,97,000; in 1922-23, it was Rs. 3,83,000. In the next year 1923-24, it was very nearly three lakhs. For the year 1924-25 we have not got the figure. With reference to this we heard a

[Mr. M. Krishnan Nayar] [29th March 1926]

great deal during the budget discussion. I hope my hon. Friend, the Home Member, will see the desirability of distributing quinine on a larger scale and at a much cheaper rate.

"Then, I shall refer to Chenai Nair forest exploitation. This has not been actually brought under commercial account. The department itself is dealing with it. This scheme was introduced in 1919 and it has always been working at a loss, and it never brought any profit at all. For instance, the accounts up to 31st March 1922 disclose a loss of more than 1 lakh. And then, next year 1922-23 shows a further loss of nearly Rs. 66,000. Then again in 1923-24, there is a further loss of more than 1 lakh. And last year, a costly mill has been installed, and a costly establishment of officers drawing large amounts of pay have been employed in the mill. Let us hope that it will not again end in failure. Speaking for myself I am not quite so hopeful. What is more, Mr. Martin had made a calculation of the probable output of timber for each acre of the Chenai Nair forest. His calculation was that 40 tons of timber could be extracted from 1 acre. But this has not been realized. So, I hope the hon. the Home Member who is in charge of the Forest department—I know he recently visited this mill and the Doni valley—will keep a particular eye upon this scheme. I shall not deal with the other schemes brought under report.

"With reference to the various financial irregularities referred to in the report, I shall not deal with them at length. The report shows that there have been misappropriations in two instances in the Agricultural department, in one instance by a magisterial clerk and in another instance by a treasury clerk. The last case related to the payment of a malikhana pension twice and the amount on one of the payments was misappropriated. However vigilant the Government may be, misappropriations will take place, so long as there is dishonesty in the world. But, as the Committee rightly points out if the departmental heads observed the rules properly, some of the irregularities would not have taken place. If the officers concerned exercise vigilance such things are not likely to take place.

"In the Jail department it has been observed that there was some unnecessary waste. I shall not refer to it now.

"My hon. Friend, the Finance Member, brought before the Council this morning one motion for the sanction of the Council with reference to an excess grant under 'Stationery and Printing—Transferred.' I thought my friend might reasonably have brought another item (at page 20 of the report) under 'Forests.' The excess amount spent under 'Forests' was Rupees 12,000 and odd. The Committee makes some observations. The Accountant-General considers that the vote of the Council is necessary to regularize the expenditure. The Committee think that no sanction of the Council is necessary. With very great respect to the Members of the Committee, I may say that I differ from them and agree with the Accountant-General. However it is merely a matter of opinion.

"I do not want to take up more of the time of the Council. May I say one word in conclusion. I have carefully gone through the report of the Committee, and if it will not be disrespectful on my part to say so, it is on the whole a very excellent report, and it bears ample testimony in its pages to the considerable attention paid to the details, and without any disparagement to the other Members of the Committee who of course are all Members

[29th March 1926] [Mr. M. Krishnan Nayar]

of this Council and who I take it—I mean no disrespect to them—are not experts in financial matters, the only experts in the Committee being my hon. Friend the Finance Member and the Finance Secretary, Mr. Boag, may I say, as I stated before, the report is very carefully drawn up, and is the result of careful attention, on the part of the Finance Member and the Finance Secretary. I only hope that the several observations and conclusions made in the report to which I have referred now—I have referred only to a very small portion; there are some conclusions of the Committee with which I do agree and there are others with which I do not agree—will receive particular attention of Government and that they will draw the constant attention of the heads of departments to them.

"I omitted to touch on one other point, Sir. I find in one page the conduct of a particular Government official. The name of the official is not given there, and so I am free to criticise him. That is with reference to the travelling expenditure drawn by a particular head of the department who was acting only for one month. This is what we find at page 53. 'A certain Government officer while officiating as the head of his department for one month was continuously on tour throughout the officiating period.' And then the cost of his touring during that one month was one thousand and odd rupees, whereas the amount of monthly travelling allowance drawn by the permanent head of the department for whom he was officiating was only about Rs. 320. Practically he covered 584 miles by road, drawing more than Rs. 400 for that." (A voice: 'Which is that officer.')

* The hon. the PRESIDENT:—"Names are not at all necessary."

* Diwan Bahadur M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—"Even if I wanted it is not in my power. I hope the Government will consider whether he is fit to be appointed again as the head of the department."

* Mr. J. A. SALDANHA:—"I only want to draw the attention of this House and of the hon. Ministers concerned to a recommendation contained in the report which does not take into account certain principles that should guide the future policy of the Government in regard to certain industrial institutions. On page 67 of the report this is what they say regarding the Government Fisheries Cannery at Chaliyam—

"The Committee considers that the position of the cannery is unsatisfactory owing to the accumulation of large stocks of which the agents find difficulty in disposing and recommend that the question of selling or leasing the concern be examined."

"With reference to another industrial institution, viz., the Government Industrial Institute at Madura it is stated that the institution works out at a loss and Government did grant an annual subsidy for training apprentices.

"Then with regard to another institute, the Fruit Preserving Institute that also works out at a loss and Government have decided to close it. On this matter the Public Accounts Committee lays some stress on the profit and loss account and go so far as to recommend that it should be closed.

"In this connexion I might draw the attention of the Government to the policy recommended by the Retrenchment Committee. References were made by the Retrenchment Committee to the view of the Director of Industries who says: 'that these institutions should not be judged only from the commercial point of view, i.e., purely from a profit and loss point of view. Therefore what I wish to urge is that neither the Government nor this House should be alarmed by the losses which these institutes have sustained in their working, because the money that has been spent would be well spent'

[Mr. J. A. Saldanha] [29th March 1926]

the Government were able to train a large number of apprentices in these institutes. For example, although Government have spent something like Rs. 15,000 in the case of the Industrial Institute at Madura, they have been able to train a large number of apprentices in that institute and it is a great asset to the nation, for these apprentices can go out into the world and help other industries or start their own. I would therefore strongly recommend that the Finance Department as well as the hon. Minister for Development should not be alarmed by this loss, but should see whether these institutions serve a very important purpose, namely, of training a large number of apprentices and thereby foster the industrial development of this province. If however the Government have decided to close all these institutions because they have been working at a loss, I think it is an ill-advised step for them to have done so. On the other hand I think Government would be well advised to continue the working of those institutes provided of course a large number of apprentices are trained there."

* The hon. Mr. T. E. MOIR :—" Sir, in dealing with the report which is now under consideration of this House I am afraid I must regard myself as not possessing the latitude which the hon. Member from Malabar assumed to be open to him in dealing with it. As far as I am concerned I think it will be proper for me to confine myself entirely to matters dealing with audit and appropriation. They have nothing to do with the policy of the Government. It is not the function of the Public Accounts Committee to say to the Government that it should adopt a certain policy in the administration of one department or another policy in the administration of another department. These are matters which are entirely beyond the scope of the objects for which the Public Accounts Committee is constituted. The object of the Public Accounts Committee is to deal with these two items, namely, appropriation and audit and more especially with the reports for the last year for which accounts have been closed. An audit report is an examination of the accounts of the year to see that what I may call the treasury regulations have been observed by the different departments. It is on the observance of certain well defined regulations that financial control depends and the correct function of the Committee is to examine whether they have been observed as by that alone can irregularities caused by negligence or carelessness or other motives be avoided."

* Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—" May I ask why the Committee has taken for itself the responsibility of recommending the course of action regarding Chaliyam factory suggested on page 67 of the report, i.e., of closing the factory ?"

* The hon. Mr. T. E. MOIR :—" If I may say so, they did so with reference to those considerations which are under their observation throughout their examination of these reports, namely, financial considerations. They wished the department to examine the question whether further expenditure on this institution was financially justified. It is merely a recommendation to the department to do so. If the department could show on administrative grounds or on grounds of policy that the continuation of that expenditure was essential then the Public Accounts Committee would regard itself as having discharged its function in drawing the attention of the department to the question whether the expenditure was justified or not, or merely a waste of public money."

29th March 1926]

[Mr. T. E. Moir]

" In the second place the Committee deals with the appropriation report and its function is there to bring to the notice of the Council any cases in which it finds that money has been spent beyond the scope of the grants which have been given by the Council. There again it is not concerned with the question whether this Council might have made other appropriations of the resources at its disposal or whether the decision of the Council as to the manner in which grants should be spent was wise or not. That is entirely beyond the scope of the Committee and that is why I do not propose to follow the hon. Member from Malabar in considering whether particular items of expenditure were justified on administrative grounds; still less do I propose with reference to the accounts of the year 1924-25 to repeat the speeches which I made in the budget discussion for the year 1926-27 and raise again questions which have for the time being disposed of in the budget which has been passed by this House. One of these instances to which I may again refer is the Andhra University. The Public Accounts Committee in dealing with the accounts of 1924-25 had nothing to do with the Andhra University or any future expenditure which might be incurred upon it. They were dealing entirely with expenditure which has already been made. To one remark which the hon. Member from Malabar has made I think I must take exception. He pointed out the fact that in certain departments the expenditure had been less than it was estimated in the budget. He urged that the Finance Member should stir up all the departments of Government and see that the full grant made in a particular year for a particular department was spent in that year only."

* Diwan Bahadur M. KRISHNAN NAYAR :—" I wanted that the whole Government should stir up their activities and if they had done so, possibly there would not have been as much of unspent money as there is now."

* The hon. Mr. T. E. MOIR :—" I am afraid if the Finance Member took upon himself the duty of urging the expenditure of a whole grant made to a particular department in a particular year, the finances of this Presidency would be in a worse predicament than that to which my hon. Friend referred. He also referred to the question of heads of departments not knowing the amount of expenditure or the amount of allotment. In this matter I think the hon. Member is under a slight misapprehension. As soon as the budget is passed the details of the appropriation for each department are communicated to the heads of the departments. There is never any doubt as to the amount of money which is placed at the disposal of each department when the budget has been passed by this House; and what the hon. Member referred to was not the question of heads of departments being unaware of how much they could spend in the year, but the fact that sometimes in the course of a year a particular head of the department lost sight of the amount which he still had at his disposal. The original or the initial amount will be perfectly well known and I think the hon. Member will recognize that the two things are quite distinct and it is the second point which we have attempted to provide for by these instructions regarding the watching of expenditure which are familiar to this House and in respect of which we have issued instructions to the different departments to see that their watch is more effectively exercised in future."

" Then the hon. Member turned to commercial accounts. Here again the Public Accounts Committee was concerned with the question whether expenditure under these commercial accounts had been properly provided for and watched. If in any case it has been found that the rules relating to

[Mr. T. E. Moir]

[29th March 1926]

commercial accounts have been disregarded, it will be found that references to the fact have been made in the report. At the present moment I do not recollect that we found any irregularities of that kind. The hon. Member also suggested that in one particular case of expenditure in his opinion the proper course should have been to bring in a supplemental or excess grant before this House. Well, Sir, in these matters we are guided by the advice of the audit authorities, that is to say, the Accountant-General, so far as we are concerned; and the intervention of a higher authority, viz., the Auditor-General or the Government of India is sought if there is any doubt as to the course to be adopted. It was with reference to their rulings on the subject that it was determined that it was not a case in which a demand for excess grant would have been appropriate. There was of course no question of concealing the facts of the case from the House because they have been fully stated in one of the paragraphs of the report which explains why we did not regard the appropriate procedure to be to move a supplementary grant.

3-45 P.M. "Sir, the only point to which the hon. Member from South Kanara drew the attention of the Government was the provision for certain commercial concerns. There too, he was dealing with matters which were entirely beyond the scope of the accounts for 1924-25. For instance, as regards the Jam factory the Public Accounts Committee was concerned only with the expenditure for the year 1924-25 and it was not concerned with what the future policy of Government regarding the factory was likely to be and whether it would be retained or closed down. Because that is a matter which would properly form and did, if I remember right, form the subject of discussion in connexion with the budget estimates for 1926-27. If I remember correctly, the hon. Member himself did take the opportunity to raise a debate on the Department of Industries for discussing that very question. I do not therefore go further and it seems to me beyond the scope of my function on this matter to raise that issue.

"But there is one point in which I should like to express my entire agreement with the hon. Member for Malabar. As hon. Members know, this flogging of the dead horse is one of the most onerous duties that Committee is called upon to discharge. I should like to join with him in paying a tribute to the manner in which the committee of the current year performed their wearisome task. The hon. Member is perfectly right in characterizing the report that is now placed before the House as bearing testimony to the efficiency and care with which they discharged their onerous duties. As regards the form of the report, I may say that we are entirely indebted to Mr. Boag, Finance Secretary, and I was very glad to hear the hon. Member for Malabar show appreciation of the care that has been bestowed upon it."

The motion was put to the House and carried.

IX

THE MADRAS NURSES AND MIDWIVES BILL.

* The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—"Sir, I present the Report^a of the Select Committee on the Bill for the Registration of Nurses and Midwives in the Presidency of Madras and move that the Bill, as amended by the committee, be taken into consideration.

^a Printed as Appendix VIII pages 920-932 infra.

29th March 1926]

[Mr. Muhammad Usman Sahib]

"In doing so I should like to say that the Surgeon-General at the last meeting had put forward certain ideas regarding dhais, which were really an improvement upon the Bill that was presented to this House then. These have been accepted by the Select Committee and incorporated in the Bill now presented to the House. For the first time, I think, we are giving a statutory recognition to indigenous midwives or dhais. My hon. Colleague the Chief Minister, I understand, is going to make some provision for their training. That will certainly improve the quality of the work they are going to do and reduce the death rate in labour cases. With these few remarks I move that the Bill be taken into consideration."

* The hon. Mr. T. E. MOIR :—"I second it."

The question was put to the House and carried. The Bill was taken into consideration.

Clause 1.

Clause 1 was put, passed and added to the Bill.

Clause 2.

* Mr. T. R. VENKATARAMA SASTRIYAR :—"Sir, I move that item (c) be omitted and the remaining items (d), (e) and (f) be relettered as (c), (d) and (e) respectively. The object of this item is to have a definition of hospitals, etc., and it is found to be unnecessary."

Mr. F. NOYCE :—"I second it."

The amendment was put to the House and carried.

* Mr. T. R. VENKATARAMA SASTRIYAR :—"Sir, I move that 'in item (f) in lines 3 and 4 for the words "that section" the words "either of those sections" be substituted.'

"This amendment has been made necessary on account of the amendment made by the Select Committee. Originally the register referred to was only under section 5. Now as section 6 also is included, this amendment has become necessary."

Mr. F. NOYCE :—"I second it."

The amendment was put to the House and carried.

Clause 2 as amended was put, passed and added to the Bill.

Clause 3.

Sub-clause (1).

* Mr. T. R. VENKATARAMA SASTRIYAR :—"Sir, I move that 'in item (e) in line 3 for the word and figures "section 5 (1)" the words and figures "sub-section (1) of section 5" be substituted.'

Mr. F. NOYCE :—"I second it."

The amendment was put to the House and carried.

[29th March 1926]

- * Mr. T. R. VENKATARAMA SASTRIYAR :—" I move that
' in item (g) in line 3 the words " by the Council " be omitted.'

" In clause 11 the rules in regard to election should be framed by the Government and not by the Council. It is for this reason that I propose to make this alteration."

Mr. F. NOYCE :—" I second it."

The amendment was put to the House and carried.

Proviso to clause 3.

- * Mr. T. R. VENKATARAMA SASTRIYAR :—" Sir, I move that
' in lines 1 and 2, for the words " in the constitution of the first Council under this Act " the words " for a period of one year from the commencement of this Act " be substituted.'

" The appointments to be made under this proviso are to last for one year after which period election or nomination should be made in accordance with the rules prescribed in the preceding items (a) to (h)."

Mr. F. NOYCE :—" I second it."

The amendment was put to the House and carried.

* Mr. T. R. VENKATARAMA SASTRIYAR :—" Sir, in the same proviso the word ' registered ' occurs in two places before the words ' nurse ' and ' midwife '. In the appointment of these persons to the first Council they cannot be registered persons, because they are appointed before the register itself is formed. I move therefore that the words be omitted."

Mr. F. NOYCE :—" I second it."

The amendment was put to the House and carried.

* Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—" Sir, I think it will not be proper if we omit to mention here that the period of the first Council to which nominations have to be made is one year from the date the Act comes into force."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" We have passed the proviso."

* Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—" Not the whole of it, Sir."

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" Yes, the whole of it."

Sub-clause (2).

* Mr. T. R. VENKATARAMA SASTRIYAR :—" Sir, with your permission and with the consent of the House, I wish to move the amendment in a slightly different form from that of which I have given notice. It is only a verbal alteration. I move that the following words be added at the end :—

' except members nominated under the proviso to sub-section (1) who shall hold office till the expiry of one year from the commencement of this Act.'

" After the expiry of one year, the persons appointed should possess the qualifications prescribed in the preceding items."

Mr. F. NOYCE :—" I second it."

The amendment was put to the House and carried.

[29th March 1926]

Sub-clause (3).

- * Mr. T. R. VENKATARAMA SASTRIYAR :—" Sir, I beg to move 4 p
' for the words " before the expiration of his term of office whether by death, resignation or otherwise " substitute the words " by the expiration of his term of office or by death or by resignation or otherwise."

" The object of the amendment is that even where the vacancy arises out of the expiration of the term of office, election or selection in accordance with the items under sub-clause (1) should prevail. The clause as amended will read thus :

' If the place of a Member of the Council becomes vacant by the expiration of his term of office or by death or by resignation or otherwise, the vacancy shall be filled in the manner provided for the filling of the vacancy by sub-section (1).'"

Mr. F. Noyce seconded the amendment.

* Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—" Sir, I wish to know if I am right in presuming that these people will hold office for three years from the date of appointment and not only for the unexpired portion of the original term."

* Mr. T. R. VENKATARAMA SASTRIYAR :—" I understand that they will hold office for a period of three years under sub-clause (2)."

* Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—" What about those members who will have to be nominated under the proviso to sub-clause (1)?"

* Mr. T. R. VENKATARAMA SASTRIYAR :—" Those who are appointed under the proviso will hold office for one year."

* Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—" Am I correct in thinking that the nominated members will hold office for the unexpired portion of the term, while other people will hold office for a period of three years?"

* Mr. T. R. VENKATARAMA SASTRIYAR :—" Yes, Sir."

The amendment was put to the House and carried.

Sub-clause (4).

- * Mr. T. R. VENKATARAMA SASTRIYAR :—" Sir, I move
' for the words " any member ceasing to be a member " substitute the words " an outgoing member " and for the word " re-appointment " substitute the words " re-election or re-nomination ".

" Sub-clause (1) refers to election and nomination. Therefore it should be provided that an outgoing member shall be eligible for re-election or re-nomination."

Mr. F. NOYCE :—" I second it."

* Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—" If the amendment suggested would mean that a member could be re-nominated for an indefinite term of office, I would object to the amendment. I would like that it should be restricted to two terms. I therefore oppose the amendment."

* Mr. T. R. VENKATARAMA SASTRIYAR :—" My proposal is to make the meaning of this clause clear. My hon. Friend's proposal is that there should be some other substantive provision. Since no substantive provision could be made now, does the hon. Member desire that the clause should be left as it is? Is that his proposal, I leave it to him to consider?"

[29th March 1926]

* Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—" May I move an amendment now ? "

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" It will be too substantial an amendment to be moved now. "

The amendment was put to the House and carried.

Clause 3 as amended was put, passed and added to the Bill.

Clause 4 was put, passed and added to the Bill.

Clause 5.

Mr. K. SITARAMA REDDI :—" Sir, I beg to move that the following new sub-clause be added to the existing clause :—

' Nurses and midwives whose diplomas obtained outside India are accepted by the Surgeon-General as equivalent to the certificates issued under the examinations referred to in sub-clause (1). '

" I am referring to that body of nurses who are imported into this country from foreign countries like France by certain religious bodies. These nurses have had their special training and the excellent work which they have been doing has been referred to by my hon. Friends from Chingleput and Trichinopoly in their speeches at the first reading of the Bill. I do not propose to add to their speeches. I know the Sisters in Cuddalore have been doing excellent work for the last 22 years, and from the speech of the Surgeon-General, Symons, I see that other hospitals also are enjoying the benefits of their work, such as, the hospitals at Vizagapatam, Berhampur, Mangalore, Guntur, Bellary, etc. We thus see that the nurses are fairly large in number. They are brought into this country now and then and some of them are sent out on account of health or for various considerations. I see from clause 10 of the Bill that the Local Government is empowered to register the names of these nurses. They have to obtain the special permission of the Local Government in each individual case to have their names registered; the Local Government is a very big machinery to be approached and it will look very tedious to get permission in each individual case. I therefore propose that this sub-clause be added. The expert officer who knows something of the history of the Sisters and of their training they receive in foreign countries may be enabled to hold that the certificates which they hold are equivalent to those which may be got under the training mentioned in sub-clause (1). If the Surgeon-General is satisfied about their qualifications, he may recognize the nurses as entitled to registration. It is only to avoid the difficulty in approaching the Government in each individual case that I move the amendment. "

* Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—" I second the amendment. In doing so I beg to express my heartfelt gratification and gratitude to my hon. Friend for having moved this amendment without any suggestion on our part. It only shows how rightly our hon. Friend from Cuddalore sympathizes with and appreciates the work of the Sisters of Charity. "

* The hon. Khan Rahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—" Sir, the attention of the House has been drawn to this aspect of the case by the speech of my hon. Friend from Chingleput at the first reading of the Bill. The Select Committee also were for adopting the suggestion now made by the hon. Mover of the amendment. I think that special provision need not be

29th March 1926] [Mr. Muhammad Usman Sahib]

made, for, there is already provision to that effect in sub-clause (1) of clause 5. It says that the Council shall maintain a register of the names of all nurses and midwives who have undergone the course of training and passed the examinations and fulfil the conditions prescribed. It does not say that the nurses should pass the examination in India. They might have passed the examination in France, England, etc. What is now wanted may be put down in the prescribed rules. We have further safeguarded the aspect of the case put forward by the hon. Mover of the amendment by clause 10 that the special sanction of the Government may be obtained. I do not think that the proposed amendment is necessary. I think my hon. Friend from Chingleput was thoroughly satisfied in the Select Committee when we have provided for the case referred to. "

The amendment was by leave withdrawn.

Clause 5 was put, passed and added to the Bill.

Clause 6 was put, passed and added to the Bill.

Clause 7.

* Mr. T. R. VENKATARAMA SASTRIYAR :—" I move, Sir, ' after the words " the Council may " insert the words " refuse to enter the name of any nurse, midwife or dhai in the register or " ' "

" The section as amended would read thus :—

' Subject to such conditions and in such manner as may be prescribed, the Council may refuse to enter the name of any nurse, midwife or dhai in the register or remove the name of any nurse, midwife or dhai from the register or restore thereto the name of any nurse, midwife or dhai so removed. '

" These words are added in order to give the nurses the right of appeal given in the next clause. If an order is issued refusing to enter the name of any person, that person is entitled to have a right of appeal under clause 8. It is for that purpose that the amendment is moved. "

Mr. F. NOYCE :—" I second it. "

The amendment was put to the House and carried.

Clause 7, as amended, was put, passed and added to the Bill.

Clause 8.

Sub-clause (1).

* Mr. T. R. VENKATARAMA SASTRIYAR :—" Sir, I move that ' after the word " Council " in line 2 the words " under section 7 " be inserted. "

Mr. F. NOYCE :—" I second it. "

The amendment was put to the House and carried.

Sub-clause (2).

* Mr. T. R. VENKATARAMA SASTRIYAR :—" In sub-clause (2), item (b), I move that ' for the word and figures " section 5 (1) " the words and figures " sub-section (1) of section 5 " be substituted. "

[29th March 1926]

Mr. F. NOYCE :—" I second it."

The amendment was put and carried.

* Mr. T. R. VENKATARAMA SASTRIYAR :—" I move that sub-clause (2) item (c) may run thus :—

'One from a panel of not less than six registered nurses holding both general and maternity certificates and selected in the prescribed manner by the registered nurses and midwives.'

"It is simply a correction of the language."

Mr. F. NOYCE :—" I second it."

The motion was put and carried.

Clause 8 as amended was put, passed and added to the Bill.

Clause 9.

* Mr. T. R. VENKATARAMA SASTRIYAR :—" I move that

'for the word "by-laws" in line 2 of the clause, the word "rules" be substituted and for the words "as it thinks, proper" in lines 5 and 6 of the clause, the words "as they think proper" be substituted.'

Mr. F. NOYCE :—" I second the motion."

The amendment was put and carried.

Clause 9 as amended was put, passed and added to the Bill.

Clause 10.

* Mr. T. R. VENKATARAMA SASTRIYAR :—" I move that

'in line 5 of sub-clause (1), the words "infirmary or lying-in hospital" be substituted by the words "or infirmary".'

"It is unnecessary to add the words 'lying-in hospital' because the word 'hospital' is already in that clause."

Mr. F. NOYCE :—" I second it."

The amendment was put and carried.

* Mr. T. R. VENKATARAMA SASTRIYAR :—" I move that the following be substituted for the present sub-clause (2) :—

'(2) After the expiry of one year from the commencement of this Act, no subsidy shall be paid by the Local Government or by a local authority to any medical practitioner who employs a dhai other than a registered dhai.'

"The clause as it stands says :

'No dhai other than a registered dhai shall be employed by a registered medical practitioner subsidised by the Government or by a local body.'

"The present amendment says that in such cases no subsidy shall be paid by the Local Government. If a medical practitioner employs such a person, we have no means of preventing it as we have no control over him. The clause as amended seeks to prescribe the penalty in case of failure to fulfil the conditions imposed on the medical practitioner by this measure."

[29th March 1926]

Mr. F. NOYCE :—" I second the motion."

The amendment was put and carried.

Clause 10 as amended was put, passed and added to the Bill.

Clause 11.

* Mr. T. R. VENKATARAMA SASTRIYAR :—" I move that

'for the words "fees levied under this Act and all other moneys received by the Council" in item (g) of sub-clause (2), the words "all fees levied under this Act and all moneys received by the Council" be substituted.'

"The amendment is purely a verbal one."

Mr. F. NOYCE :—" I second it."

The amendment was put and carried.

* The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—" Sir, I beg to move that

'sub-clause (3) be omitted'.

"Hon. Members will see that this was inserted in the Select Committee, but I find now that the Government of India object to this rule-making power. Under these circumstances, I have to move for the omission of the sub-clause."

Mr. F. NOYCE :—" I second the motion."

* Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—" I should like to know, Sir, from the hon. the Home Member whether the particular object in view is going to be achieved; if not, in what other way he suggests he will give effect to the intentions of the Select Committee in this matter."

* The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—" All that I can say is that I do not think the rules we are making are not of very great importance, and that Government can be trusted to do the work. Government will frame rules and if hon. Members are dissatisfied with them, they have got various means by which they can make their wishes felt, viz., by means of interpellations, resolutions, etc."

* Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—" If he has an Advisory Committee, would he submit these rules for their consideration?"

* The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—" I have no Advisory Committee which deals with the subject."

Mr. A. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—" Mr. President, while I do not oppose the amendment that has been moved by my hon. Friend the Home Member, I am bound to say that I take serious exception to the attitude the Government of India have taken in this matter, an attitude which is entirely unconstitutional and which is obviously opposed to the Government of India Act itself."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" Under what clause of the Government of India Act is the objection taken?"

* The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—" After we passed this Bill in the Select Committee, we sent this to the Government of India. They have sent us this telegram which was received this morning."

[Mr. Muhammad Usman Sahib]

[29th March 1926]

I will read it. 'The Governor-General grants sanction to Madras Nurses and Midwives Bill as amended by Select Committee with the omission of sub-clause (3) of clause 11' and in the face of this, there is no other alternative."

* Diwan Bahadur M. KRISHNAN NAYAR :—"Is there any authority under which the sanction is required of the Government of India?"

* The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—"The Government of India have passed orders directing that in legislation relating to Reserved subjects, after a Bill has passed through the Select Committee, the Bill as amended by the Select Committee should be sent up to the Government of India for scrutiny in regard to matters relating to sanction, and in pursuance of that power this has been done."

Mr. A. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—"Mr. President, I am bound to say that, so far as I know the Devolution Rules and the division of subjects into Reserved and Transferred subjects, into Central and Provincial subjects, this is not a case in which there is any special power of sanction vested in His Excellency the Viceroy which is required as a preliminary before the amendment could be carried before the Council. I understand, Sir, that a general practice is likely to grow that as far as possible the Legislative Council should be precluded from exercising its powers of giving consent to rules or by-laws which are to be made under statutory powers by the Local Government. If that is the general line of policy which is going to be adopted by the Government of India and to be enforced on the Reserved side by this Government, I am bound to say that this House will take serious exception to such a policy. In the present instance, of course the matter is of such a trivial nature that it is not worth while raising a serious constitutional fight over it, but if by any chance such a thing is going to be repeated with reference to other Bills that may come up before this House, I want to enter a caveat at once as emphatically as I can against that, that we shall not be a party to accepting the Government of India's mandates so far as we are concerned. Their mandates may be of very great efficacy and power so far as the Local Government are concerned; but it is between them and their own superior authority. We, in this Council, are not going to accept the position of the Government of India saying that it does not contemplate with equanimity the idea of the Legislative Council requiring by-laws or rules statutorily framed by the Local Government to be placed for positive approval before this Council. Sir, that has been the policy which this Council has steadily adopted with reference to other Bills which have since become Acts and with reference to Bills which, we hope, will become Acts in the very near future. One of the earliest Bills, Sir, that came up before this Council with reference to which a provision was made by the Select Committee that rules made under the Act should have the approval, the positive approval, of this Council was passed without any objection either by the Local Government or by the then Government of India. It seems to me, Sir, that there is a reversal, and a dangerous reversal, of policy which has been well accepted by the Provincial Government and tacitly adopted by the Government of India; and against that reversal of policy we are bound to enter an emphatic protest. As I said, it is not my intention to oppose this particular amendment, because from the nature of the Bill and from the nature of the rules that are intended to be made, I was never very seriously in favour of having these rules placed before the Legislative Council for adoption or for confirmation; and I do not see any reason why this particular

[Mr. A. Ramaswami Mudaliyar]

Bill should be held up on that particular ground. It seems to me that if the Government of India could not give their sanction to a particular Bill being introduced in the Local Council with the amendment as carried by the Select Committee, the only course for the Government of Madras would be to merely take back the Bill from the Legislative Council and not to ask us to give our approval. I have only this desire to enter our protest against the attitude of the Government of India, because, as I said, I do not want to interfere in this matter at the present stage."

* Diwan Bahadur M. KRISHNAN NAYAR :—"Sir, I entirely agree with all that was stated by my hon. Friend, and I even go further. I mean to oppose this motion and vote against it. This is a particularly important matter of policy with this Council. The rules framed under Acts generally—there may be exceptions of course—should come into force only after they receive the positive, affirmative sanction of this House, and such a doctrine as this has been adopted with the consent of the Government also, in many statutes recently passed by this House, as this seems to be a thoroughly innocuous matter, I see no reason why in this Act alone, the power granted in the other more important Acts should be taken away. My hon. Friend, the Home Member, has stated that the Government of India have declared that they will not sanction this provision. The declaration may be binding on the Government, I mean the Executive Government. But such an attitude of the Government of India is certainly not binding on this House unless of course it be that there is some provision in the Government of India Act or some other law that such a provision as was sought to be introduced by the Select Committee could be introduced only with the sanction of the Governor-General. As I read section 80-A of the Government of India Act, I do not find any such provision. If I am wrong, I am sure the Advocate-General will correct me. Unless I am convinced that there is such a law binding upon the Executive Government as well as this Council, I will vote against this motion."

Mr. T. M. NARAYANASWAMI PILLAI :—"I also beg to oppose the amendment which has been moved by the hon. the Home Member. My hon. Friend, Mr. Ramaswami Mudaliyar, has said that while he objected to the invasion upon the rights of this Council by the Government of India, he thought that in this Bill the rules which were likely to be framed were not so important as to make him oppose the motion. I believe inasmuch as it sets up a dangerous constitutional precedent, I feel bound to oppose the amendment, whether the rules to be made are important or not. It has already been pointed out that in the various enactments which have been passed in this House and which have obtained the assent of the Government of India this rule has been tacitly adopted. After all, what is a rule, a rule which has the force of law? A rule is made by the Executive authority under powers delegated by this Council which is the only competent authority to make laws. If the Executive passes any rule and if it becomes law, it is by virtue of the authority delegated by this Legislature. And what harm is there, I ask, what constitutional impropriety is there if this Legislature, vigilant and ever watchful, wants to supervise whether the delegated authority has exercised its functions properly? This is absolutely in consonance with the delegation under which the Local Government seek to exercise their rule-making power. And I daresay this Legislature will not be doing its duty if it is not vigilant, if it does not supervise the exercise of powers

[Mr. T. M. Narayanaswami Pillai] [29th March 1926]

delegated.* In these circumstances, whether the rules are important or not, inasmuch as it is a direct reversal of the policy which has been tacitly adopted, inasmuch as it is a dangerous constitutional precedent and also for the reason that this Legislature is not a body subordinate to the Executive Government of the Viceroy, we feel bound to oppose this amendment proposed by the hon. the Home Member."

* Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—" Sir, as one who has been to some extent responsible for the insertion of a provision similar to the one which has been proposed to be deleted now, both in the Survey and Boundaries Act and in the State Aid to Industries Act, I should think that strong objection should be taken against the deletion of the provision. I may tell for the information of the House that in the case of the rules framed under the Madras Survey and Boundaries Act, there were many changes that were considered necessary and were actually affected because the House had reserved for itself certain powers of looking into them and suggest modifications. I think we should hesitate very much before we deprive ourselves of this power. And I, for one, shall vote against it."

* Mr. T. R. VENKATARAMA SASTRIYAR :—" Sir, the objection taken, I understand, is this. Under section 80-A (3), item (f) the Local Legislature of any province may not, without the previous sanction of the Governor-General make or take into consideration any law regulating any provincial subject which has been declared by rules under this Act to be, either in whole or in part subject to legislation by the Indian Legislature, in respect of any matter to which such declaration applies. Now, turning to the Devolution Rules, item 45 of the list of provincial subjects is 'Regulation of medical and other professional qualifications and standards; subject to legislation by the Indian Legislature.' It is under that provision that the Local Council has power to legislate but that being a subject of legislation in the Indian Legislature under section 80-A (3) (f) the previous sanction of the Governor-General will be necessary. When therefore in accordance with the rules under which the Government of India require that the report of the Select Committee should be forwarded to them, on matters which fall under some of these provisions in general, particularly in cases falling under these rules, they scrutinize the provisions of the Bill and wherever they think they could not give sanction, they take exception to the provision. I think that the objection of the Government of India is based on section 80-A (3) (f) and on the Devolution Rules, item 45 of the list of provincial subjects."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" I do not want to continue the debate on the competency or the powers of the Government of India, for that is an altogether separate question. The hon. Member in charge of the Bill has accepted the direction given to him by the Government of India and has moved for the omission of the clause. The House has to consider the question whether on the view arrived at by the hon. the Home Member it is going to accept the omission of the clause or not. The question of the powers of the Government of India does not arise at present."

* The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—" Sir, I am very thankful to my hon. Friend, Mr. Ramaswami Mudaliyar, for giving me the assurance that he will not vote against the motion. I know that he has expressed himself very strongly on the question and all that I can say is that this is not a very important Bill and the rules to be framed under it are also not so important. Therefore hon. Members need not imperil the Bill by

29th March 1926] [Mr. Muhammad Usman Sahib]

withholding their assent to this amendment. If occasion arises the feeling of the House on this question will be brought to the notice of the Government of India. I appeal to the House to pass the amendment."

The amendment was put and carried. A poll was demanded and the House divided thus:

Ayes.

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1. The hon. Sir C. P. Ramaswami Ayyar. | 19. Rai Bahadur Sir K. Venkatreddi Nayudu. |
| 2. " Mr. N. E. Marjoribanks. | 20. Rao Bahadur C. Natesa Mudaliyar. |
| 3. " Khan Bahadur Muhammad Usman Sahib Bahadur. | 21. Mr. P. K. S. A. Arumuga Nadar. |
| 4. " Mr. T. E. Moir. | 22. " N. Devendrudu. |
| 5. " Diwan Bahadur Sir T. N. Sivaganam Pillai. | 23. Rao Sahib S. Ellappa Chettiyar. |
| 6. " Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. Patro. | 24. Mr. A. Ramaswami Mudaliyar. |
| 7. " The Raja of Panagal. | 25. " I. C. Guruswami. |
| 8. Mr. T. R. Venkatarama Sastriyar. | 26. Rao Bahadur K. Krishnaswami Nayudu. |
| 9. " F. B. Evans. | 27. Mr. R. Madanagopal Nayudu. |
| 10. " G. T. Boag. | 28. Honorary Lieutenant Madurai. |
| 11. " V. Pandrang Row. | 29. Mr. P. N. Marthandam Pillai. |
| 12. " F. Noyce. | 30. " G. Premayya. |
| 13. Lieut.-Col. Hingston. | 31. " K. Raghuachandra Ballal. |
| 14. Mr. Abdulla Ghatala Sahib. | 32. Rao Bahadur P. Raman. |
| 15. " S. Arpudaswami Udsyar. | 33. Mr. K. Saralaha Reddi. |
| 16. Rao Sahib T. C. Tangavelu Pillai. | 34. Rao Sahib R. Srinivasan. |
| 17. Mr. A. E. Rencontre. | 35. Mr. K. Sitarama Reddi. |
| 18. Sir Alexander MacDougall. | 36. " Chavadi K. Subrahmanya Pillai. |
| | 37. " R. Veerian. |

Noes.

- | | |
|------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| 1. Mr. K. Prabhakaran Tampan. | 7. Diwan Bahadur M. Krishnan Nayar. |
| 2. " D. Manjappa Heggade. | 8. S. B. Y. Ankineedu Prasad Bahadur. |
| 3. Diwan Bahadur P. Kesava Pillai. | 9. Mr. K. Venkatachala Padayachi. |
| 4. Mr. J. A. Saldanha. | 10. " T. M. Narayanaswami Pillai. |
| 5. Mr. A. Ranganatha Mudaliyar. | 11. " B. Ramachandra Reddi. |
| 6. " A. Chidambara Nadar. | |

Ayes 37: Noes 11.

The motion was carried.

Clause 11 as amended was then put, passed and added to the Bill.

Clause 12.

* Mr. T. R. VENKATARAMA SASTRIYAR :—" Sir, I move that 'the words "with or without modification or amendment" be added at the end of sub-clause (2).'"

Mr. F. NOYCE :—" I second it."

The amendment was put and carried.

Clause 12 as amended was put, passed and added to the Bill.

Clauses 13, 14 and 15 were consecutively put, passed and added to the Bill.

The preamble was then put, passed and added to the Bill.

* The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—" I beg to move that this Bill as amended be passed into law. In doing so I should like to point out one thing. It is a matter of real congratulation that we are going to have a Bill which for the first time gives legal status to dhais. It is now left to my hon. Colleague the Chief Minister to give them the necessary training to make them fit for the work."

[29th March 1926]

* Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—" Sir, I beg to second this motion. (Cheers.) I congratulate the hon. the Home Member on his having this Bill passed with very few amendments. But I must express my deep regret that a very important clause, sub-clause (3) to clause 11, has been dropped. This relates to the rules being placed before the House for approval. In the Borstal Bill, a similar clause to the effect that the consent of the House should be taken to the rules framed under the rule-making regulations, was passed. And I very much regret that this clause, sub-clause (3) to clause 11, has been dropped in regard to this Bill.

"The other matter that I want to refer to in this connexion is that the status given to dhais and nurses very much depends upon the grants to be given by the Government. I for one think that our local boards and municipalities have got very little money and are reluctant to take up schemes involving extra cost, and I do not think they are very much enamoured of this Bill. So, this is a question in which the Government will have to help the municipalities and district and taluk boards with necessary funds to train the dhais and employ them. It is very good to pass an Act, but without the necessary funds forthcoming from the headquarters, the whole burden of the expenditure will fall on the local boards and the municipalities who will have otherwise to shoulder the whole burden in this direction. There are bodies like Health and Welfare Associations in the mufassal and at headquarters, and there are other bodies who can do something in that direction, that is, training, etc. But even then, we need funds. I myself wanted to move a cut in which I would have pressed that a Health and Welfare Association of which myself am the president should get some grant from the Government for helping them with necessary funds. With these words, I second the motion."

* Diwan Bahadur M. KRISHNAN NAYAR :—" I only wish to say this, that a Bill which is moved by a Member on the Government Bench and which is seconded by my hon. Friend, Mr. Saldanha on the other side must really be a very good measure, Sir. I congratulate my hon. Friend, the Home Member, on his getting this Bill passed."

The motion that the Bill as amended be passed into law was then put and carried.

NEXT MEETING.

* Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—" Sir, I should like to know our programme when we next meet. I think we are to meet in connexion with the Malabar Tenancy Bill and the Irrigation Bill. I want to know whether we shall have any day or days for non-official business either at the commencement or at the end of the sitting. We are very anxious that some of our non-official Bills and also amendments to Standing Orders, for which I believe I once stood sponsor but which had been withdrawn at the instance of the hon. the Law Member, should also come up for discussion at that meeting. So I make a request that His Excellency might be moved to place at our disposal one or two days for non-official business."

Mr. P. N. MARTHANDAM PILLAI :—" In seconding the request made by Mr. Saldanha I wish to say, Sir, that I have given notice of a Bill to amend the Hindu Religious Endowments Act. It has been standing for three months and I have not had the opportunity of moving it in the Council, and I wish to move it at the next non-official day if allotted."

[29th March 1926]

* The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—" I may say at once, Sir, that there would be no objection to request His Excellency to grant a day or two for non-official business, but I am afraid there is some misconception in the mind of the hon. Member from South Kanara, because I take it that his Bills are in a state of incubation, and are yet to be introduced; and, when they will be introduced, when the select committee is to meet, and when the next meeting is to come at which these Bills are to be pushed through and passed into law it is difficult to say. But that is a matter with which this House is not now concerned. I shall convey to His Excellency the desire of some hon. Members of this House to have a day or two for non-official business."

* Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—" There are two Bills. First of all there is the Bill to amend the Local Boards Act, brought forward by my hon. Friend, Mr. Veerian. That is a very important Bill, and I hope that it will be passed. There is then my Bill, and I think both of these Bills were referred to a Select Committee, and I am sure that the Select Committee's report can be presented at the next meeting. So, these Bills may be taken up at the next meeting. As for other Bills, it is possible that there may be a session in August. Who knows the progress of events? So, we rely upon some good chance to push these Bills through."

* The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—" If my hon. Friend knows so much, I have nothing to say."

Mr. A. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—" Sir, may we know when we are likely to meet next and where, if the matter has been finally decided?"

* The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—" We shall meet at Ootacamund, probably on the 2nd of June."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" The House will now adjourn to a date that will be notified later by His Excellency the Governor."

R. V. KRISHNA AYYAR,
Secretary to the Legislative Council.

APPENDIX I.

[Vide answer to question No. 1859 asked by Mr. S. Satyamurti at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on the 29th March 1926, page 816 supra.]

Letter from the Government of Madras, No. 1834, dated the 21st December 1925.

In reply to your letter No. 1637-Agri., dated 4th December 1925, I am directed to report that His Excellency the Governor acting with his Ministers welcomes with pleasure the proposal to appoint a Royal Commission at the earliest possible date to examine and report on the present conditions of agriculture and rural economy in British India. This Government has no doubt that the appointment of such a Commission would afford valuable assistance in solving the many problems now awaiting solution in connexion with the agriculture of the country and in focussing public attention

[29th March 1926]

on the subject of agricultural improvement and the part it plays in rural prosperity. The proposed terms of reference do not call for any special remarks except that His Excellency acting with his Ministers considers it desirable to include specifically in their scope the application of co-operative principles to agriculture in all its aspects, such as production, credit, marketing, etc. The importance of this subject has been recognized in several western countries and in Japan.

APPENDIX II.

[Vide answer to question No. 1867 asked by Rao Bahadur Cruz Fernandez at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on the 29th March 1926, page 821 supra.]

Statement showing the cost of establishments maintained at the time of the Tuticorin Pearl Fisheries in 1889 and 1890 and the scale of establishment maintained in the fishery that is now being held.

	Particulars and cost of establishments in					
	1889 fishery.			1890 fishery.		
	RS.	A.	P.	RS.	A.	P.
Superintendent's establishment ...	503	6	7	311	11	2
Kottu establishment (a) ...	1,760	14	10	984	11	4
Customs establishment ...	19	13	10	...	...	...
Beach Master's establishment ...	320	7	6	190	5	8
Medical establishment (b) ...	283	12	6	249	0	9
Sanitary establishment ...	325	3	2	276	12	11
Inspector of Pearl Banks (c) ...	1,770	11	5	338	11	4 (f)
Police establishment ...	1,145	12	8	1,063	14	6
Guard Boat establishment... ..	468	4	8	...	...	...
Crew engaged for boat "Pearl" for guarding the banks.	283	9	8	91	7	10
European Helmet Divers' establishment (d).	1,269	12	8	...	...	...
Bombay Helmet Divers' establishment (e).	721	0	3	...	...	...
Total ...	8,872	13	9	3,506	11	6

(a) The Manager who was an Inspector in the Salt and Abkari Department was paid Rs. 250 per mensem as pay plus Rs. 100 per mensem as allowances. His establishment consisted of four clerks, two on Rs. 20 each and the other two on Rs. 12 each, twenty counters on Rs. 15 each, ten peons on Rs. 7 each and two duffadars on their substantive pay in the Revenue Department.

(b) The establishment consisted of one Civil Apothecary, one second grade hospital assistant, one compounder and one peon.

(c) The Inspector of Pearl Banks was a Port Officer and was paid Rs. 370 per mensem as pay plus an allowance of Rs. 300 per mensem.

(d) The establishment consisted of one European Helmet Diver on Rs. 200 per mensem and an assistant on Rs. 50 per mensem.

(e) The establishment consisted of one Bombay Helmet Diver on Rs. 150 and two assistants on Rs. 40 and Rs. 30, respectively.

(f) The Inspector of Pearl Banks was a Port Officer and was paid Rs. 300 as pay and Rs. 266 per mensem as allowance.

29th March 1926]

Scale of establishment maintained in 1926 Fishery.

	Pay.
	RS.
Superintendent's establishment—	
1 Additional Superintendent of Pearl Fisheries. (g)	360 per mensem.
1 Treasurer	75 "
1 Assistant Treasurer	50 "
1 Shroff	40 "
3 Clerks	One on Rs. 60—80 per mensem and two on Rs. 35 each per mensem.
1 Arabic Interpreter	75 per mensem.
3 Peons	12 each per mensem.
1 Tom Tomer	15 per mensem.
Kottu establishment—	
1 Kottu Manager	100 per mensem.
1 Clerk	35 "
3 Peons	12 per mensem, each.
Beach master's establishment—	
1 Beach master	150 per mensem.
1 Assistant Beach master	50 "
1 Clerk	35 "
12 Searchers	15 per mensem, each.
1 Peon	12 per mensem.
Medical establishment—	
1 Assistant Surgeon	} Their substantive pay.
1 Sub-Assistant Surgeon	
1 Compounder	
2 Attendants	} 12 per mensem.
1 Peon	
Sanitary establishment—	
1 Sanitary Inspector	His substantive pay.
2 Peons	12 each per mensem.
Afloat establishment—	
1 Inspector of Pearl banks (h)	450 per mensem.
1 Assistant Inspector of Pearl banks	150 "
6 Bag examiners	150 each per mensem (with rations).

(g) He is a permanent Superintendent in the Local Self-Government Department on Rs. 280 per mensem and was working for some time as Personal Assistant to the Director of Fisheries.

(h) The Superintendent of Pearl and Chank Fisheries on Rs. 300 per mensem has been appointed as Inspector of Pearl Banks in addition to his own duties.

[29th March 1926]

Scale of establishment maintained in 1926 Fishery—*cont.*

	Pay.	rs.
Afloat establishment— <i>cont.</i>		
6 Clerks	35 each per month	
Police establishment—		
1 Inspector	} Their substantive pay.	
2 Sub-Inspectors		
4 Head constables		
70 Constables		

APPENDIX III.

[Vide answer to question No. 1885 asked by Mr. K. Raghuchandra Ballal at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on the 29th March 1926, page 832 supra.]

(1)

The panchayat will ensure that the grazing in the grazing block is used to the best advantage of the village community and to this end the panchayat shall:—

- (i) distribute equitably all the permits at the favourable rate which are entrusted to them for distribution,
- (ii) prevent wilful damage to the area,
- (iii) exclude goats and unlicensed cattle and sheep,
- (iv) prevent fires,
- (v) prevent quarrying and the removal of minor forest produce except by Government contractors or agents acting under the orders of the District Forest Officer,
- (vi) prevent the cutting of trees and lopping of green leaves for manure or for any other purpose (except when such cutting or lopping is carried out under the orders of the District Forest Officer),
- (vii) prevent grazing in coupes in which grazing is prohibited by the said District Forest Officer and prevent cattle passing through such coupes without the special permission in writing of the said District Forest Officer,
- (viii) carry out all orders issued to them by the District Forest Officer or by the Range Officer, and
- (ix) keep a list of the names of co-opted panchayatdars.

The panchayat shall have power—

- (i) to determine what cattle shall be admitted at favourable rates,
- (ii) to exclude the cattle of any person who recklessly or mischievously sets fire to or otherwise causes damage in the area or who removes tree growth without permission or who disobeys the orders issued by the panchayat in exercise of the powers conferred upon it or who fails to assist the panchayat in carrying out any of the duties assigned to it,

29th March 1926]

- (iii) to impound cattle which graze without permits, and
- (iv) to report to the District Forest Officer any offences for which prosecution is desired and when it is of opinion that the offence may be compounded to suggest the amount of composition that may be accepted.

(2)

Report on the working of Forest Village Panchayats in South Mangalore division.

The two panchayats under the Forest village system, viz., (1) for Bellary reserve of Puttur range and (2) for portion of Porkala reserve of Uppinangadi range, were continued during the year 1924-25 with Chief Conservator's sanction conveyed in his Proceedings No. 400, Routine, dated 9th August 1924. Accordingly fresh agreements were got executed for their continuance till the end of June 1925, on the same conditions and concessions reported in this office Dis. No. 80-D.F., dated 9th July 1923. The Bellary panchayat has continued to work satisfactorily during the year. There were no fires but there was one case of illicit grazing detected and which was compounded for Rs. 12. Assistant Conservator of Forests in charge of Puttur range reports 'throughout my inspections I found no fellings and I am satisfied that the panchayatdars took interest, particularly the President'. I agree with the Assistant Conservator's above remarks. The total grazing revenue collected during the year is Rs. 19-10-0 and I recommend the refund of half the grazing revenue. As the panchayat is willing to continue for the next year sanction may be accorded for its continuance for 1925-26 on the same conditions as at present.

2. As regards the second panchayat, it is unfortunate that the villagers have now decided not to renew their agreement after expiry of the present lease. The reasons are given in the following which is an exact translation of a resolution passed by existing panchayat:—

"With reference to the order of the District Forest Officer to the President of the Panchayat, for report on the willingness (or otherwise) to continue the panchayat, it is resolved that it is not necessary to have the panchayat for the forest, as ryots have been given the privilege of removing leaves and fuel from reserved forests to the whole district and to report accordingly."

3. The privileges referred to are the concessions given for the current year in Chief Conservator's Proceedings No. 2195/24-2, dated 23rd July 1924. I had a talk on this subject with the Panchayat President and explained to him that without a panchayat there can be no refund of portion of grazing revenue. But these people do not consider this refund to be a sufficient inducement to take up the additional direct responsibility of protection.

4. As regards the work of the panchayat for current year, it had been on the whole satisfactory. Three cases of illicit fellings were reported, of which two were compounded for Rs. 9-8-0 and the third one was withdrawn. One tiny fire also occurred in panchayat area but the accused was caught and the case was compounded for Rs. 10. Considering the area involved, I do not consider the offences to be many and would therefore request the Chief Conservator to kindly sanction refund of maximum amount of grazing fees, viz., half of the amount collected. The total collection from grazing permits was Rs. 120-6-0.

[29th March 1926]

*Report on the working of Forest Village system in the North
Mangalore division.*

I am herewith submitting a report on the working of forest panchayats in the North Mangalore division for the year 1924-25.

2. There were seven panchayats under working against four in the previous year. During the year, two of the three panchayats in the Coondapoor range for the reserves noted on the margin which had failed to renew their agreements for 1923-24 came forward and executed the agreement. They were very much in need of manure leaf, both dry and green, and when they saw that their ends were not served by their keeping aloof and joining the non-co-operators of Khambadkone village, they wisely came forward and offered to manage the forests. As stated in the last report, a new panchayat was formed for the Durgamala reserve in Udipi range at the beginning of the year.

3. All the panchayats, except the one in Mangalore range, viz., for Todar and Hosabettu reserves, have worked satisfactorily. The Range Officer, Coondapoor, reports that there was no wilful damage to the standing growth in the forest of his range and that the panchayatdars rendered assistance willingly in detection and compounding of offences. In the Tenkahola reserve in Shankarnaraina Range, fire protection was attended to by the Panchayat Committee. The Range Officer, Udipi, reports that the relations between the panchayats and the department were cordial in his range and that in the case of two panchayats the members helped the forest subordinates in liberating the advance growth of Hopea, while all the three panchayats assisted in fire tracing work. It is reported that the Presidents of Mavinakodlu and Durgamale reserves are taking keen interest in the management of forest in their charge. All these reserves, except Mavinakodlu, were successfully protected from fire, while in the Mavinakodlu reserve there was a fire which burnt over 12 acres only. Three of the members of the panchayat were living close to the fire burnt area but did not take any steps to put out the fire. The President has recommended their removal from the Committee and this will be done and any grazing fees paid by them will not be refunded to them.

4. The Conservator in February last inspected the portion of the Matkal-gudde and Mavinakodlu reserves and from the fellings made therein observed that there was demand for firewood. He considered that the principle of located fellings should be applied to these reserves and proposed to the President that regular fellings in small areas should be carried out and the people asked to take their requirements from such felled areas. In return, the people are to sow broadcast an area equal in extent to that cut over. The panchayats were agreeable to this proposal. A simple scheme with two felling series for Mavinakodlu and one for Matkalgudde with 15 small coupes in each was submitted to the Conservator and has been approved. The first coupe of each of the three series have since been demarcated and fellings will be permitted therein. It remains to be seen how this scheme works.

In the Todar and Hosabettu reserves in Mangalore Range which were under one panchayat, several fellings of trees of all species, including some

[29th March 1926]

sandalwood trees, took place owing to the mismanagement of the Panchayat Committee. The explanation of the Committee seemed to show that they were not willing to take the responsibility of protecting the forests which they alleged rested with the Forest Guard in charge and also expressed a desire to have a separate panchayat for each reserve. The chief trouble in this panchayat is that some of the Christian ryots who cultivate betel leaf vine require standards as poles to the vines and though the Conservator proposed that an area of about 10 acres will be allowed to them annually for clear felling (coppice) provided they agreed to uproot the lantana in an equal area of other parts of the reserve, they refused to do so. On a further reference being made to the Conservator in March 1925 proposing in these circumstances to dissolve the panchayat he in his order D. Dis. No. 743/25, dated 8th June 1925, has requested the District Forest Officer to form separate panchayats for each of these reserves and watch their work during the current year. This will be attended to. As for the bad protection during the year, the panchayat will be penalised by refusing the refund of half the grazing fee.

5. All the panchayats are willing to renew their agreements and I recommend that this may be done. I consider it inadvisable to withdraw the subordinate staff from these areas and to empower the panchayat committees to compound forest offences arising in them. The following amounts were collected from the reserves as grazing fee and I recommend that half the sums be refunded except in the case of Todar and Hosabettu reserves :—

Names of reserves.	Amount of grazing fee collected.		
	Rs.	A.	P.
1. Sarpanamane	94	14	0
2. Savantagudde	19	10	0
3. Kudike	41	12	0
4. Baindur	494	10	0
5. Karnigudde	6	2	0
6. Tenkahola	41	0	0
7. Jattukattumale	Nil (closed to grazing).		
8. Jarvathu	67	2	0
9. Mavinakolu	78	12	0
10. Matkalgudde	17	0	0
11. Durgamale	136	0	0
12. Todar	No refund to be made.		
13. Hosabettu			
Total	996	14	0

[29th March 1926]

APPENDIX IV.

[Vide answer to question No. 1900 asked by Mr. O. V. Venkataramana Ayyangar at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on the 29th March 1926, page 838 supra.]

Statement.

Year	Ordinary suits.		Small Cause suits.	
	Institutions.	Disposals.	Institutions.	Disposals.
1921	1,834	1,540	2,286	2,913
1922	2,338	2,111	2,532	2,580
1923	2,424	2,135	3,382	3,266
1924	2,692	1,884	3,243	3,361
1925 up to 1st October 1925 ..	1,973	970	2,598	1,950

APPENDIX V.

[Vide answer to question No. 1912 asked by Mr. D. Manjappa Heggade at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on the 29th March 1926, page 846 supra.]

(1)

G.O. No. 1960, P.H., dated 21st September 1925.

The Government approve the proposal of the Director of Public Health to issue rules regulating the duties of Municipal Health Officers. These rules as supplemented by Government are appended to this order.

2. Separate orders will be passed on his proposal to issue rules regulating the status of Municipal Health Officers after his proposals regarding the delegation of powers in regard to first-class Health Officers have been received and considered by the Government.

(By order of the Government, Ministry of Local Self-Government)

H. R. UZZELLI,
Deputy Secretary to Government.

To the Director of Public Health.
,, the Surgeon-General (paragraph 1 and appendix only).
,, all Collectors (paragraph 1 and appendix only).
,, all Chairmen of Municipal Councils employing Health Officer (para 1 and appendix only).
Gazette.

[29th March 1926]

APPENDIX.

1. The Health Officer is the executive head of the Public Health department of the municipality and will be responsible to the Chairman, Municipal Council, for its efficient management. He will deal with all matters relating to public health and the entire staff of the Health department will work directly under his orders.

2. The Health Officer will exercise such plenary powers over his subordinate staff as are vested in him by the Chairman of the Council.

3. The duties of Municipal Health Officers will include the following:—

(1) General supervision of sanitation and conservancy by frequent inspections.

(2) Checking the attendance and work of the staff and the working of the plant and making arrangements for maintaining it in an efficient condition.

(3) Periodical inspection of scavengers' lines, cattle-sheds, dhobi ghants, conservancy depots, trenching grounds, sewage farms and rubbish depots and other similar institutions belonging to or maintained by the Municipal Council.

(4) Prevention of accumulation of rubbish and filth in private premises.

(5) Introduction of a system of house inspection to improve their sanitation.

(6) Inspection of buildings which are congested or insanitary.

(7) Inspection of insanitary areas, vacant sites, tanks, pits, low-lying lands, etc., in order to devise measures for their improvement.

(8) Scrutiny of schemes for town extension and the initiation of proposals for the relief of congestion.

(9) Scrutiny of plans and applications for the construction and reconstruction of buildings and the inspection of such sites where necessary to enforce the rules and by-laws in relation to sanitary requirements.

(10) Scrutiny of all applications for licences for markets, slaughter-houses, hotels, bake houses, aerated water factories, bakeries, dairies, lodging houses and places for carrying on offensive and dangerous trades and periodical inspection of these places to see that the rules and by-laws under which the licences are issued are complied with.

(11) Frequent inspection of markets, slaughter-houses and of places where articles of food and drink are prepared or sold and the prevention of the sale of unwholesome and adulterated articles of food or drink.

(12) Periodical inspection of the sources of water-supply, especially those used for drinking purposes.

(13) Periodical inspection of burial and burning grounds and taking steps for their maintenance and the observance of the conditions under which they are licensed.

(14) Checking the work of vaccinators and seeing to the maintenance of their equipment, registers, etc., in proper condition and the observance of the rules and instructions laid down in the Public Health Code.

(15) Taking steps to ensure the accurate registration of births and deaths satisfying himself by periodical inspection that the staff employed for the purpose is doing its work properly and studying the influence of occupation, density, environment, and other similar factors on the vital statistics.

[29th March 1926]

(16) Watching all circumstances and conditions affecting or threatening to affect injuriously the public health of the town.

(17) Preparation and punctual submission of the monthly vaccination returns and the weekly and monthly vital statistics returns.

(18) Inspection of places where outbreaks of any contagious, infectious or epidemic disease of a dangerous character have occurred or are threatened, the institution of enquiries into the cause and circumstances of such outbreaks and the inception of measures to prevent the spread of the disease. A full and immediate report should be made in all such cases to the Chairman, with recommendations for further preventive or remedial action, a copy of the report being sent to the Director of Public Health.

(19) Control over the infectious disease hospital, if any, belonging to the Municipal Council.

(20) Maintenance of a permanent register for each epidemic disease and the submission to the Director of Public Health and other officers of daily reports of infectious diseases and any other reports which may be prescribed from time to time by the Director of Public Health.

(21) Maintenance of a register of fairs and festivals in the municipalities; submission of statements in the prescribed form to the authorities concerned. He shall also make the necessary arrangements for the sanitary control of all such festivals.

(22) Checking the work and registers of midwives and health visitors employed by the Municipal Council.

(23) Supervision of maternity and child welfare institutions established by the Council and co-ordination of the activities of all such organizations maintained by private individuals or bodies.

(24) Education of the public in matters relating to public health by means of lectures, exhibitions, lantern demonstrations and such other forms of propaganda as may be necessary.

(25) Medical inspection of schools and factories.

(26) Periodical inspection of places of public resort, offices, etc., and the submission of proposals for the improvement and maintenance of their sanitation.

(27) Checking the diaries of sanitary inspectors and other subordinates and scrutiny of all notices, charge sheets and summonses relating to the Health department.

(28) Scrutiny of all indents of the Health department and passing such indents as he may have been empowered by the Chairman to sanction.

4. Health Officers shall not be permitted to engage in private practice.

5. All orders and instructions regarding public health administration will ordinarily be communicated to the Health Officer by the Chairman, Municipal Council. If it is found necessary, owing to an emergency or for any other reason, to address a subordinate of the Health Officer direct, a copy of the order must simultaneously be sent to the Health Officer.

6. Health Officers will ordinarily correspond with the Director of Public Health and officers of other departments on matters relating to municipal administration through the Chairman, Municipal Council. In matters which are urgent or which require the technical advice of the Director of Public

[29th March 1926]

Health, the Health Officer may address the Director of Public Health direct, but must at the same time send a copy of his communication to the Chairman, Municipal Council. When there is a difference of opinion between the Chairman and the Health Officer in regard to the administration of public health in the municipality, the matter shall be referred to the Director of Public Health, whose decision shall be final.

7. Every Health Officer will acquaint himself with all sections of the Municipal Act (and all the rules and by-laws framed thereunder) relating to public health administration. He will keep a constant watch over all circumstances and conditions affecting the public health and advise the Council of the improvements that should be carried out. A register will be maintained embodying proposals of an important nature and the register will be placed before the Council at its budget meeting.

8. Every Health Officer will keep a diary of his daily inspection, his observations and instructions, and the action taken thereon. He will produce the diary when required to do so by the Chairman, the Director of Public Health or his Assistants or by other competent inspecting authority.

9. Every sanitary inspector employed in municipal areas will maintain a diary in a form prescribed by the Director of Public Health and approved by Government. This diary will be open to inspection by the Municipal Health Officer when he may think necessary to call for it.

10. The Municipal Health Officer will attend meetings of the Municipal Council at which any important sanitary matter is about to be discussed and he may state his views, if the presiding officer requests him to do so.

11. In connexion with vaccination the Municipal Health Officer will make himself acquainted with all matters likely to prejudice its satisfactory conduct and will endeavour to persuade all persons showing unwillingness to accept it. The importance of the re-vaccination of adults should be constantly brought to notice.

12. The Municipal Health Officer and the Medical Officer in charge of the station should co-operate with each other in public health work, such as the control of epidemics, fairs and festivals, etc., the Medical Officer arranging for the treatment of possible patients and the Health Officer for the prevention of disease.

13. Every Health Officer will submit an annual report to the Municipal Council comprising a summary of the activities of the department during the year, the steps taken to prevent the spread of disease, and an account of the general condition of the town in the year in relation to public health. The report will also contain tabular statements regarding vaccination and vital statistics in the prescribed forms. It will be submitted to Government through the Director of Public Health as an appendix to the general administration report of the municipality.

(2)

G.O. No. 143, P.H., dated 18th January 1926.

READ—the following papers:—

From the Director of Public Health, No. 727, P.H., dated 2nd May 1925.

From the Surgeon-General, No. 893 Ac., dated 14th September 1925.

[29th March 1926]

Order—No. 143, P.H., dated 18th January 1926.

The Government approve the proposal of the Director of Public Health to transfer to the District Health Officers the duties hitherto discharged by the District Medical Officers in regard to public health in municipalities which do not employ separate health officers. This order will have effect from 1st April 1926. The rules relating to the duties of District Health Officers prescribed in G.O. No. 1258, P.H., dated 27th July 1923, are accordingly revised and published in full in the notification appended to this order.

(By order of the Government, Ministry of Local Self-Government)

F. NOYCE,

Acting Secretary to Government.

To the Director of Public Health.
 „ the Surgeon-General.
 „ all Presidents of District Boards.
 „ all Collectors.
 Gazette.

APPENDIX.

Rules regulating the duties of District Health Officers.

1. The District Health Officer is the executive head of the health staff employed in a district. He shall be on duty in places other than his headquarters not less than 60 days in each quarter; but consistently with the proper performance of his duties and public interests in reference to epidemic diseases, gazetted holidays may be accepted as part of the 60 days so spent.
2. By the 23rd of each month the District Health Officer shall submit to the President of the District Board programmes showing the localities which he intends to inspect during the following month.
3. The District Health Officer may depart from his programme if an outbreak of disease or other urgent cause necessitates his presence elsewhere. In such case he shall immediately report the fact, with reasons, to the President, District Board.
4. Programmes should be so arranged that all unions and other important villages may be inspected by the District Health Officer not less than once in each year.
5. The District Health Officer shall maintain a diary in which he should make brief daily entries as to the work done. This diary shall be submitted to the President, District Board, monthly and to the Director of Public Health and Assistant Directors of Public Health on their tours of inspection.
6. It is the duty of the District Health Officer
 - (1) to examine and verify village vital statistics not merely by examining the registers and initialling them but by intensive investigation and if necessary by house-to-house inquiry in the village and by checking the information thus collected with the events reported in the registers. He should give instructions as to the proper classification of causes of death and generally advise as to the correct maintenance of birth and death registers;
 - (2) to note important sanitary defects in villages inspected and to make recommendations for remedying them;

[29th March 1926]

- (3) to make proposals for improving the supply of drinking water in villages inspected;
- (4) to attend important fairs and festivals outside municipal towns, to advise beforehand as to the sanitary arrangements to be made thereat and to supervise the conduct of such arrangements in accordance with G.O. No. 1722, P.H., dated 13th December 1922;
- (5) to visit localities where epidemics occur, to supervise the arrangements made and, if necessary, to concentrate part or all of his district health staff in order to check them;
- (6) to verify the work of District Health Inspectors, to inspect the vaccination registers and test their accuracy and to call attention to any defects, false returns or excess in the number of unvaccinated children;
- (7) to perform such other duties as the Director of Public Health or the President of the District Board may call on him to perform.

Reports by the District Health Officers shall be submitted to the President of the District Board, who shall forward them with his remarks to the Director of Public Health.

7. A copy of the monthly vital statistical returns shall be communicated to the District Health Officer. He will forward them to the President of the District Board with such remarks as he may think advisable.

8. Copies of daily cholera, smallpox and plague reports should be sent by the authorities concerned direct to the District Health Officer as well as to the District Medical Officer and the Director of Public Health.

9. Whenever, by perusal of statistical returns or otherwise, the District Health Officer has reason to consider that the mortality in any local area is abnormal or that any local area is threatened with epidemic disease, he shall bring the fact to the notice of the President of the District Board or the Chairman of the Municipal Council as the case may be, with his recommendations on the subject. The defects noticed in vaccination work in municipalities which do not employ separate Health Officers shall be reported by the District Health Officer to the District Medical Officer who will instruct the local medical officer to carry out the improvements suggested.

10. Every Sanitary Inspector employed in local fund areas shall maintain a diary in a form prescribed by the Director of Public Health and approved by Government. This diary shall be open to inspection by the District Health Officer during his tours or at any time when he may think necessary to call for it.

11. It shall be the duty of the District Health Officer to assemble the health staff and to examine the conservancy plant in localities inspected by him, after giving due notice to the local authorities concerned, and he shall report in the manner stated in rule 5 as to the sufficiency, efficiency and economy of menial staffs and of plant employed.

12. In municipalities in the district which do not employ separate Health Officers all matters relating to public health which have hitherto been attended to by the District Medical Officer shall be dealt with by the District Health Officer. He shall also inspect all such municipalities at least once a year except those which have been inspected by the Director of Public Health or his assistants. He shall bring to the notice of Municipal Chairmen the proximity of any dangerous epidemic disease or conditions observed in rural areas surrounding the town that may endanger its water-supply or otherwise threaten the health of the inhabitants. He shall also visit the municipalities

[29th March 1926]

when any outbreak of epidemic disease occurs and recommend such action as he may consider necessary for the prevention of the spread of such epidemics to the adjoining rural areas.

13. The District Health Officer shall make recommendations to the President of the District Board as to the provision in any special locality of disinfectants and sanitary equipment, and during his inspection shall satisfy himself as to the efficiency and conditions of such equipment as may be ordered to be supplied.

14. The District Health Officer shall examine the village sanitary inspection book, make suitable entries therein and call attention to defects in their maintenance.

15. In his attitude towards the population, it is important that the District Health Officer should remember that changes in sanitary conditions should be effected by persuading people of their necessity. He should during inspection discuss matters with the people in a friendly manner and endeavour to show them that it is worth while to follow sanitary directions. In this respect the assembly of the people on the evening following an inspection of a village and talking over with them the conditions found may be of utility. Lantern lectures, cinema lectures and demonstrations may also be arranged. Health propaganda work should constitute one of the most important items of the District Health Officer's functions.

16. The District Health Officer should attend meetings of the district board, taluk boards and union boards at which any important sanitary matter is about to be discussed, and he may state his views, if the presiding officer requests him to do so.

17. In connexion with vaccination the District Health Officer shall make himself acquainted with all matters likely to prejudice its satisfactory conduct and shall endeavour to persuade all persons showing unwillingness to accept it. The importance of the revaccination of adults should be constantly brought to notice.

18. The District Health Officer shall not engage in private practice.

19. The District Medical Officer has no disciplinary control over the District Health Officer, but the two should co-operate with each other in public health work such as the management of epidemics, fairs and festivals, etc., the District Medical Officer arranging for the treatment of possible patients and the District Health Officer for the prevention of disease. In short, there should be a free exchange of views and mutual help between the two.

APPENDIX VI.

[Vide answer to question No. 1914 asked by Mr. J. A. Saldanha at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on the 29th March 1926, page 847 supra.]

G.O. Mis. No. 2499, P.H., dated 7th December 1925.

Under section 8 of the Madras Town Planning Act, 1920, twenty-four municipalities including the Corporation of Madras have to prepare, print and submit to the Local Government for their sanction not later than 1st January 1927 a scheme or schemes in regard to all land within the municipality or in

[29th March 1926]

its vicinity in respect of which a town-planning scheme may be made under the Act. The Government regret to observe that till now only the Corporation of Madras and the municipalities of Madura, Trichinopoly, Salem, Guntur and Vizagapatam have submitted to Government for their sanction any town-planning schemes at all while the remaining 18 municipalities appear to have entirely overlooked the necessity for taking any action in the matter. Even in the case of the Madras Corporation and the five municipalities referred to above the schemes submitted cover only a very small portion of the areas under their jurisdiction.

2. The great need for town-planning and town improvement in all these towns cannot be too strongly emphasized and in some towns the need has become acute. The Director of Town Planning has visited all the towns and given advice in his inspection notes as to the lines on which action should be taken. In view of the fact that less than 18 months remain out of the five years period laid down in section 8 of the Act, the Government desire to impress upon the local bodies concerned the necessity for taking immediate action for the preparation of town-planning schemes. The local bodies concerned are therefore requested to draw up a list of schemes in respect of which action has to be taken under the Act and proceed to take action as laid down in sections 9 and 10 of the Act. In the case of urgent schemes they may apply to the Government for the issue of the necessary notification under section 12 of the Act.

3. A report showing the action taken with reference to paragraph 2 supra should be submitted to the Government through the Director of Town-Planning not later than 15th January 1926.

(By order of the Government, Ministry of Local Self-Government)

H. R. UZIELLI,
Deputy Secretary to Government.

To the President, Corporation of Madras.
" Chairmen of Municipal Councils mentioned in the list attached.
" Director of Town-Planning, Madras.

APPENDIX.

List of municipalities with a population of 40,000 and more.

1. Corporation of Madras.	9. Negapatam.	17. Guntur.
2. Madura.	10. Mangalore.	18. Palamecottah.
3. Trichinopoly.	11. Rajahmundry.	19. Ellore.
4. Calicut.	12. Tinnevely.	20. Palghat.
5. Coimbatore.	13. Cocanada.	21. Vizagapatam.
6. Conjeeveram.	14. Salem.	22. Tuticorin.
7. Kumbakonam.	15. Cuddalore.	23. Bezwada.
8. Tanjore.	16. Vellore.	24. Masulipatam.

[29th March 1926]

APPENDIX VII.

(Vide item IV " Communications to the Council " at page 852 supra.)

G.O. No. 382, Revenue, dated 5th March 1926.

READ—the following papers:—

(i)

G.O. No. 702, Revenue, dated 11th May 1925.

(ii)

G.O. No. 1951, Revenue, dated 15th December 1925.

(iii)

*Official Memorandum No. 2950-E/25, Revenue, dated 6th February 1926.*The following notification will be published in the *Fort St. George Gazette*:—

NOTIFICATION.

The following draft of certain amendments to the rules published in Notification No. 313, dated 15th December 1925, at pages 2402-2405 of Part I of the *Fort St. George Gazette*, dated 22nd December 1925, which it is proposed to make in exercise of the powers conferred by section 26 (1) of the Madras Survey and Boundaries Act, 1923, is hereby published. Notice is hereby given that the said draft will be taken into consideration on 1st March 1926. Any objection or suggestion which may be received before that date with respect to the said draft will be considered by the Local Government:—

Draft Amendments.

(i) Rule 5 of the rules under clause 2 (a) shall be re-numbered as sub-clause (1) of rule 5, paragraphs (1) and (2) thereof being re-numbered as (i) and (ii) respectively, and to the rule, as so re-numbered the following sub-rule shall be added, namely:—

(2) the cost of repairing a stone under the same sections shall be the actual cost of hired labour.

(ii) In rule 1 (3) of the rules under clause 2 (g) for the words 'for large blocks of poramboke and assessed waste' the words 'for fields of over 50 acres in extent' shall be substituted.

H. M. Hood,
Acting Secretary to Government.

To the Superintendent, Government Press, for publication of the notification.
" Board of Revenue (Land Revenue and Settlement).

29th March 1926]

ORDER—No. 382, Revenue, dated 5th March 1926

No objections or suggestions having been received to the draft amendments to the rules under the Madras Survey and Boundaries Act, 1923, published at page 251 of Part I of the *Fort St. George Gazette*, dated 16th February 1926, the amendments are now confirmed.

The following notification will be published in the *Fort St. George Gazette*:—

NOTIFICATION.

In exercise of the powers conferred by sub-section (1) of section 26 of the Madras Survey and Boundaries Act, 1923, the Local Government hereby make the following amendments to the rules published at pages 2402-2405 of Part I of the *Fort St. George Gazette*, dated 22nd December 1925:—

(i) Rule 5 of the rules under clause 2 (a) shall be re-numbered as sub-clause (1) of rule 5, paragraphs (1) and (2) thereof being re-numbered as (i) and (ii) respectively, and to the rule as so re-numbered the following sub-rule shall be added, namely:—

"(2) The cost of repairing a stone under the same sections shall be the actual cost of hired labour."

(ii) In rule 1 (3) of the rules under clause 2 (g) for the words 'for large blocks of poramboke and assessed waste' the words 'for fields of over 50 acres in extent' shall be substituted.

2. A copy of the amendments made will be placed on the Legislative Council table.

(By order of the Governor in Council)

H. M. Hood,
Acting Secretary to Government.

To the Superintendent, Government Press, with paragraph 1 only for publication.
" Board of Revenue (Land Revenue and Settlement).
" Law (Legislative) Department.
" Legislative Council Office.
" Accountant-General, with a copy of G.O. No. 1951, dated 15th December 1925.

[29th March 1926]

APPENDIX VIII.

(Vide Order of the day No. IX at page 890 supra.)

BILL No. 11 OF 1924.

*The Madras Nurses and Midwives Bill.***Report of the Select Committee.**

To

THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL OF THE
GOVERNOR OF MADRAS.

We, the undersigned members of the Select Committee appointed to consider the Madras Nurses and Midwives Bill No. 11 of 1924, have the honour to submit the following report.

2. The Bill was published in the *Fort St. George Gazette* in English on the 15th July 1924, in Tamil, Telugu and Kanarese on the 12th August 1924, and in Malayalam and Hindustani on the 19th August 1924.

3. We considered the Bill at a meeting held on Tuesday the 16th February 1926. We have subjected the Bill to a detailed examination clause by clause, and have suggested changes, the more important of which are referred to below.

4. *Clause 2.*—We consider that 'dhais' should be brought within the scope of the Bill and have accordingly added a definition of the word 'dhai'. We have also added definitions of 'Hospitals', 'Infirmaries', 'Dispensaries', 'Lying-in hospitals' and 'Nurse'.

5. *Clause 3.*—We have slightly altered the constitution of the Council (a) by the substitution of the Superintendent of the Government Hospital for Women and Children for one of the members to be nominated by the Local Government, (b) by increasing the number of elected members by one (with a corresponding reduction in the number of nominated members), and (c) by providing that one of the two members nominated by the Madras Medical Council and one non-official member nominated by the Local Government shall be women.

6. *Clause 4.*—We have considered it preferable that membership of the Council should automatically cease on the failure of a member to attend three consecutive meetings, as removal by the vote of the Council is not a method generally provided in such cases.

29th March 1926]

7. *Clause 5.*—We have adopted the language of the Burma Act and have omitted the details relating to the training, examinations and other conditions of admission to the register which should, we consider, be regulated by rules.

We have further fixed three years as the period after which unqualified nurses and midwives practising at the commencement of the Act shall not be admitted to the register.

8. We have added a new clause providing for the maintenance of a register of 'dhais'.

9. *Clause 7.*—We have deleted the provision in sub-clause (1) (a) which makes it obligatory for the Local Government to consult the Chief Justice before nominating magistrates and civil judges to the panel, as we consider that such consultation is unnecessary.

10. *Clause 9.*—We have extended to three years the period after which unregistered nurses and midwives shall not be competent to hold appointments in public institutions and we have considered it necessary to give power to the Local Government to permit such employment in special cases. This is mainly intended to cover the case of any sisters of charity who may in future be recruited for employment in public institutions from France or from other countries where the system of training differs from that obtaining in this Presidency.

We have added a sub-clause to provide that only registered 'dhais' may be employed by the medical practitioners subsidised under the rural medical relief scheme.

11. *Clause 10.*—We have decided that the following important matters should be regulated by rules to be issued by the Local Government rather than by by-laws to be framed by the Council:—

- (a) elections of members of the Council,
- (b) conditions of admission to the register,
- (c) conduct of examinations and other connected matters,
- (d) conditions governing the removal of names from the register and their restoration thereto, and
- (e) selection of the panels under sub-clause (1) of clause 7 [sub-clause (2) of revised clause 8].

We have accordingly transferred these provisions from clause 11 to this clause and have further provided,

[29th March 1926]

(following the corresponding provision in the Madras Borstal Schools Act, 1925) that the rules made under (b), (c) and (d) above shall be subject to the previous approval of the Legislative Council.

12. *Clause 11.*—We have deleted the provisions relating to—

(a) the restriction of the practice of registered nurses and midwives within due limits, and

(b) the grant of leave to members of the Council.

13. *Clause 12.*—This has been incorporated in clause 10 (c) [new clause 11 (g)].

14. *Clauses 13 and 14.*—We have decided that, as in the Madras Medical Registration Act, 1914, it would be sufficient to provide for the punishment of offences under this Act by fine only.

We further considered that, to constitute an offence under clause 14, the mere use of any name, title, description, uniform, badge or signboard was not sufficient but that fraudulent intention must be proved. We have accordingly amplified the wording of this clause on the lines of section 171 of the Indian Penal Code.

15. As the alterations made do not involve any important changes of principle we consider it unnecessary that the Bill should be republished.

16. We append a copy of the Bill as amended by us.

MR. USMAN.

P. KHALIFULLAH.

A. RAMASWAMI MUDALIAR.

* S. VENCATACHELAM CHETTY.

T. H. SYMONS.

C. NATESAN.

M. C. RAJAH.

R. MADANAGOPAL.

R. SRINIVASAN.

* C. V. S. NARASIMHA RAJU.

* J. A. SALDANHA.

T. R. V. SASTRI.

S. ARPUDASAMY UDAYAR.

B. MUNISAMI NAIDU.

* A. S. KRISHNA RAU.

F. NOYCE.

3rd March 1926.

* Subject to a minute of dissent.

[29th March 1926]

MINUTES OF DISSENT.

(1)

I regret I was unable to attend the meeting of the Select Committee.

It has become necessary for me to send my dissenting note on the Madras Nurses and Midwives Bill.

The more I read of the Bill the more I feel unconvinced of the necessity of passing this measure.

The Select Committee have not apparently taken into consideration the several objections made in the Council when the Bill was introduced. They contented themselves with making a few alterations which are more verbal than material.

Section 2, clause (c).—The appellation 'Lying-in Hospitals' has become obsolete and they are now, I understand, called the Women and Children Hospitals. Therefore the latter appellation may be used.

Section 3, clause (f).—I consider the two matrons to be elected should belong to recognized hospitals. Since these two matrons are to be elected, I object to the provision that such matrons should be approved by the Surgeon-General. It seems to me to be a farce of an election if the elected should pass through the gauntlet of approval of the Surgeon-General. I, therefore, recommend the deletion of the clause "and approved by the Surgeon-General".

With regard to (g) and (h) I understand that a large percentage of nurses and midwives are employed under Government and consequently there is not the possibility of any nurse or midwife either employed in a private institution or privately practising being elected by this constituency. I strongly urge that provision should be made for election of a private nurse or midwife under clause (g) or they must be provided with seats to be filled by nomination by the Government.

With regard to proviso under section 3 wherein it is provided that, for the first council two matrons, a registered nurse and a registered midwife shall be nominated by the Surgeon-General and the Local Government respectively, I presume that this is so done to bring immediately into existence the council even before the constituencies are created. If this is so, I am of opinion

[29th March 1926]

that such nominees should hold office for not more than a year by which time arrangements must be made for holding elections as prescribed in the Act.

Section 5 (2).—The conditions and the restrictions under which the dhais shall be admitted should not be left to the Council on which there is absolutely no representative of the persons concerned and I contend that these should be laid in the Act itself. If the conditions and restrictions contemplated in section 5 (2) are such as to test the eligibility of the persons for either nursing or midwifery the maintenance of two separate divisions in a register is unnecessary if not invidious.

Section 6.—The objection advanced to section 5 (2) applies with greater force to this section inasmuch as there is ample scope for so framing the rules as to exclude a large number of dhais who are engaged in midwifery in this Presidency. Their interests are exposed to risks and it devolves upon the legislature to secure their interests properly by a just recognition of their claims.

Section 7 is very vague. We have no idea as to the offences for which a nurse or a midwife is liable to be removed from the register or restored to it.

The Local Government should place the rules before the Legislative Council for approval.

Section 10 (1) and (2).—This section prohibits the employment of unregistered persons under any institution not supported entirely by voluntary contributions. The local bodies, the poverty of which is proverbial, will find themselves unable to secure the services of registered persons both on account of the supply being inadequate and also on account of the high price that is artificially put upon the person by a "Trade Union" of the Council.

I am of opinion that it is utterly impracticable to prohibit the medical practitioners under the Rural Medical Relief Scheme from employing unregistered persons. The scheme operates in places too poor to have a dispensary of their own and if in such places no unregistered person could be employed, the people will have to go without the much-needed nursing and maternity aid. The whole idea of the framers of the Bill seems to me to set too high a value on registration.

It will be practically discouraging the local bodies to take up this part of the public health work.

29th March 1926]

Section 12 (b).—It is not clear what is meant by 'regulating' in this section. If it meant that a person is given a particular area within which alone that person is allowed to practise, it is highly objectionable and it only confirms my suspicion that the Bill seeks to enhance the cost of the services of the so-called registered nurses.

Section 13 of the original Bill should be retained.

In addition to the above modifications, I would suggest that no nurse or midwife should be allowed to practise who does not speak in at least one of the local vernaculars as the absence of any means of communication between the patient and the nurse or midwife is likely to result in disastrous consequences. To avert these, a proper understanding between the patient and the nurse or the midwife is necessary and this is not possible without the knowledge of any one local vernacular.

25th February 1926. S. VENCATACHELAM CHETTY.

(2)

I am of opinion that registered 'dhais' may be employed in hospitals and dispensaries maintained by taluk boards in places other than taluk headquarters and major unions. Clause 9 requires amendment on the above lines.

25th February 1926. C. V. S. NARASIMHA RAJU.

(3)

In the definition of 'Hospitals,' etc., I would include institutions recognized by Government or local bodies (e.g., the Leper Asylum or Father Mullers' Charitable Institutions at Mangalore) for grant-in-aid, although homoeopathic or indigenous system is mainly followed in the treatment of patients.

In some institutions there are trained 'sisters of charity' who do very useful work in a spirit of self-sacrifice. They belong to a religious body, whose certificates as to their qualifications deserve to be recognized. If such a body is duly recognized for the purpose of training nurses or midwives by the manager of institutions receiving grant-in-aid from Government or a local authority, the certificate of the head of such a body as to the qualifications of a nurse or midwife should, I submit, be accepted. Provision should, I think, be made for this purpose in the Bill.

26th February 1926.

J. A. SALDANHA.

[29th March 1926]

(4)

Clause 3.—The provision made in sub-clause (1) (g) of the Madras Nurses and Midwives Bill for the representation of registered nurses and midwives is not adequate. When provision has been made in (1) (e) for the nomination of two registered medical practitioners by the Medical Council, it does not appear to be necessary to provide for the nomination of one registered medical practitioner by the Local Government, as contemplated in (1) (d).

Clause 4.—There is no provision in the Bill prescribing the period within which meetings of the Council shall be held. The composition of the Medical Council is different from a composition of a local authority like a municipal council or a local board. It is not therefore desirable to provide that membership shall automatically cease owing to the absence of members from three consecutive meetings. I consider that the provision approved by the Select Committee is quite sufficient to meet the requirements of the case.

Clause 6.—I think that, in prescribing conditions and restrictions of dhais, due regard should be shown for local conditions and local circumstances.

Clause 10 (1).—Instead of extending the period for bringing this clause into force from one year to three years, I think it is desirable to provide that no appointment of an unregistered nurse or midwife shall be made after the expiry of one year from the commencement of this Act. The existing provision will compel local authorities to dispense with the services of nurses and midwives on the mere ground that they do not conform to the rules for the registration of nurses and midwives, though they have put in long service and though they have been doing their work fairly satisfactorily.

Clause 10 (2).—This is a new clause inserted at the instance of the Select Committee. It will take some time before dhais are duly trained so as to become eligible for registration. I think some reasonable period should be prescribed, say one year, for the bringing into operation of this sub-clause.

March 1926,

A. S. KRISHNA RAU,

29th March 1926]

APPENDIX

[Note.—The alterations made by the Select Committee are printed in Clarendon type.]

BILL No. 11 OF 1924.

A

BILL

FOR

The registration of nurses and midwives in the Presidency of Madras.

[As amended by the Select Committee.]

WHEREAS it is expedient to provide for the registration of nurses and midwives in the Presidency of Madras, AND WHEREAS the previous sanction of the Governor-General has been obtained to the passing of this Act; It is hereby enacted as follows:—

1. (1) This Act may be called the Madras Nurses and Midwives Act, 1926. Preamble.

(2) It shall extend to the whole of the Presidency of Madras. Extent.

(3) It shall come into force on such date as the Local Government may, by notification, appoint. Commencement.

2. In this Act, unless there is anything repugnant in the subject or context— Definitions.

(a) 'Council' means 'the Madras Nurses and Midwives Council established under this Act'.

(b) 'Dhai' means 'an untrained woman practising the profession of midwifery'.

(c) 'Hospitals', 'Dispensaries', 'Infirmaries', 'Lying-in hospitals' mean 'institutions the methods of treatment adopted in which are those which are approved by the Medical Council established under the Madras Medical Registration Act (IV of 1914).' (Madras Act IV of 1914).

(d) 'Nurse' includes a male nurse.

(e) 'Prescribed' means 'prescribed by rules or by-laws made under this Act'.

(f) 'Register' means 'a register maintained under section 5 or section 6' and 'registered' means 'registered in accordance with the provisions of that section'.

[29th March 1926]

tution
Council
a term
of
rs.

3. (1) A Council, called the 'Madras Nurses and Midwives Council', shall be constituted for the Presidency of Madras, consisting of—

(a) the Surgeon-General with the Government of Madras;

(b) the Superintendent of the General Hospital, Madras;

(c) the Superintendent of the Government Hospital for Women and Children, Madras;

(d) one registered Medical Practitioner nominated by the Local Government;

(e) two Registered Medical Practitioners, one of whom shall be a woman, nominated by the Medical Council established under section 5 (1) of the Madras Medical Registration Act, 1914;

(Madras
Act IV of
1914.)

(f) two matrons of hospitals, elected, in the manner prescribed, by the registered nurses and midwives and approved by the Surgeon-General;

(g) one registered nurse elected by the registered nurses and one registered midwife elected by the registered midwives in the manner prescribed by the Council; and

(h) two non-officials, not of the classes referred to above, one of whom shall be a woman, nominated by the Local Government;

The Surgeon-General shall be the President of the Council.

Provided that in the constitution of the first Council under this Act, the two matrons referred to in clause (f) shall be nominated by the Surgeon-General, and the registered nurse and the registered midwife referred to in clause (g) shall be nominated by the Local Government.

(2) The members of the Council other than members ex officio shall hold office for a term of three years.

(3) If the place of a member of the Council becomes vacant before the expiration of his term of office whether by death, resignation or otherwise, the vacancy shall be filled in the manner provided for the filling of the vacancy by sub-section (1).

(4) Any member ceasing to be a member of the Council shall be eligible for re-appointment.

(5) The powers of the Council may be exercised notwithstanding any vacancy in the Council.

[29th March 1926]

4. A member who fails to attend three consecutive meetings of the Council shall cease to be a member unless restored by the Council at its next meeting.

Effect of
failure to
attend
meetings of
the Council.

5. The Council shall maintain a register of nurses and a register of midwives and in each such register shall be entered in two separate parts—

Registration
of nurses
and mid-
wives.

(1) the names of all nurses and midwives who have undergone the course of training and passed the examinations and fulfil the conditions prescribed;

(2) the names of all nurses and midwives practising in the Presidency of Madras at the commencement of this Act and not qualified to be registered under clause (1) who may be admitted to registration under such conditions and restrictions as may be prescribed;

Provided that no nurse or midwife may be registered under clause (2) after the expiration of three years from the commencement of this Act.

6. The Council shall maintain a register of dhais, admission to which shall be regulated by such conditions and restrictions as may be prescribed.

Registration
of dhais.

7. Subject to such conditions and in such manner as may be prescribed, the Council may remove the name of any nurse, midwife or dhai from the register or restore thereto the name of any nurse, midwife or dhai so removed.

Removal and
restoration
of names.

8. (1) Any nurse, midwife or dhai aggrieved by an order of the Council may, within three months from the date on which notice of such order is given, appeal against the order of the Council.

Appeal from
Council to
Tribunal.

(2) Such appeal shall be heard by a Tribunal of three persons selected in rotation—

(a) One from a panel of not less than six persons of not less than twelve years' experience as a Magistrate or Civil Judge nominated by the Local Government;

(b) One from a panel of not less than six registered medical practitioners selected in the prescribed manner by the Medical Council established under section 5 (1) of the Madras Medical Registration Act, 1914; and

(c) One nurse who holds both general and maternity certificates from a panel of not less than six registered nurses selected in the prescribed manner by the registered nurses and midwives.

(3) The order of the Tribunal shall be final.

[29th March 1926]

Appeal to the Local Government against refusal by the Council to approve training institution or person.

9. Any person, aggrieved by the refusal of the Council to approve any institution or person under any by-laws relating to training made under this Act, may appeal against the refusal to the Local Government and the Local Government may give such directions as it thinks proper and the Council shall comply with the directions so given.

Disabilities of unregistered persons.

10. (1) Except with the special sanction of the Local Government, no person shall, after the expiry of three years from the commencement of this Act, be competent to hold any appointment as nurse or midwife in any hospital, dispensary, infirmary or lying-in hospital, not supported entirely by voluntary contributions unless such person is registered as nurse or midwife under this Act.

(2) No dhai other than a registered dhai shall be employed by a registered medical practitioner subsidised by the Government or by a local body.

Rules by the Local Government.

11. (1) The Local Government may, after previous publication, make rules to carry out all or any of the purposes of this Act not inconsistent therewith:

(2) In particular, and without prejudice to the generality of the foregoing power, they may make rules—

(a) regulating the conduct of the elections of members of the Council;

(b) regulating the conditions of admission to the register;

(c) regulating the conduct of any examinations which may be prescribed as a condition of admission to the register, and any matters ancillary to or connected with such examinations;

(d) prescribing the causes for which, the conditions under which and the manner in which, the nurses, midwives and dhais may be removed from the register and the procedure for restoration to the register of nurses, midwives and dhais who have been removed therefrom;

(e) regulating the selection of the panels and the constitution of the Tribunal specified in sub-section (2) of section 8 and the procedure to be followed by the Tribunal;

(f) prescribing the fees to be paid in respect of an appeal under this Act;

(g) determining the manner in which fees levied under this Act and all other moneys received by the Council shall be applied for the purposes of this Act.

[29th March 1926]

(3) Rules made under sub-section (2), clauses (b), (c) and (d), of this section shall not come into force until approved by a resolution of the Legislative Council with or without modification or amendment; and on such approval the rules as approved shall be published in the local official gazette and on such publication shall have effect as if enacted in this Act.

12. (1) The Council may make by-laws not inconsistent with this Act or any other law—

By-laws of the Council

(a) for regulating the compilation, maintenance and publication of the register;

(b) for regulating and supervising the practice of their profession by registered nurses, midwives and dhais;

(c) for regulating the publication of the names of registered nurses, midwives and dhais and their residences;

(d) for prescribing the rates of fees to be charged for examinations prescribed for admission to the register and for registration;

(e) for regulating the summoning of meetings of the Council and its proceedings; and

(f) for regulating the expenditure of the Council and providing for the audit thereof.

(2) No by-law made by the Council shall come into force until it has been confirmed by the Local Government.

(3) Every such by-law shall, when so confirmed, be published.

13. Any person who

(a) dishonestly makes use of any certificate of registration issued under the provisions of this Act to him or to any other person,

(b) procures or attempts to procure registration under the provisions of this Act by making or producing or causing to be made or produced any false or fraudulent declaration, certificate or representation whether in writing or otherwise, or

(c) wilfully makes or causes to be made any false representation in any matter relating to the register or the certificates issued under the provisions of this Act shall be punishable with fine not exceeding two hundred and fifty rupees.

[29th March 1926]

14. (1) Any person, who, not being a registered nurse, takes or uses the name or title of registered nurse or uses any name, title, description, uniform, badge or signboard, with the intention that it may be believed or with the knowledge that it is likely to be believed that such person is a registered nurse, shall be punishable with fine not exceeding one hundred rupees.

(2) Any person, who, not being a registered midwife or dhai takes or uses the name or title of registered midwife or dhai or uses any name, title, description, uniform, badge or signboard, with the intention that it may be believed or with the knowledge that it is likely to be believed that such person is a registered midwife or dhai, shall be punishable with fine not exceeding fifty rupees.

15. No magistrate other than a Presidency Magistrate or a magistrate of the first class shall take cognizance of or try any offence under this Act.



V211, 32 N26

N26-2956

CANCELLATION OF CERTAIN GOVERNMENT ORDERS ON IRRIGATION 369
IN TRICHINOPOLY DISTRICT

23rd January 1935] [Mr. T. M. Narayanaswami Pillai]

Orders apply to vast number of people, we would realize the hardship. You will permit me, Sir, to explain in respect of G.O. No. 398 how it works with reference to five or six villages I have studied. I shall be able to satisfy the Hon. the Revenue Member and his Secretary that what I say is quite correct and founded on facts. I said that G.O. Nos. 40 and 398 go together; this is how it is. There are three kinds of rates for single crop for these lands; Rs. 10-10-0, Rs. 9-8-0, Rs. 8-4-0. It ranges from Rs. 10-10-0 to Rs. 8-4-0. The present rates work out to Rs. 11-14-0, Rs. 10-10-0 and Rs. 9-8-0. There is under this head alone an increase of Rs. 1-4-0; this is for single crop; for lands with double crops there are three rates again; rupees 14-3-0, Rs. 12-11-0 and Rs. 11. The present rates are Rs. 17-13-0, Rs. 15-15-0 and Rs. 14-2-0. There is increase per acre of Rs. 3-10-0, Rs. 3-4-0 and Rs. 3-4-0, respectively. From the mere statement of the rates you will find how any ryot owning an acre is affected. These are the Government Orders which affect the position of the ryot. As I said, there are two other Government Orders, namely, Nos. 736 and 521 which are similar in character and which can be taken up together. They aim at levying enhanced water-rates on irrigation upon wet lands. These apply to various portions of the district. G.O. No. 736 applies mainly to the Lalgudi, Musiri, Karur and Kulittalai taluks and G.O. No. 521 applies mainly to the Musiri taluk. The rate for irrigation on dry land for the first crop is higher."

* The Hon. the PRESIDENT:—"The hon. Member may continue his speech to-morrow."

The House then adjourned to meet again at 11 a.m. the next day.

R. V. KRISHNA AYYAR,
Secretary to the Legislative Council.

[23rd January 1935]

APPENDIX I.

[Vide answer to question No. 458 asked by Mr. M. B. Rangaswami Reddi at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on the 23rd January 1935, page 288 supra.]

Statement showing the number of licences for the possession of arms for sport, protection or display or for the destruction of wild animals that do injury to crops, cattle or human beings which were in force in the Madras Presidency during the years 1921 to 1933 and which were in force on the 31st December 1933.

Agency division	Districts.	Number of licences which were in force during											
		1921	1922	1923	1924	1925	1926	1927	1928	1929	1930	1931	1932
1. Arantapur ..	..	42	54	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
2. Arcot, North ..	..	1,063	1,867	1,886	1,980	2,108	2,108	2,108	2,108	2,108	2,108	2,108	2,108
3. Arcot, South ..	..	1,063	1,867	1,886	1,980	2,108	2,108	2,108	2,108	2,108	2,108	2,108	2,108
4. Bellary ..	..	1,063	1,867	1,886	1,980	2,108	2,108	2,108	2,108	2,108	2,108	2,108	2,108
5. Chingleput ..	..	1,063	1,867	1,886	1,980	2,108	2,108	2,108	2,108	2,108	2,108	2,108	2,108
6. Chittoor ..	..	1,063	1,867	1,886	1,980	2,108	2,108	2,108	2,108	2,108	2,108	2,108	2,108
7. Coimbatore ..	..	1,063	1,867	1,886	1,980	2,108	2,108	2,108	2,108	2,108	2,108	2,108	2,108
8. Cuddalore ..	..	1,063	1,867	1,886	1,980	2,108	2,108	2,108	2,108	2,108	2,108	2,108	2,108
9. Gough ..	..	1,063	1,867	1,886	1,980	2,108	2,108	2,108	2,108	2,108	2,108	2,108	2,108
10. East Godavari ..	..	1,063	1,867	1,886	1,980	2,108	2,108	2,108	2,108	2,108	2,108	2,108	2,108
11. West Godavari ..	..	1,063	1,867	1,886	1,980	2,108	2,108	2,108	2,108	2,108	2,108	2,108	2,108
12. Guntur ..	..	1,063	1,867	1,886	1,980	2,108	2,108	2,108	2,108	2,108	2,108	2,108	2,108
13. South Kanara ..	..	1,063	1,867	1,886	1,980	2,108	2,108	2,108	2,108	2,108	2,108	2,108	2,108
14. Kistna ..	..	1,063	1,867	1,886	1,980	2,108	2,108	2,108	2,108	2,108	2,108	2,108	2,108
15. Kurnool ..	..	1,063	1,867	1,886	1,980	2,108	2,108	2,108	2,108	2,108	2,108	2,108	2,108
16. Madras ..	..	1,063	1,867	1,886	1,980	2,108	2,108	2,108	2,108	2,108	2,108	2,108	2,108
17. Malabar ..	..	1,063	1,867	1,886	1,980	2,108	2,108	2,108	2,108	2,108	2,108	2,108	2,108
18. Malabar ..	..	1,063	1,867	1,886	1,980	2,108	2,108	2,108	2,108	2,108	2,108	2,108	2,108
19. Nellore ..	..	1,063	1,867	1,886	1,980	2,108	2,108	2,108	2,108	2,108	2,108	2,108	2,108
20. Nilgiris, The ..	..	1,063	1,867	1,886	1,980	2,108	2,108	2,108	2,108	2,108	2,108	2,108	2,108
21. Ramnad ..	..	1,063	1,867	1,886	1,980	2,108	2,108	2,108	2,108	2,108	2,108	2,108	2,108
22. Salem ..	..	1,063	1,867	1,886	1,980	2,108	2,108	2,108	2,108	2,108	2,108	2,108	2,108
23. Tanjore ..	..	1,063	1,867	1,886	1,980	2,108	2,108	2,108	2,108	2,108	2,108	2,108	2,108
24. Tirunelveli ..	..	1,063	1,867	1,886	1,980	2,108	2,108	2,108	2,108	2,108	2,108	2,108	2,108
25. Trichinopoly ..	..	1,063	1,867	1,886	1,980	2,108	2,108	2,108	2,108	2,108	2,108	2,108	2,108
26. Vizagapatnam ..	..	1,063	1,867	1,886	1,980	2,108	2,108	2,108	2,108	2,108	2,108	2,108	2,108
Total ..	..	57,937	57,649	61,270	67,927	70,002	70,850	71,760	72,601	73,733	76,960	75,388	74,572

† The district of Kistna was abolished and the new districts Kistna and West Godavari were formed in 1925.

23rd January 1935]

APPENDIX II.

[Vide answer to question No. 460 asked by Mr. A. B. Shetty at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on the 23rd January 1935, page 290 supra.]

I

Rules framed by Government for the classification of pieceworkers.

Pieceworkers shall be classified for the purposes of leave allowances on average or half average pay and for work which is calculated on hour account and for extra allowances for overtime according to the subsidiary rules hereunder :—

Subsidiary rules for the classification of pieceworkers.—(i) Class rates according to the attached schedule shall be calculated for leave allowances on average or half average pay and for work which is paid on hour account and for extra allowances for overtime.

NOTE.—For the purpose of calculating leave, allowances, the number of working hours per day shall be 7.

(ii) For purposes of classification, the earnings of a pieceworker for the previous six months shall be divided by the number of hours worked and his class fixed at the figure appropriate to his average earnings or at the figure next above the average earnings when they do not coincide with the class rates. The class for new men will be fixed by the Superintendent for the first six months of service.

(iii) Reclassification may be claimed at the intervals of not less than two years.

(iv) Piecework imposers in a lower class may be promoted to a higher class for quick and correct work, general good conduct, regularity of attendance and long service, and pieceworkers in a higher class shall be liable to be relegated to a lower class for misconduct, irregular attendance or careless work.

SCHEDULE.

Class.	Rate per hour.	Class.	Rate per hour.
1	0 1 0	11	0 4 6
2	0 1 6	12	0 5 0
3	0 1 9	13	0 5 6
4	0 2 0	14	0 6 0
5	0 2 4	15	0 6 6
6	0 2 8	16	0 7 0
7	0 3 0	17	0 7 6
8	0 3 4	18	0 8 0
9	0 3 8	19	0 8 6
10	0 4 0	20	0 9 0

[23rd January 1935]

II

List showing the number of men in each class with their class rates

Class.	Rate per hour.	Number of piece-workers in each class.		Class.	Rate per hour.	Number of piece-workers in each class.	
		Perma- nent.	Tempo- rary.			Perma- nent.	Tempo- rary.
	RS. A. P.	No.	No.		RS. A. P.	No.	No.
1	0 1 0	..	5	13	0 5 6	1	7
2	0 1 6	..	6	14	0 6 0	..	5
3	0 1 9	..	7	15	0 6 6	..	4
4	0 2 0	10	16	16	0 7 0	1	8
5	0 2 4	18	60	17	0 7 6	..	5
6	0 2 8	25	35	18	0 8 0	1	1
7	0 3 0	49	39	19	0 8 6	..	..
8	0 3 4	63	22	20	0 9 0	1	..
9	0 3 8	58	10				
10	0 4 0	20	4				
11	0 4 6	11	1				
12	0 5 0	6	5				
				Total ..		264	240

APPENDIX III.

[Vide answer to question No. 476 asked by Mr. M. B. Rangaswami Reddi at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on the 23rd January 1935, page 302 supra.]

Statement showing the number of cattle killed by tigers and panthers during 1933.

District.	Number of cattle killed during 1933 by		
	Tiger.	Panther.	Total.
Ganjam	298	140	438
Vizagapatam	11	171	286
East Godavari	79	25	176 (a)
West Godavari	..	..	..
Kistna	..	..	..
Guntur	..	3	3
Nellore	..	57	57
Cuddapah	6	27	33
Anantapur	..	90	90
Bellary	..	33	33
Kurnool	..	..	232 (b)
Chingleput	..	4	4
Chittoor	..	149	149
North Arcot	..	225	225
South Arcot	..	17	17
Tanjore	..	..	..
Trichinopoly	..	8	8
Madura	49	47	96
Ramnad	..	..	..
Tinnevely	1	..	1
Coimbatore	50	170	519 (c)
The Nilgiris	33	20	156 (d)
Salem	1	222	223
South Kanara	..	..	3,734 (b)
Malabar	..	..	1,089 (b)
Total	632	1,408	7,563

- (a) Separate figures are not available in respect of 72 cases included in the total.
 (b) Separate figures are not available.
 (c) No separate figures are available for 299 cases included in the total.
 (d) No separate figures are available in respect of 103 cases.

[23rd January 1935]

APPENDIX IV.

[Vide answer to question No. 480 asked by Mr. G. Rameswara Rao at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on the 23rd January 1935, page 306 supra.]

G.O. No. 3552, L. & M., dated 5th September 1930.

READ—the following papers:—

I

G.O. No. 473, L. & M., dated the 6th February 1930.

II

File of replies received.

Order—No. 3552, L. & M., dated 5th September 1930.

In G.O. No. 473, L. & M., dated the 6th February 1930, Government published for general information and criticism certain draft rules governing the appointment of teachers in schools maintained by the local bodies. Suggestions made by the Director of Public Instruction in respect of rules 4 and 6 have been accepted. The draft rules as modified are now confirmed.

2. The appended notification will be published in the *Fort St. George Gazette* and will be republished in all the District Gazettes in English and in the vernaculars.

3. The Senior Translator to Government is requested to furnish the Superintendent, Government Press, Madras, with the translations of the notification in Tamil, Telugu, Malayalam and Kanarese for publication in the District Gazettes.

(By order of the Government, Ministry of Education and Local Self-Government)

HILTON BROWN,
Secretary to Government.

To all Presidents of District Boards with copies to all Presidents of Taluk Boards.

- .. all Chairmen of Municipal Councils.
- .. all Collectors.
- .. the Inspector of Municipal Councils and Local Boards.
- .. the President, Corporation of Madras.
- .. the Law (Drafting) Department.
- .. the Law and Education Department.
- .. the Examiner of Local Fund Accounts.
- .. the Director of Public Instruction.
- .. the Senior Translator to Government, through the Law (Legislative) Department.
- .. the Superintendent, Government Press, for publication of the notification in the *Fort St. George Gazette*.

[23rd January 1935]

APPENDIX.

NOTIFICATION.

In exercise of the powers conferred on him by clause (b) of section 74 and clause (a) of sub-section (2) of section 303 of the Madras District Municipalities Act, 1920 (Madras Act V of 1920), clause (a) of sub-section (2) of section 199 of the Madras Local Boards Act, 1920 (Madras Act XIV of 1920) and in supersession of all existing rules on the subject the Governor acting with Ministers is pleased to make the following revised rules relating to appointment of teachers in schools maintained by local bodies:—

RULES.

Secondary Schools.

No appointment to a permanent post and no appointment to a temporary or acting post which is expected to last for three months or more, of a teacher who does not possess the qualifications laid down in the Madras Educational Rules for the time being in force, shall be made in any secondary school maintained by a Municipal Council without the previous consent of the District Educational Officer concerned in the case of boys' schools and Inspectress of Schools concerned in the case of girls' schools, who shall in every such case certify that no person so qualified is available for appointment.

2. The case of existing teachers in secondary schools who do not possess the qualifications mentioned in rule 1 above, shall be referred without delay to the District Educational Officer or Inspectress of Schools concerned, as the case may be, and the services of such of them as are certified by such District Educational Officer or Inspectress of Schools to be unfit for retention shall immediately be dispensed with.

Elementary Schools.

3. The normal qualification for appointment as a teacher in an elementary school maintained by a Municipality shall be the possession of a trained teachers' certificate, and in the case of a headmaster or of a headmistress of a school with a standard or standards above the fifth, a secondary trained teacher's certificate.

4. Two panels one of men teachers and the other of women teachers who are available and suitable for employment in the elementary schools maintained by the Municipality shall be agreed upon from time to time and at such times as may be necessary, between the Deputy Inspector of Schools or Sub-Assistant Inspectress of Schools concerned, as the case may be, and the Chairman of the Municipal Council. These panels shall consist primarily of teachers who possess the qualification mentioned in rule 3 above. The teachers who do not possess this qualification may, if they are otherwise suitable, also be included in the panels with due regard to the local needs of any particular community. Such inclusion shall, however, be limited, except in the case of women teachers or of teachers belonging to depressed classes, to higher elementary grade teachers.

5. Women whose names appear in the panel of women teachers shall be eligible for appointments in boys' schools as well as in girls' schools.

6. No appointment to a permanent post and no appointment to a temporary or acting post which is expected to last for three months or more, of a teacher shall be made in an elementary school maintained by a Municipal Council from outside the panels referred to in rule 4.

23rd January 1935]

7. Every panel constituted under rule 4 shall be exhausted before another one is drawn upon, but the authority making the appointment shall be at liberty to appoint any person on the panel to a particular vacancy. In the case of appointments in girls' schools the panel of women teachers shall be first exhausted after which any man over 30 years of age included in the panel of men teachers shall be considered eligible for appointment or transfer to girls' schools.

8. The cases of existing teachers in elementary schools not possessing the qualification mentioned in rule 3 shall be referred to without delay to the Deputy Inspector of Schools or Sub-Assistant Inspectress of Schools concerned, as the case may be, and the services of such of them as are certified by the latter as unfit for retention or to be sent up for training, shall immediately be dispensed with.

9. As many of the unqualified teachers who are already in service or are appointed during the course of a year, as are considered by the Deputy Inspector of Schools or Sub-Assistant Inspectress of Schools concerned, as fit to be sent up for training and can be provided with training at the end of the year, shall be sent up for such training, the order therefor being determined by the order of their original appointment.

General.

10. The appointment of an unqualified teacher to a post which was not originally expected to last for three months or more, may under circumstances beyond the control of the authority making the appointment, be extended by a maximum period of another three months.

11. Any expenditure incurred after these rules come into force, in respect of unqualified teachers appointed, or retained in service, otherwise than as provided above, shall be surchargeable on the authority making the appointment or sanctioning or acquiescing in their retention.

[23rd January 1935]

APPENDIX V.

[Vide answer to question No. 481 asked by Mr. M. B. Rangaswami Reddi at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on the 23rd January 1935, page 307 supra.]

Statement showing the maximum grants admissible and the grants actually disbursed to District Boards towards the maintenance of trunk roads.

Name of District Boards. (1)	1931-32.		1932-33.		1933-34.	
	Grant admissible. (2)	Grant disbursed. (3)	Grant admissible. (4)	Grant disbursed. (5)	Grant admissible. (6)	Grant disbursed. (7)
	RS.	RS.	RS.	RS.	RS.	RS.
1 Anantapur ..	1,28,200	1,28,139	1,28,200	1,22,976	1,28,200	1,22,082
2 Arcot, North ..	94,530	94,530	94,530	94,530	94,530	94,193
3 Arcot, South ..	90,310	90,310	90,310	90,310	90,310	90,310
4 Bellary ..	63,270	63,270	63,270	63,270	63,270	63,270
5 Chingleput ..	1,01,670	1,01,370	1,01,670	1,01,670	1,01,670	1,01,670
6 Chittoor ..	96,530	96,499	96,530	96,164	96,530	92,390
7 Coimbatore ..	1,43,020	1,43,020	1,43,020	1,43,020	1,42,120	1,42,120
8 Cuddapah ..	48,930	48,930	48,930	48,930	48,930	48,930
9 Ganjam ..	76,970	76,891	76,970	76,970	76,970	73,463
10 Godavari, East ..	34,930	34,930	34,930	34,930	34,930	34,930
11 Godavari, West ..	38,690	38,690	38,700	38,700	38,700	38,700
12 Guntur ..	65,110	65,110	65,110	65,110	65,110	65,110
13 Kanara, South ..	60,630	60,630	60,630	59,522	60,630	60,630
14 Kistna ..	82,190	82,190	82,190	82,190	82,190	..
15 Kurnool ..	1,10,050	1,10,050	1,10,050	1,10,050	1,10,050	1,10,050
16 Madura ..	50,990	50,990	50,990	50,990	50,990	50,990
17 Malabar ..	87,080	76,240	77,180	77,180	77,180	..
18 Nellore ..	98,680	97,565	98,680	89,966	98,680	..
19 The Nilgiris ..	51,460	44,635	51,460	51,460	51,460	51,064
20 Ramnad ..	19,650	19,650	19,650	19,650	19,650	19,650
21 Salem ..	88,670	88,670	88,670	88,502	88,670	86,270
22 Tinnevely ..	48,160	48,160	48,160	48,160	48,160	48,160
23 Trichinopoly ..	1,00,780	1,00,780	1,00,780	1,00,780	1,00,780	1,00,780
24 Vizagapatam ..	1,07,700	1,07,700	1,07,700	1,07,700	1,07,700	1,07,700

[23rd January 1935]

Statement showing the maximum grants admissible to and the grants actually disbursed to District Boards towards the maintenance of second-class roads.

Name of District Boards. (1)	1931-32.		1932-33.		1933-34.	
	Grant admissible. (2)	Grant disbursed. (3)	Grant admissible. (4)	Grant disbursed. (5)	Grant admissible. (6)	Grant disbursed. (7)
	RS.	RS.	RS.	RS.	RS.	RS.
1 Anantapur ..	24,820	24,820	24,820	22,568	24,820	24,606
2 Arcot, North ..	56,420	56,420	56,420	56,420	56,420	56,420
3 Arcot, South ..	66,020	66,020	66,020	66,020	66,020	66,020
4 Bellary ..	32,790	32,790	32,790	32,790	32,790	..
5 Chingleput ..	46,420	46,420	46,420	46,420	46,420	46,420
6 Chittoor ..	43,270	43,270	43,270	43,270	43,270	42,718
7 Coimbatore ..	51,510	51,510	51,510	51,510	51,510	51,510
8 Cuddapah ..	35,200	35,200	35,200	34,520	35,200	35,200
9 Ganjam ..	81,430	81,430	81,430	81,430	81,430	81,430
10 Godavari, East ..	89,750	89,750	89,750	89,750	89,750	89,750
11 Godavari, West ..	65,950	65,950	65,950	65,950	65,950	65,950
12 Guntur ..	99,470	99,470	99,470	99,470	99,470	99,470
13 Kanara, South ..	87,490	77,673	87,490	78,419	87,490	78,899
14 Kistna ..	65,950	65,950	65,950	65,950	65,950	65,566
15 Kurnool ..	38,710	38,710	38,710	33,177	38,710	36,340
16 Madura ..	50,880	50,880	50,880	50,880	50,880	50,880
17 Malabar ..	1,57,200	1,57,200	1,57,200	1,44,588	1,57,200	1,43,447
18 Nellore ..	57,520	57,520	57,520	57,301	57,520	57,520
19 Ramnad ..	68,160	68,160	68,160	68,160	68,160	68,160
20 Salem ..	44,580	44,580	44,580	44,580	44,580	44,580
21 Tanjore ..	1,10,320	1,10,320	1,10,320	1,10,320	1,10,320	1,10,320
22 Tinnevely ..	52,560	52,560	52,560	52,560	52,560	52,560
23 Trichinopoly ..	50,420	50,420	50,420	50,420	50,420	50,420
24 Vizagapatam ..	59,580	59,580	59,580	59,580	59,580	59,580

THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL OF THE GOVERNOR OF MADRAS.

Thursday, the 24th January 1935.

The House met at eleven of the clock, Mr. President (the Hon. Mr. B. RAMACHANDRA REDDI) in the Chair.

PRESENT:

Stokes, K.C.I.E., C.S.I., I.C.S., The Hon. Sir Hopetoun.	Muthiah Chettiyar, Mr. M. A.
Reddi Nayudu, Kt., The Hon. Rai Bahadur Sir K. V.	Muthu Chettiyar, Rao Bahadur P. C.
Pannirselvam, The Hon. Rao Bahadur A. T.	Nachiyappa Gounder, Mr. K. A.
Souter, C.S.I., I.C.S., The Hon. Mr. C. A.	Nadimuthu Pillai, Mr. A. Pl. N. V.
Raja of Bobbili, The Hon. the.	Nanjappa Bahadur, Subadar-Major S. A.
Rajan, The Hon. Mr. P. T.	Narasa Reddi, Mr. T.
Kumaraswami Reddiyar, The Hon. Diwan Bahadur S.	Narasimhaswami, Rao Sahib D. V.
Abdul Hameed Khan Sahib Bahadur.	Narayanan Nambiyar, Mr. V. P.
Ahmed Meeran Sahib Bahadur, A. M.	Natesa Mudaliyar, Rao Bahadur C.
Alamelumangathayaramma, Mrs. K.	Palat, Mr. R. M.
Appadurai Pillai, Diwan Bahadur A.	Patnaik Mahasayo, Sriman M. G.
Arasu, Mr. V. T.	Patro, Kt., Rao Bahadur Sir A. P.
Ari Cowder, Mr. H. B.	Pattabhiramayya, Mr. K.
Basheer Ahmed Sayeed Sahib Bahadur.	Pattagar of Palayakottai, The.
Basu Dev, Mr. C.	Peddi Raju, Mr. P.
Beyabani Sahib Bahadur, S. M. K.	Pocker Sahib Bahadur, B.
Bhanoji Rao, Mr. A. V.	Premayya, Mr. G. R.
Birley, Mr. F.	Rajagopala Pillai, Mr. P. V.
Devadasan, Mr. M.	Raja of Kallikote, The.
Dharmalingam Pillai, Rao Sahib V.	Ramachandra Padayachi, Mr. P. K.
Duraiswami Reddiyar, Mr. K. M.	Ramakrishna Reddi, Mr. A.
Ellappa Chettiyar, Diwan Bahadur S.	Ramalingam Chettiyar, Diwan Bahadur T. A.
Foulkes, Mr. R.	Ramamurti, Rao Sahib Pandit Ganala.
Gopalaswami Mudaliyar, Diwan Bahadur M.	Raman Menon, Mr. K. P.
Indrayya, Mr. C.	Ramaswami Ayyar, T. S.
Iswaran Pillai, Mr. I. C.	Ramaswami Mudaliyar, Mr. V. M.
Jagannatham, Mr. H. M.	Rameswara Rao, Mr. G.
Jayaram Nayudu, Rao Sahib O.	Ranganatha Mudaliyar, Mr. A.
Jones, I.C.S., Mr. C. E.	Ranganatha Mudaliyar, Mr. G.
Kesavaramamurti Nayudu, Mr. K.	Rangaswami Reddi, Mr. M. B.
Khalif-ul-lah Sahib Bahadur, Khan Bahadur P.	Ratnasabhapati Mudaliyar, Diwan Bahadur C. S.
Kolanda Reddi, Rai Sahib O.	Ratnaveli Tevar, Mr. P.
Koti Reddi, Mr. K.	Russell, I.C.S., Mr. T. B.
Krishnayya Choudari, Mr. P. V.	Schamnad Sahib Bahadur, Khan Bahadur Mahmud.
Krishnamurti, Rao Bahadur D.	Sesha Reddi, Rao Bahadur Mr. B. P.
Kumararaja of Venkatagiri, The.	Scott-Brown, I.C.S., Mr. W.
Kuppuswami Choudari, Mr. J.	Shetty, Mr. A. B.
Langley, Mr. W. K. M.	Simhachalam Pantulu, Mr. G.
Madanagopal Nayudu, Mr. R.	Siva Raj, Rao Sahib N.
Maharaja of Venkatagiri, The.	Sivasubrahmanya Ayyar, Mr. K. S.
Mahboob Ali Baig Sahib Bahadur.	Soundara Pandiyan, Mr. W. P. A.
Manikkavelu Nayakar, Mr. M. A.	Sreshta, Mr. M. S.
Metherell, Mr. J. K.	Srinivasan, Rao Bahadur R.
Moidoo Sahib Bahadur, Khan Bahadur T. M.	Sriramulu, Mr. G.
Moses, Mr. P. C.	Subbarayan, Dr. P.
Muniswami Pillai, Rao Sahib V. I.	Subrahmanya Chetti, Rao Sahib P.
	Subrahmanya Bhatt, Mr. U. C.
	Sundara Rao Nayudu, Mr. T.
	Syed Tajuddin Sahib Bahadur, Khan Sahib.

[24th January 1935]

PRESENT—cont.

Thangal, Mr. P. M.
 Thomas, Mr. Daniel.
 Uzielli, C.I.E., I.C.S., Mr. H. R.
 Vasudeva Pillai, Mr. V. G.
 Vedachala Mudaliyar, Mr. M.
 Venkatarama Ayyar, Mr. K. R.
 Venugopal Nayudu, Rao Bahadur R. K.

Viswanatha Rao, Diwan Bahadur V. N.
 Yahya Ali Sahib Bahadur, Khan Bahadur.
 Yakub Hasan Sahib Bahadur.
 Zamindar of Bodinayakkanur, The.
 Zamindar of Kirlampudi, The.
 Zamindar of Mirzapuram, The.
 Boulton, I.C.S., Mr. D. H.

I.—QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

STARRED QUESTIONS

Education

Progress of the proposals for the conversion of a portion of the foreshore of the Madras beach as playgrounds for educational institutions.

*499 Q.—Mr. K. A. NACHIYAPPA GOUNDER: Will the Hon. the Minister for Education and Excise be pleased to state—

(a) at what stage the proposals for converting a portion of the foreshore of the Madras beach as playgrounds for educational institutions are at present;

(b) what the estimates for such works are;

(c) whether any objections have been received for this proposal; and

(d) if so, from whom and how they have been disposed of?

A.—The question of laying out one or more playing-fields on the foreshore between Fort St. George and San Thome has been referred to a committee and its report is awaited. Objections, if any, to the proposals which may be made by the committee, will receive due consideration.

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—“Mr. President, are the Government aware that more than once the City Corporation has passed resolutions expressing its disapproval of the scheme of the Government?”

The Hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR:—“It expressed its disapproval with regard to a certain site being converted into a playground, but not of the general scheme.”

Rao Bahadur C. NATESA MUDALIYAR:—“May I know, Sir, whether this Committee was appointed after the disapproval expressed by the Corporation?”

The Hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR:—“The disapproval was, as I said, with regard to a particular site being converted into a playground. I think the Corporation has not committed itself against the conversion of any portion of the foreshore into playgrounds.”

Rao Bahadur C. NATESA MUDALIYAR:—“May I know if it is not a fact that the Committee has now decided that the foreshore should be

[24th January 1935]

converted into playgrounds and whether the Government, after receiving the communication from the Committee, will have nothing to do with this foreshore scheme?”

The Hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR:—“The answer here says that the report of the Committee has not yet been received. It is therefore impossible for me to say what their conclusions are. After the report is received, the Corporation will be consulted in the matter as required by the rules.”

Mr. V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—“May I ask when and with whom this idea of the conversion of the foreshore into playgrounds originated?”

The Hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR:—“It originated before I became Minister.”

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—“May I know whether in view of the fact that the people of Madras are opposed to this scheme as represented by the City Corporation, the Government will consider the advisability of giving it up entirely?”

The Hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR:—“As I said, it all depends upon what takes place after the committee's report is received and after the Corporation has expressed its views on the report.”

Diwan Bahadur C. S. RATNASABHAPATI MUDALIYAR:—“Does the foreshore vest in the Corporation?”

The Hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR:—“It vests in the Government.”

Mr. V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—“Arising out of the answer to my question, am I to understand that the Hon. the Minister is not able to find out from the records at his disposal how and when this scheme originated?”

The Hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR:—“I can certainly discover that, but I think it is not worth while doing that for the purposes of this question.”

Rao Bahadur C. NATESA MUDALIYAR:—“May I know whether the Government are going to expose the children to the vicissitudes of the weather, where they may be liable to attack by diseases such as pneumonia, etc., after their being exhausted in the games?”

The Hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR:—“My hon. Friend is more competent to express an opinion on that matter than myself. His opinion will certainly have weight in the decision of this question.”

Mr. V. T. ARASU:—“Will the Hon. Minister be pleased to state the names of the gentlemen who constitute this committee?”

The Hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR:—“I can't say off-hand.”

[24th January 1935]

Mr. C. BASU DEV:—"Will the Government consult their medical advisers on the astonishing statement made by Dr. Natesa Mudaliyar that the boys playing on the foreshore will be exposed to all sorts of diseases?"

The Hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR:—"I may say that Mr. C. Natesa Mudaliyar is a member of that committee, and if in his minute he raises this point, we will certainly consult the medical advisers."

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—"May I know whether, if the foreshore belongs to the Government or not, the health of the citizens is the primary concern of the Corporation, and if so, whether the opinion of the Corporation should not weigh with the Government?"

The Hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR:—"Yes. I wish the Corporation realized that it was their primary concern."

Inclusion of the Reddis of the Andhra districts in the list of backward communities for educational purposes.

* 500 Q.—Mr. C. INDRAIYA: Will the Hon. the Minister for Education and Excise be pleased to state—

(a) why Reddis of the Andhra districts have not been included in the list of backward classes for educational purposes; and

(b) why fee concessions are not given to the students of that community?

A.—The list of backward classes eligible for fee concessions was drawn up some years ago and it is not possible to say now why any particular community was not included in the list. Government do not propose to make any additions to the existing list.

Mr. C. INDRAIYA:—"May I know why the Reddis of the Andhra districts are not included in the list of backward communities?"

The Hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR:—"As the answer says, it is not possible to find out the reasons for the inclusion of some communities and the exclusion of others. But as far as I can gather, that was because there was not sufficient illiteracy in that particular community to justify its being classified as a backward community."

Mr. M. A. MANIKKAVELU NAYAKAR:—"Do the Government propose to make any subtraction from the list?"

The Hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR:—"Neither additions nor subtractions."

Mr. M. A. MANIKKAVELU NAYAKAR:—"If the Government contemplate restricting the concession, will it not be safer to remove from the list such of the communities as are now advanced in education?"

[24th January 1935]

The Hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR:—"The question was examined, and it does not appear that any of the communities included in the list have advanced so far in education as to justify their names being removed."

Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR:—"Are the Reddis of non-Andhra districts included in the list?"

The Hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR:—"No; the Reddis of Ganjam district alone are included, not of any other district."

Mr. C. INDRAIYA:—"Is the Hon. the Minister aware of the fact that the Reddis of the Andhra districts are educationally most backward?"

The Hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR:—"May be; but only those who are called Reddis in Ganjam are considered backward for the purpose of these concessions."

Principles governing the personnel of the Committee for the selection of candidates for admission into the Presidency College, Madras.

* 501 Q.—Mr. K. A. NACHIYAPPA GOUNDER: Will the Hon. the Minister for Education and Excise be pleased to state—

(a) who the persons now serving on the Selection Committee of the Madras Presidency College for selecting applicants for study in that college are;

(b) when each of them was appointed and what the duration of membership is;

(c) on what principles and on whose recommendations such appointments are made; and

(d) what the number of students (district-war) selected for admission in that college in each class in each year since 1930 is?

A.—(a) (1) The Principal of the College.
(2) M.R.Ry. R. Madanagopal Nayudu Garu, M.L.C.
(3) The Hon'ble Diwan Bahadur G. Narayanaswami Chetti Garu, C.I.E.
(4) The Reverend A. Arulanandam.
(5) Janab Jamal Muhammad Sahib Bahadur.
(6) Dr. B. B. Dey.
(7) M.R.Ry. Rao Bahadur Dr. C. Natesa Mudaliyar Avargal, M.L.C.

(b) All the members other than the Principal were appointed to hold office for three years from 20th May 1934.

(c) Persons who are considered suitable for assisting the Principal in the selection of candidates, are appointed in consultation with the Director of Public Instruction.

(d) The hon. Member is referred to Appendix B of the annual reports on the working of the college, which are placed at the disposal of the Press.

[24th January 1935]

Rao Bahadur C. NATESA MUDALIYAR:—"Sir, what is the principle adopted in the selection of members? May I know what is known by 'assisting' the Principal? Is it the arranging of a table, papers or the handing over of a pen, and allowing him to give out his own opinion?"

The Hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR:—"That is the wording of the Government Order which constituted this committee, and that order was passed nearly ten years ago; and my hon. Friend is aware that it has been there from the time the committee was inaugurated. He has been on the committee from the beginning and knows best what assistance the members of the committee have been giving."

Rao Bahadur C. NATESA MUDALIYAR:—"For the last so many years, I have been insisting that the language should be cut and dry, just as the Chief Minister did it in the case of the medical admissions. I have many a time requested the Education Minister to specify the assistance. May I know whether the Minister is going to change the language and see that things are made cut and dry, even as was done by the Chief Minister?"

The Hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR:—"I do not exactly follow my friend when he says it should be made 'cut and dry.' I know however that some representations were made by my friend and they were considered. And as far as I could understand from my friend himself, he was quite satisfied with what took place at the last selection, and I hope there will be no room for complaint in the future."

Rao Bahadur C. NATESA MUDALIYAR:—"May I say that last year it was all right because the acting principal was good but it was not so when there was another principal. In that year I protested and informed the Hon. the Minister that everything was not well."

The Hon. the PRESIDENT:—"Is that a supplementary question?"

Mr. V. T. ARASU:—"Will the Hon. the Minister be pleased to state whether the practice followed by the principal of publishing a list of candidates to be admitted into the Presidency College obtains without even consulting the members of the Committee?"

The Hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR:—"I am not aware of it."

Mr. V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—"May I ask the Hon. Minister to consider the question of revising the terms of reference to this Committee in view of the large number of protests received from members serving on the committee and co-ordinate the power of the principal and the committee members on the question of selection of candidates?"

The Hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR:—"If some definite lines on which improvement is required are suggested, I shall certainly be prepared to consider them."

24th January 1935]

Diwan Bahadur M. GOPALASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—"May I know, Sir, why it is that none from the mufassal stations have been selected to serve on this committee especially in view of the large number of students coming from the northern districts, especially the Ceded districts?"

The Hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR:—"The members of the committee have always been drawn from the people in the city for one reason amongst others, that they need not be paid any travelling allowance; but at present some people from the mufassal also are being put in, though in this particular case, it is not so."

Mr. C. BASU DEV:—"May I know whether the Hon. Minister had considered the question of the representation of the backward Hindu communities in view of the fact that the Government have recognized those communities as backward in education?"

The Hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR:—"Yes; there is a Muslim gentleman and there is a Christian gentleman. There is also Mr. Madanagopala Nayudu who, I am sure, will look after the interests of these backward communities."

Principles governing the personnel of the Committee for the selection of candidates for admission into the Engineering College, Guindy.

* 502 Q.—Mr. K. A. NACHIYAPPA GOUNDER: Will the Hon. the Minister for Education and Excise be pleased to state—

(a) who the persons now serving on the committee appointed for selection of applicants for study in the Engineering College at Guindy are;

(b) when each of them was appointed and what the duration of such appointments is;

(c) on what principles and on whose recommendations appointments to this committee are made; and

(d) what the number of admissions (district-war) made in each of the years since 1930 is?

A.—(a) (1) The Principal of the College.

(2) V. Hart, Esq., Chief Engineer, Public Works Department (General, Buildings and Roads).

(3) Khan Bahadur Abdul Razak Sahib Bahadur.

(4) M.R.Ry. Diwan Bahadur A. Appadurai Pillai Avargal, I.S.O., M.L.C.

(5) M.R.Ry. Diwan Bahadur M. Krishnaswami Reddiyar Avargal.

(6) M.R.Ry. Rao Bahadur R. Srinivasan Avargal, M.L.C.

(b) & (c) The attention of the hon. Member is invited to the answers to clauses (b) and (c) of question No. 501.

[24th January 1935]

- (d) The hon. Member is referred to the annual reports on the working of the College which have been placed at the disposal of the Press. The Government have no information beyond what is contained therein.

Industries

Scheme, if any, for the revival of rural industries.

* 503 Q.—Mr. P. V. KRISHNAYYA CHOUDARI: Will the Hon. the Minister for Education and Excise be pleased to state whether the Government have any schemes under consideration for the revival of village industries or the starting of any new cottage industries for rural uplift?

A.—The Government of India have agreed to make a grant to the various provinces for a period of five years to develop the handloom weaving industry through co-operative methods. The grant allotted to this Presidency for the current year and for 1935–36 is Rs. 26,500 and Rs. 59,500 respectively. The Government have formulated a scheme for the utilization of the grant and have forwarded it to the Government of India for approval.

The Government of India propose also to give a grant to be devoted to the increased production and supply of disease free 'cellular' seed to silk worm rearers in this Presidency and also for research on silkworm diseases. A scheme for this purpose also has been drawn up and sent to them for consideration.

Mr. P. V. KRISHNAYYA CHOUDARI:—"May I know whether the Government are prepared to place this scheme before the House?"

The Hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR:—"The scheme is still in the stage of certain proposals and they have been submitted to the Government of India. Till the Government of India have expressed an opinion on these proposals of this Government, I do not think any useful purpose will be served by placing this provisional scheme before the House."

Mr. P. V. KRISHNAYYA CHOUDARI:—"At least after approval by the Government of India, will the Government be prepared to place it before the House?"

The Hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR:—"I shall consider."

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—"May I know if the Government are aware of the latest communiqué by the Government of India with regard to the improvement of village industries in the country?"

The Hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR:—"That is not a matter which comes within my cognizance."

[24th January 1935]

Diwan Bahadur C. S. RATNASABHAPATI MUDALIYAR:—"Considering the importance of this question, will the Local Government be pleased to provide more liberal grants for the purpose?"

The Hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR:—"That question has never been considered, and I consider it very unlikely that this Government will be able to do so."

Diwan Bahadur C. S. RATNASABHAPATI MUDALIYAR:—"As the current year will be over in about two months from now, will the Government be able to spend this sum of Rs. 26,500 allotted for this year?"

The Hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR:—"If the proposals are approved by the Government of India in time, I think it may be possible."

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—"May I know whether the Provincial Government have taken any steps with regard to the scheme of rural industrial improvement that has been adumbrated by Mahatma Gandhi and whether they have taken any steps for counteracting those activities or bring in a measure for counteracting them?"

The Hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR:—"As I said, Sir, that is not a subject which comes within my portfolio at all."

Mr. V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—"Sir, I am afraid the Government have not answered this part of the question, viz., whether they have any scheme for starting rural cottage industries. May I ask whether they have any scheme at all?"

The Hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR:—"There is no doubt a scheme; though of course the Government of India subsidise it, it is a scheme carried out by this Government."

Mr. V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—"May I ask whether the Government contemplate the starting of new cottage industries or of assisting old cottage industries like the handloom weaving industry?"

The Hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR:—"It is the old industries that are going to be helped."

Excise

Sale-proceeds of toddy shops from 1st October 1934.

* 504 Q.—Mr. K. A. NACHYAPPA GOUNDER: Will the Hon. the Minister for Education and Excise be pleased to state—

(a) what the sale-proceeds of the toddy shops for the year commencing from 1st October 1934 in each district are; and

(b) what the number of toddy shops sold for the year commencing from 1st October 1934 in each district is?

A.—(a) & (b) The hon. Member's attention is invited to the answer to question No. 404, which gives information as to the number of toddy shops sold and the amounts for which they were sold in each district during the years 1930–31 to 1934–35.

[24th January 1935]

Agriculture

Principles governing the personnel of the Committee for the selection of candidates for admission into the Agricultural College at Coimbatore.

* 505 Q.—Mr. K. A. NACHIYAPPA GOUNDER: Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

(a) who the persons are who have been appointed to serve on the committee constituted for the selection of applicants for study in the Agricultural College at Coimbatore;

(b) when each of them has been appointed and what is the duration of their membership;

(c) of these, how many are agriculturists; and

(d) on what principle and on whose recommendations such appointments are made?

A.—(a) The hon. Member's attention is invited to the answer given to clause (a) of question No. 29 answered on 1st August 1933.

(b) All the members were appointed in May 1933 for a term of three years.

(c) The Government have no information. Please see the answer to clause (d) below.

(d) The selection of members is made with a view to getting a representative body of non-officials who are likely to be of assistance to the department in selecting suitable candidates of the right type to the college. The Government appointed the Committee in consultation with the Director of Agriculture.

11-15 a.m. Mr. V. T. ARASU:—"Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state the names of Members who constitute the Committee?"

The Hon. Mr. P. T. RAJAN:—"The hon. Member will find the names if he refers to question No. 29 which was answered on 1st August 1933."

Mr. V. T. ARASU:—"I seek your protection, Mr. President. It would be better if that answer is repeated now?"

The Hon. the PRESIDENT:—"The usual practice in this House is that answers that have been already given are referred to and they are not repeated and the hon. Members are expected to look into those answers."

Mr. V. T. ARASU:—"Will the Hon. Minister be pleased to state whether a certain gentleman is both on this Committee as well as on the Veterinary College Committee; and why is it that one and the same gentleman has been chosen for both these Committees?"

The Hon. Mr. P. T. RAJAN:—"My hon. Friend says that a certain gentleman is on both the Committees. He has not told me definitely the name of the gentleman."

[24th January 1935]

Mr. V. T. ARASU:—"May I know whether the Hon. Minister is aware of the fact that my hon. Friend, Mr. N. Siva Raj, is a member of these Committees, and if so, what interest he represents?"

The Hon. Mr. P. T. RAJAN:—"Yes, he is a member of both these Committees and he represents the depressed and backward classes."

Diwan Bahadur M. GOPALASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—"One of the clauses of the question asks, how many of these are agriculturists, and I find from the answer there is no answer to this clause?"

The Hon. Mr. P. T. RAJAN:—"What exactly is meant by 'agriculturist' I should like to know before I can reply."

Diwan Bahadur C. S. RATNASABHAPATI MUDALIYAR:—"May I know whether any other member of this Council has been recommended by the Director of Agriculture for this committee?"

The Hon. P. T. RAJAN:—"I cannot say it offhand."

Local Self-Government

Adoption of actual pay as the basis for the preparation of the list of local board clerks for future entertainments.

* 506 Q.—Mr. G. SIMHACHALAM PANTULU: Will the Hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) what the considerations were by which the Government were guided in the preparation of lists arranging the panel of clerks to be entertained in future, under the local boards; and

(b) whether it is a fact that the Government have taken only the actual salary drawn by the individuals on the date of the abolition of the taluk boards in the preparation of such lists?

A.—(a) The lists were prepared in accordance with the principle of seniority based upon pay except that where there were graduates among the ex-taluk board employees, they have been ranked as seniors to non-graduates.

Mr. G. SIMHACHALAM PANTULU:—"May I know from the Hon. Minister whether several representations have been received by Government to the effect that the lists furnished by the taluk boards are incorrect?"

The Hon. the RAJA OF BOBBILI:—"Some representations have been made and it has also been found that there have been some mistakes. In all cases where such matters have been brought to the notice of Government, the mistakes have been rectified."

Mr. G. SIMHACHALAM PANTULU:—"Will the Hon. Minister be pleased to correct the lists and make the necessary amends?"

The Hon. the RAJA OF BOBBILI:—"As far as I am aware the current lists are correct. If the hon. Member brings to the notice of Government any case of hardship, then I shall certainly consider the matter."

[24th January 1935]

Proposals, if any, for the appointment of Executive Officers to panchayat boards.

* 507 Q.—Mr. M. B. RANGASWAMI REDDI: Will the Hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government are contemplating any scheme to appoint executive authorities to panchayat boards (lately unions) which have a population of over 15,000 in view of the fact that executive officers are being appointed to municipalities whose population is less than 15,000; and

(b) whether the Government will be pleased to place on the table a list of union boards which have a population of 15,000 and above?

A.—(a) No.

(b) A list* is appended.

Mr. G. RAMESWARA RAO:—"The answer to clause (a) of the question is 'No.' May I know the reason why union boards having a population of over 15,000 have no executive officers as in the case of municipalities?"

The Hon. the RAJA OF BOBBILI:—"The Act passed by this House only refers to municipalities."

Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR:—"May I know what is the policy of the Government in regard to the constitution of municipalities; if on population basis, the strength which will justify the constitution of a municipality?"

The Hon. the RAJA OF BOBBILI:—"I believe it is not done mainly with reference to population but with reference to the importance of the place."

Mr. M. A. MANIKKAVELU NAYAKAR:—"Is it not a fact that only 12 municipalities have been included in the schedule where executive officers should be appointed? If so, why have Government appointed executive officers to a number of municipalities?"

The Hon. the RAJA OF BOBBILI:—"The schedule only mentions the names of municipalities to which Commissioners should be appointed in the first instance."

Irrigation

Scheme for a High Level Channel in the Guntur district.

* 508 Q.—Mr. P. V. KRISHNAYYA CHOUDARI: Will the Hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) when the Government propose to take up the execution of the scheme for a high level channel in Guntur district; and

(b) in what stage the matter stands at present?

A.—(a) & (b) It is proposed to provide funds for this work in the Budget Estimate for 1935-36.

* Printed as Appendix I on page 450 infra.

[24th January 1935]

Mr. P. V. KRISHNAYYA CHOUDARI:—"May I know whether the Government are going to allow paddy crop to be grown or are they going to suggest any other crop to be grown by the ryots under the channel?"

The Hon. Mr. C. A. SOUTER:—"I have no information, Sir."

Reports on the pumping scheme for the lands in Konala and Arulla Agraharam in Tadepalligudem taluk.

* 509 Q.—Mr. C. INDRAIYA: Will the Hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that the Board of Revenue called for reports in respect of the pumping scheme relating to Konala and Arulla Agraharam lands in Tadepalligudem taluk of West Godavari district;

(b) what the report is with regard to the fitness of those lands for dry cultivation; and

(c) what the report is with regard to the possibility of sinking wells in the locality?

A.—(a) Yes.

(b) & (c) The report has been submitted to the Irrigation Development Board whose remarks are awaited.

Mr. C. INDRAIYA:—"May I know when the report is expected to be received by Government?"

The Hon. Mr. C. A. SOUTER:—"I hope very shortly."

Offer of full contribution by the ryots of Konala and Arulla Agraharam for the construction of a sluice.

* 510 Q.—Mr. C. INDRAIYA: Will the Hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that the ryots of Konala and Arulla Agraharam of Tadepalligudem taluk of the district of West Godavari have offered full contribution for the construction of a sluice;

(b) whether it is a fact that the Chief Engineer for Irrigation has recommended to the Government the supply of water to the lands of the above two villages and the construction of a sluice as a full contribution work; and

(c) what is the probable revenue by way of water-tax which the Government expect to derive from the scheme per annum?

A.—(a) Yes.

(b) & (c) The Chief Engineer's report on the question called for through the Irrigation Development Board is awaited.

Introduction of the three feet shutter scheme in the Godavari delta.

* 511 Q.—Mr. C. INDRAIYA: Will the Hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government have sanctioned the three feet shutter scheme for the Godavari delta; and

(b) if so, when the scheme will be put into operation?

[24th January 1935]

A.—(a) It is proposed to provide funds for the work in the Budget Estimate for 1935-36.

(b) It is hoped to put the scheme into operation in 1937-38.

Prohibition of vehicular traffic on the Godavari Western bund between Kovvur and Prakkilanka.

* 512 Q.—Mr. C. INDRAYYA: Will the Hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) why vehicular traffic is not allowed on the Godavari Western bund between Kovvur and Prakkilanka of Kovvur taluk in West Godavari district while the same is allowed on the bund between Vadapalli and Kovvur and from Prakkilanka to Polavaram in the same taluk; and

(b) whether the Government have received any representations that the prohibition of vehicular traffic between the above limits (between Kovvur and Prakkilanka) is causing a lot of inconvenience to people of several villages which are situated near the bund of the river Godavari?

A.—(a) Vehicular traffic is not allowed as there is a parallel local fund road connecting the two places.

(b) No.

Land Revenue Administration

Progress of the resettlement proposals in regard to Salem and South Kanara.

* 513 Q.—Mr. K. A. NACHIYAPPA GOUNDER: Will the Hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) at what stage the resettlement proposals in Salem and South Kanara districts are at present; and

(b) whether orders have been passed by Government on the proposals of the Settlement Officers in those districts, and, if so, whether the copies of the same will be placed on the table?

A.—(a) & (b) Orders on the proposals for the resettlement of the South Kanara district have issued in G.O. No. 42, Revenue, dated 5th January 1935. The order has been placed at the disposal of the "Press" and copies can be obtained from the Superintendent, Government Press, under rule 2 of section III at page 135 of the Legislative Council Manual, Volume II.

The proposals for the resettlement of the southern taluks of the Salem district, and of 26 villages in the Musiri taluk of the Trichinopoly district which were placed on the table of the Legislative Council at the meeting of the 22nd October 1934 are now under the consideration of the Government.

[24th January 1935]

Mr. V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—" May I know from the Hon. the Revenue Member whether in view of the expression of opinion in this House the other day on the question of the resettlement of South Kanara, the Government propose to proceed further with the resettlement operations in the Salem district? "

The Hon. Mr. C. A. SOUTER:—" Government do so propose."

Mr. U. C. SUBRAHMANYA BHATT:—" May I know, Sir, what the effect of the recent adjournment motion on this question on the Government is? "

The Hon. Mr. C. A. SOUTER:—" Very little, Sir."

Proposals for opening a Sub-Treasury at Rasipur, Salem district.

* 514 Q.—Mr. K. A. NACHIYAPPA GOUNDER: Will the Hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that a sub-treasury is to be opened at Rasipur and controlled by the Deputy Tahsildar of that sub-taluk (Rasipur) in Salem district;

(b) whether the sub-treasury has been opened and if so, when;

(c) when this proposal was originally made and by whom; and

(d) if orders have not yet been passed, or the sub-treasury has not yet been opened, what the reasons for the delay are?

A.—(a) Yes. The Sub-Treasury will be controlled by the independent Deputy Tahsildar in charge of the Rasipur taluk.

(b) & (d) It is proposed to open the sub-treasury with effect from 15th January 1935.

(c) In 1933, by the Collector of Salem.

Memorial from the Mirasidars of Thillaivilagam and Inam Kaluvangadu regarding the levy of increased water-cess.

* 515 Q.—Mr. A. PL. N. V. NADIMUTHU PILLAI: Will the Hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government have received a memorial from the mirasidars of Thillaivilagam and Inam Kaluvangadu villages in Tiruturaipundi taluk of the Tanjore district against the classification of their inam mamul wet lands into dry and manavari ones;

(b) if so, what action the Government have taken on the same; and

(c) what are the reasons for the reclassification and imposition of increased water-cess?

A.—(a) Yes.

(b) & (c) The memorial is under the consideration of the Government. The attention of the Hon. Member is, however, invited to amendment (5) to the Tanjore District Cauvery Water-Cess Rules published with the notification appended to G.O. No. 2248, Revenue, dated 31st October 1934 (made available for the Press) under which it is proposed to levy

[24th January 1935]

a water-cess of only Rs. 3, Rs. 1-8-0 and Rs. 4-8-0 for the first, second (or third) and dufasal crops, respectively, for irrigation with water from the Thillaivilagam and Pallimodu channels.

Famine condition in Owk firka, Kurnool district.

* 516 Q.—Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR: Will the Hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) the monthly rainfall in the Owk firka, Kurnool district, from June to December 1934, the number of rainy days involved and the average rainfall for the corresponding months for the period 1910 to 1919;

(b) the extents sown in each month in the current fasli under cholam, cotton, groundnut and korra, respectively; and

(c) the extent of the said crops harvested, if any, with their respective average outturns and their extent and estimated outturn in the case of standing crops referred to above?

A.—(a) to (c) The information is not available with the Government. A report has been called for.

Panchayat Forests

Representations for the disreservation of the Ramenahalli Panchayat Forest, Salem district.

* 517 Q.—Mr. K. A. NACHIYAPPA GOUNDER: Will the Hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether representations have been received from some villages of Harur taluk of Salem district to disreserve the Ramenahalli Panchayat Forest and assign the land to the poor and needy people;

(b) if so, when and what has been done with them;

(c) whether it is a fact that the area covered by this Panchayat Forest constituted patta lands some decades ago;

(d) what the area of this Panchayat Forest is;

(e) whether there are any big trees in this forest area; and

(f) whether there are any other reserved areas which can afford grazing facilities in the vicinity?

A.—(a) The hon. Member who has asked this question, forwarded to the Government on 18th December 1934, a resolution passed by the Harur Taluk Ryots' Conference requesting the Government to assign an extent of about 1,500 acres of land in Kavaramalai reserved forest to the poor landless people.

(b) The communication was received by the Government on 20th December 1934. On 15th January 1935, the hon. Member was informed by letter that the representation should be made to the Collector.

(c) The Government have no information.

[24th January 1935]

(d) The area of the Kavaramalai forest (part) managed by the Ramenahalli Panchayat is 3,158 acres.

(e) & (f) The Government have no information.

Representations for the disreservation of the Suryamalai Panchayat Forest, Salem district.

* 518 Q.—Mr. K. A. NACHIYAPPA GOUNDER: Will the Hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether representations have been received for disreservation of the Suryamalai Panchayat Forest in Tiruchengodu taluk of Salem district;

(b) if so, what has been done with them;

(c) whether it is a fact that the people in or about this Panchayat area have chiefly got goats, and experience very great difficulty for want of proper grazing facilities for them;

(d) whether it is a fact that goats are not allowed to graze in Panchayat forests;

(e) if so, what the reasons therefor are;

(f) whether the said Forest Panchayat of Suryamalai Reserve has got good tree growth; and

(g) what the receipts and charges of the said Panchayat Forest for the past five years are?

A.—(a) & (b) No such representations have been received by the Government during the last three years.

(c), (f) & (g) The information is not available with the Government.

(d) Yes.

(e) To protect the reserves from denudation.

Police

Alleged search by the Police of certain houses in Andhradesa in September last.

* 519 Q.—Mr. U. C. SUBRAHMANYA BHATT: Will the Hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that several houses in the different districts of Andhradesa were searched in September last by the Madras Police and the local constabulary; if so, in which places the searches were made and in how many houses and who the owners of the said houses are;

(b) whether it is a fact that a large number of books and papers, etc., were seized and taken away by the Police from the houses searched; if so, whether any list of books and papers so seized was prepared at the several places and whether a copy of the list of articles was given to the persons concerned;

(c) what the books seized from each house are and why they were so seized;

[24th January 1935]

(d) whether it is a fact that the books seized were then not proscribed and that they included books by authors like Bertrand Russell and H. D. Desai;

(e) whether the Police have returned the unproscribed books and papers which they seized from the several houses to their owners till now; if not, why they have not been returned; and

(f) what action the Government have taken or propose to take in the matter?

A.—(a) to (e) The Government have no information and have called for a report.

(f) No action is proposed to be taken pending receipt of the information called for.

Mr. U. C. SUBRAHMANYA BHATT:—"May I know as to how long back was this report called for?"

The Hon. Rao Bahadur A. T. PANNIRSELVAM:—"After the receipt of the question from the hon. Member."

Mr. U. C. SUBRAHMANYA BHATT:—"May I ask, Sir, whether it has since been received?"

The Hon. Rao Bahadur A. T. PANNIRSELVAM:—"The printed answer placed on the table of the House shows that it has not been received."

Mr. U. C. SUBRAHMANYA BHATT:—"Will the Hon. Member be pleased to consider the advisability of placing the report on the table of the House when it is received?"

The Hon. Rao Bahadur A. T. PANNIRSELVAM:—"The suggestion will be considered."

Cinchona

Comparative price and consumption of quinine since 1920.

* 520 Q.—S. M. K. BEYABANI SAHIB Bahadur: Will the Hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(a) what is the present price of quinine per pound now as compared with that of 1920;

(b) whether there has been any and, if so, what increase in the consumption of quinine as compared with that in 1920; and

(c) whether there is any proposal before Government to promote the growth of cinchona plantations?

A.—(a) Price per pound of quinine sulphate during 1920-21—Rs. 33 to Rs. 35.

Price per pound of quinine sulphate now—Rs. 21-4-0.

(b) Quantity of quinine sulphate sold in 1920-21—28,711 lb.
Do. in 1933-34—16,794½ lb.

(c) No.

[24th January 1935]

Forests

Representations regarding certain forest grievances in Harur taluk and Shevaroyis in Salem district.

* 521 Q.—Mr. K. A. NACHIYAPPA GOUNDER: Will the Hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether representations have been received from one Mr. K. Venkat Rao on behalf of the people of Kombur, Chinna Manjavadi, Peria Manjavadi, etc., villages of Harur taluk of Salem district with regard to certain forest grievances;

(b) if so, what has been done with them;

(c) when the Pallipatti Extension Reserve Forest in the Shevaroyis south range of Salem district was brought under reserve;

(d) whether the matter of bringing it under reserve was widely published and the idea of the people of the locality ascertained;

(e) if so, when the publication was made, and how, and when the final orders were passed;

(f) whether a copy of the recommendations of the officers and the final orders thereon will be placed on the table;

(g) whether it is a fact that attempts were made previously to bring this area under reserve;

(h) if so, when and with what result in each time; and

(i) whether copies of orders passed on those occasions will be placed on the table?

A.—(a) Yes.

(b) to (i) The Government have called for a report.

[Note.—An asterisk (*) at the commencement of a speech indicates revision by the Member.]

II.—RESOLUTIONS ON MATTERS OF GENERAL PUBLIC INTEREST—cont.

* (1) CANCELLATION OF CERTAIN GOVERNMENT ORDERS ON IRRIGATION IN TRICHINOPOLY DISTRICT—cont.

* The Hon. the PRESIDENT:—"The motion before the House is—
'This Council recommends to the Government that the following Government Orders be cancelled:—

(a) G.O. No. 398, Revenue, dated 26th February 1934.

(b) G.O. No. 521, Revenue, dated 13th March 1934.

(c) G.O. No. 736, Revenue, dated 12th April 1934.

(d) G.O. No. 40, Revenue, dated 5th January 1934.'

The resolution is now for the discussion of the House."

* Continued from the previous day.

[24th January 1935]

Mr. V. T. ARASU:—"Mr. President, Sir, I seek the leave of the House to move the amendment standing in the name of Mr. K. S. Sivasubrahmanya Ayyar. I move that—

'To resolution No. 1 in the agenda, now under discussion the following amendment be made:—

"Add after (d) the following:—

'(e) G.O. No. 1238, Revenue, dated 14th July 1933.'"

* The Hon. the PRESIDENT:—"Order, order. May I ask the hon. Member whether this Government Order relates to Trichinopoly or the Tanjore district? The main resolution speaks only about the Government Orders relating to Trichinopoly, but we cannot be going on adding these things district after district."

Mr. V. T. ARASU:—"The Government Orders referred to in the amendment relate to Tanjore but the problem is just the same in respect of both Tanjore and Trichinopoly, because the Government Orders pertaining to Trichinopoly district seek to reclassify irrigation sources and increase the revenue of the Government."

The Hon. Sir K. V. REDDI NAYUDU:—"Do they apply to Tanjore as well?"

Mr. V. T. ARASU:—"The case of Trichinopoly."

The Hon. the PRESIDENT:—"May I have some enlightenment from the Hon. the Revenue Member on this matter?"

* The Hon. Mr. C. A. SOUTER:—"Sir, I observe the proposed amendment forms the subject of a resolution to be moved by Mr. Sivasubrahmanya Ayyar on the 25th. That is one resolution and to-day we are discussing one of such Government Orders. Resolution No. 6 in the list of resolutions for the 25th cannot be taken up and debated on to-day and so it ought to be taken up in the proper order. Now, on the question of the point of order I consider these three Government Orders are not relevant in any way to Government Orders whose cancellation has been moved by Mr. Palat and this amendment is not therefore relevant to the present resolution."

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—"It is on the agenda."

* The Hon. the PRESIDENT:—"It may be on the agenda, but that resolution cannot be brought in as an amendment to this particular resolution and the hon. Member may wait until we reach the other resolution."

Mr. V. T. ARASU:—"Mr. President, I must on this occasion take the opportunity to offer on behalf of my hon. Friend, Mr. Narayanaswami Pillai, who was speaking on this resolution yesterday, his sincere regret that he has not been able to be present here to-day and complete his speech, as owing to an urgent call from Trichinopoly he had to leave Madras at 11 last night. Hence it is that he has not been able to be present here and finish his speech on the resolution. If he had been here I am sure he would have convinced this House about the unreasonableness

24th January 1935]

[Mr. V. T. Arasu]

on the part of the Government in passing these Government Orders and seeking to enhance the rate of taxation which is already very high in the Trichinopoly district. Sir, the Government Orders referred to in this resolution relate to certain irrigation sources in Trichinopoly district as also to double-crop cultivation in the same district. It has been admitted on all hands that even under the existing rate of taxation the ryots find it very difficult to meet the Government demand which is made annually.

"When that is the position, it is surprising that the Government should have come forward at this critical period and try to enhance the rate of taxation in an indirect manner by means of Government Orders to reclassify the irrigation sources and compel the ryots to pay higher rates of water-cess than they were paying hitherto. The increase amounts in certain cases to as much as 25 per cent. When it is the policy of Government, to give a reduction in the existing rate of taxation and as you know the Government have been pleased to give a remission of 12½ per cent, and when this is admitted, one fails to understand how the Government is justified in raising the existing rate in an indirect manner by placing these lands under different irrigation sources, i.e., by raising the lands from the third tarams to the second and the lands from the second to the first. I think it is not necessary to make any elaborate speech to commend this resolution for the acceptance of the House. I am sure that Government would realize that they are doing a great hardship to the agriculturists of this district by seeking to enforce the Government Order at a critical time. Even if Government should find it difficult to cancel it, I would request that it may be suspended until such time as our economies improve and the ryots are in a position to pay a higher rate of taxation."

* The Hon. Mr. C. A. SOUTER:—"Mr. President, Sir, I am afraid that Government cannot possibly accept this resolution. I regret this because it has been moved by my friend, Mr. Narayanaswami Pillai, for whom I have great admiration and for whom I would like to do what I possibly can. It is my great regret as well as that of the House that he has received a sudden call and had to go back to Trichinopoly. For yesterday, he began to state his case in such a reasonable manner that I really felt that to oppose it would be somewhat against the grain not only on account of the way he presented his case, but because personally, I am very fond of him. (Laughter.) But, Sir, unfortunately, I think this resolution is ill-advised for this reason that in the case of those channels to which reference is made, Government have spent large sums of money to bring them to a state in which irrigation under them will be constant and secure. Some of them—I need not go into particulars—were already in the first class. It is only those that were in the lower classes that were raised one class higher for the purpose of water-rate. I think that was perfectly justified in consideration of the amount of money Government expended on them. In all these cases, the improvements to the channels were carried out at the specific request of the ryots under the channels and when they made those requests, they stated

[Mr. C. A. Souter] [24th January 1935]

in terms to the Government that they would be prepared to pay any assessment under the channels to enable Government to reconstruct them so as to get a revenue return under the ordinary rules. Perhaps, I may be permitted to quote a statement which the President of the Kulittalai Landholders' Association made to Sir Archibald Campbell in connexion with the Sri Ramasamudram Canal on the north bank of the Cauvery. He said that he was very angry against the Government for having delayed carrying out the works on the south bank when the ryots had promised to pay Rs. 16 on dry land, and were prepared to pay Rs. 20 if necessary so as to give 6 per cent interest on the outlay. The repairs to all these channels were undertaken on the distinct promise from the ryots that they were going to pay a rate sufficient for the Government to realize its profit in accordance with the rules under the Public Works Code. I think to resile from that promise is hardly playing the game. I consider Government is in that way justified in consequence of the great improvement to these channels in raising the classification as they have done. I think the House should not support this resolution. I oppose it."

The resolution was put and lost.

(2) REMISSION IN LAND REVENUE FOR FASLI 1344.

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—"Mr. President, Sir, I beg to move—

'This Council recommends to the Government that a remission of not less than 25 per cent be granted in the land revenue kist in all the districts in respect of wet and dry lands and inclusive of water-rates for the current fasli, i.e., 1344.'

"Mr. President, Sir, when a motion of this character was moved even last year and passed, I dare say, almost unanimously by the non-official Members, I thought, that the Government had realized the gravity of the situation and were prepared to accept a resolution of this House. One charge that is always levelled against the non-official Members of this Council by the Members of Government is that we are an irresponsible set of people. Well, they can very well afford to say so in view of the constitution of the present Government. But yet, I must tell them that we are certainly not irresponsible to the needs of the country. There is no other class of people who realize the requirements of the people of this country and who are more responsible to the interests of the people than the non-official Members who are their representatives. Government is there because the Act has given them a place and they will continue to be there for some time longer in that entrenched situation. But I mention this, Sir, in order to lay stress on the fact that when we make a proposition of this character in this House, we do it after realizing the full responsibility of the situation. Sir, the situation has become so grave that however responsible you might be, you cannot help bringing forward a measure of this character for the acceptance of this House and the Government of this country. Sir, what exactly is the situation? The Government might come forward

24th January 1935] [Mr. Abdul Hameed Khan]

and say that things have improved since last year. The Government have suspended a certain percentage of the taxes and that was enough to relieve the landholder and he does not require any further suspension of the tax. Well, Sir, we did not have famines to the same extent as we have now. The whole of the Ceded districts is having acute famine and I understand that Tinnevely is in the same plight. The other districts are in no better condition. Only a few delta districts might not be in the same plight. That I can say. But they are not very much better off. Thanks to the indifference, I do not say of this Government, but of the Government of India with regard to the import of foreign rice. The Government of this province is not strong enough to make the Government of India realize the extent of harm that is being done to the agriculture of this province and to the paddy cultivation. The prices of paddy in this province have gone down by the import of rice from Siam and other foreign countries. Government, I suppose, might come forward and say that there has been a rise in the price of paddy in at least some of the districts. But, if you examine the facts, Sir, you will find that that is not the case. For the information of the House, I might refer to some of the figures with regard to some districts. For instance, in South Kanara on 3rd January 1933, the price per imperial maund was 3.59 rupees whereas on 3rd January 1934 it has fallen to 3.45, and then again on 3rd January 1935 it has fallen again to 3.33. So far as Tanjore is concerned, a district which is supposed to be generally very prosperous, I want to point out, Sir, that the rates have been falling even there. On 3rd January 1933 the rate was 3.60; on 3rd January 1934 the rate came down to 3.50 and again on 3rd January 1935 it has fallen to 3.49. Even with regard to the Madras district itself, the tale is not very different. From 4.59 it has gone down on 3rd January 1935 to 3.40. In Vizagapatam also, the prices have fallen from 3.64 to 3.01. These are some of the districts in which prices have by no means risen but on the other hand have been going down. Again, Sir, with regard to the central districts like Guntur, Nellore, Chingleput, Chittoor, North Arcot and Coimbatore districts, they have been affected by drought. Tanjore, Trichinopoly and Malabar have been suffering on account of the prevalence of insects and diseases. Again, Sir, the prices are falling by 17 per cent in Negapatam, 16 per cent in Rajahmundry and from 4 to 8 in other districts.

"These figures, I hope, will convince the Government that the prices instead of rising have fallen, and as such the Government's contention that there is no justification either for suspension or remission of kist falls to the ground."

"Well, Sir, this year I understand that the Government, instead of suspending a portion of the kist as they did in the previous year, i.e., by two annas in the rupee, like a *Baniya* have reduced the kist concession by a petty sum of one-quarter anna, thus giving only a reduction of 1½ annas in the rupee. If you take into account the exact situation in all the districts in the province, it will certainly be justifiable if a demand is made in this House for a reduction of 50 per

11-45
a.m.

[Mr. Abdul Hameed Khan] [24th January 1935]

cent or 33½ per cent of the kist. But, Sir, we as responsible people want to reduce that percentage to the lowest minimum of 25 per cent only. The mirasidars and the ryots are in a very hopeless position. Their indebtedness is increasing and there is nobody to buy their land. There is nobody even to lend them money. They are not in a position to pay even the reduced kist, whereas the assessment has also been increased on account of resettlement. The fact that the ryots are reduced to a hopeless position is shown from a perusal of what appears in the Government Gazette itself that the number of insolvents from every part of the Presidency is increasing very much. The list used to occupy not more than two pages of the whole Gazette. Now the number has increased to 9, or 11 or sometimes 16 pages during the recent weeks. That shows that the number of insolvency cases has increased on account of the fact that the landholders and mirasidars are reduced to the worst possible condition, and they have no other alternative but to file insolvency petitions. The landholder or the mirasidar in this country will be the last man to go to the court and file an insolvency petition unless he is driven to it. He is driven to it not merely by the economic depression but by the Government's attitude which does not recognize his position. I hope, Sir, that the Government will realize the situation in the country and accept this very modest demand for a reduction of 25 per cent of the kist. So, I move the resolution, Sir."

Mr. P. V. KRISHNAYYA CHOUDARI:—"In seconding this resolution, I want to bring to the notice of the Hon. the Revenue Member the difficulties of the agriculturists. The land revenue remission was given only for the last two years; in the first year it was 12½ per cent reduction, and in the second year even that remission has been reduced a little further. No doubt, this year, the Government has done something of their own accord before our asking for it, and we are glad for what little that has been given. But whether the reduction they have given is sufficient or not is the question for us to discuss. The Government thought that the price of paddy has improved considerably, and so they think they need not reduce the kist any further. But, I may assure the Hon. the Revenue Member that as a matter of fact the price has not at all improved on account of any marketing facilities or on account of any efforts taken by the Government. But it is due to some natural causes. Last year, the yield was so great that the prices fell, and this year the paddy yield has gone down roughly by one lakh of tons. That is one of the reasons, Sir, for the slight increase in price."

The Hon. Mr. C. A. SOUTER:—"Can the hon. Member tell me what percentage that one lakh of tons represents to the total amount of produce?"

Mr. P. V. KRISHNAYYA CHOUDARI:—"The Hon. Member has got the Secretariat at his back and he can calculate the percentage for himself. I have not got any secretariat to prepare the figures for me."

"The second reason is this. On account of no seasonal rains, the dry crop also has failed in various places. Apparently on account of

[24th January 1935] [Mr. P. V. Krishnayya Choudari]

that, the price has gone up a bit. Some people, as a matter of fact, expected a war and so they thought they should make some storage of paddy and this led to the withholding of paddy from the market, which also contributed to the rise in price. That is from Rs. 2 the price has gone up by a rupee. That is all due to speculation and not due to any steps taken by the Government. Another reason is that on account of some trouble in Siam, rice was not coming to Madras during that time which sent up the price of paddy. For these reasons, Sir, as far as I could gather, the slight increase in price has occurred. Even the little margin afforded by this slight increase of price was not shared by the ryot in any way, because it is only the middlemen who are dealing in paddy business that got the advantage. As a matter of fact, in the Kistna district one merchant who had a lakh and odd bags of paddy made a profit of about a lakh of rupees. On the other hand, the ryot has already sold his paddy even at the beginning to pay the land assessment. So the little benefit of that increased price has not gone to the ryot at all. The Government should not therefore take advantage of that situation and deprive the ryot of what they should do for him. It is not only in the Ceded districts but also in my district of Guntur, in certain taluks like Penukonda, for want of seasonable rains the dry crops have failed very badly. From the *Fort St. George Gazette*, you will see that there is not even sufficient fodder for the cattle in those taluks. I want to know from the Government what steps they have taken to improve the fodder situation and whether they are granting any free permits to the agriculturists to graze their cattle in the forests. If they grant these grazing permits freely especially at this time of want of fodder, the people will appreciate it to a very great extent.

"Again, I have been pointing out to the Madras Government for the last three years that the Nizam's Government is levying an unnecessary duty on Madras rice, and the Hon. Minister in charge of this portfolio has said with reference to my question on the subject that he has communicated with the Nizam's Government. As a matter of fact, the duty they are levying is against the agreement with the Madras Government. I just want to bring this also to the notice of the Hon. the Revenue Member, though it is not in his portfolio, as he is responsible for the prosperity of the agriculturists and ryots. He may also be helpful in a way to take necessary steps to see that some relief is given to them. Well, Sir, Siamese rice is still coming to Madras, about which my hon. Friend, Mr. Hameed Khan, dwelt. No doubt, it is an all-India question and the India Government has to take steps in the matter. But yet the Madras Government must press and worry them to see that some early disposal is made, expressing our local point of view to the Government of India."

"There is another thing. The railway concessions that are given for the carriage of internal paddy are also given to the Siamese rice. For example, if the railway concession for a bag from Tenali to Madras is 4 annas, the same facility is given to rice going up from Madras to Tenali, so that Siamese rice is finding its way to Tenali at the same rate of railway concession. The railway authorities should not give such

[Mr. P. V. Krishnayya Choudari] [24th January 1935]

facilities for foreign rice, just as we are not getting any concessions for our rice in other countries. That is one point which I want to bring to the notice of the Hon. the Revenue Member.

"It is a well-known thing that paddy crop is no more paying and so the Government must also find some new crops for the benefit of the ryot. I see that the Government is not taking any step in that direction. If the ryot himself changes for garden crops, unfortunately the Government is coming down on him with *jaberdaast* and *zoolum* in the matter of the irrigation of the crop. Considering that aspect of the matter, the ryots should be given a certain amount of privilege to use water for garden crops. But as a matter of fact, the privileges of the ryots which they have been enjoying from time immemorial are being cancelled during the last two or three years. There is a lot of trouble experienced by ryots for taking water especially for garden crops which have been grown during the last year or two. So the Government also must come forward with some sort of help to the ryot at this hour by giving proper water facilities.

12 noon. "Another thing, Sir. The irrigation authorities who are collecting a certain amount of irrigation tax from the ryot are expected to give water free of charge. If the ryot takes water from the main channel by subsidiary channels (lengthwise and breadthwise channels, as they are called), he is charged ground-rent and penalized again. So much so, every village has to pay about Rs. 200 roughly as penalty. For example, my own village pays Rs. 175 for taking such water. It is the duty of Government to supply us water free of charge. When we are ourselves repairing the channels, why should Government charge us for using this donka land which is used for purposes of irrigation? I want to impress on the Government that some sort of relief is necessary in this direction.

"A word about the inclusion fee. Now there are permanent wet lands and temporary wet lands. If the temporary is converted into wet they levy an inclusion fee of Rs. 25, otherwise called nazarana. This term takes us back to the good old days of Muhammadan rule. I do not see why the British Government should copy this system at this hour, particularly when the ryots are not in a position to pay the legitimate land revenue.

"Then as regards the resettlement, this business is worrying the people very much. When the Government itself has conceded that the ryot is not in a position to pay his legitimate land revenue, I cannot understand why the Government is proceeding with the settlement operations. Long ago, the Board of Revenue or the Board of Directors settled the land revenue policy. Mr. Dutt who was the champion of the ryots' cause has stated that the rents are fixed. The Board of Revenue then said that the rents were not fixed and they were not permanent. They said in criticizing the land revenue policy that fixed rents were very undesirable, because if the tax could be reduced at any time they would reduce it. Now we have had three settlements after that, but there has been no reduction of rent at all at any place;

[Mr. P. V. Krishnayya Choudari] [24th January 1935]

on the other hand there is excessive rent in various shapes. They say that 18½ per cent is the maximum for land taxation. But they are converting it in various shapes. They will say that the water-rate will not come under the 18½ per cent.

"There is another point. Government do not pay sufficient attention to repairs to irrigation channels. For example, in Tinnevely, from 1905 to 1935, they have not attended to the repairs of a particular channel. Thereby the ryots have to undergo a lot of difficulties for their cultivation. If Government repair any channel they demand Rs. 10 or Rs. 15 from the ryot. They hold out a threat to the ryot that if they are not prepared to pay, they won't repair the tank or channel. The poor ryot has no other go but to acquiesce. This is like saying 'Hands up and deliver or I will shoot you.' Have not the Government servants recently, when there was a cut of 10 per cent in their salary, kept quiet?

"Again, the Government of Madras has not taken up any crop-planning system. I say the crop-planning system must be brought into force and the ryots must be advised to change the paddy crop into various other crops for which bounties should be given or some other concession shown. There is no use Government granting the routine 21 pies remission or something like that. That does not mean that I am not in favour of this remission, but I want that the Government should come forward with more reasonable measures and grant more liberal remissions than they are giving at present."

* Mr. K. KOTI REDDI:—"I move, Sir, that at the end of the resolution the following words be inserted:—

'except in the case of famine-affected areas where full remission is absolutely necessary.'

"At present I do not propose to speak on the main resolution because I would rather like to wait for an opportunity to speak on it after the Hon. the Revenue Member has had his say. But what I am at present more interested in is what is considered necessary and what the decision of the Government is in the shape of land revenue remission in the famine-affected parts in this Presidency—most, if not all, of the portions, I believe, being in the Ceded districts. I know there are complaints, legitimate complaints I believe, from other parts of the Presidency also. The situation is such that unless full remission is granted the ryots living in those affected parts will be put to the greatest difficulty in paying the land revenue. I know Government has already taken some steps in this direction. In some areas they have remitted about 50 per cent—I am speaking subject to correction. At any rate, in some portions, they have remitted to the extent of 33½ per cent. It is absolutely inadequate. Even ordinarily, when there is a good crop, the ryots are not in a position to save anything, but now owing to general depression and the low price of agricultural produce the ryots are unable even to meet the necessities of life. Such being the case, is there any possibility of getting anything from the ryots

[Mr. K. Koti Reddi]

[24th January 1935]

in a tract of country where the crops have almost if not completely failed? It is rather distressing that the Government should not have thought of remitting the full amount in such areas. Apart from the fact that fodder is very scarce in those parts, cattle are being sold away for a pittance for meeting the land revenue payments. It is often said that the ryot would have saved and ought to have saved something in good years for meeting the necessities of life and the revenue due to Government in bad years. As I have already said, on account of the very low prices prevailing, there will be nothing left for him for future years, even granting good crops; and after all, how many good years have we had? In my experience, in the Ceded districts, for the last 20 years I can honestly say there has not been one year in which we had good crops all-round. If cholam is a good crop; cotton fails, if cotton is a good crop, groundnut fails and so on. Not all the crops have been good in one year. No doubt, when prices were high, the ryot was able to save something. But unhappily there is now little left of that he had saved. He did buy some gold when the prices were high, but all that gold has been sold away now. It has been said that he sold away his gold because it fetched good prices. He began selling at Rs. 18 and the price has gradually risen and to-day it sells at Rs. 35 per tola. It is not a fact that the gold was sold because it fetched good prices. It is due to the fact that the ryot was compelled to sell his gold, first of all to meet the Government revenue and secondly to meet the necessities of life, let alone the sowcar who after all has not been able to collect much from the ryots. If the Government is prepared to call for statistics—let alone the private sowcars—from the branches of the Imperial Bank in Nandyal, Bellary and Cuddapah, they will certainly be convinced how the ryot in the beginning thought of not selling the gold but pledging it and getting money and subsequently how he was practically compelled to sell away all his gold because it was not possible for him to redeem the pledge and meet his needs. I believe the Government has enough material to be convinced of this. Such being the case, when even in the ordinary years the ryot is not able to put by anything against lean years, what is the good of expecting him to pay even half the tax when crops failed? So there is necessity for full remission.

12-15 P.M. "In cases where the outturn is more than 8 annas, it may not be as necessary as in cases where it is less than 8 annas. Let us classify the areas under two heads: (1) areas where the outturn is less than 4 annas, and (2) where it is more than 4 annas. If the former case, little is left for the ryot and he, besides being unable to pay any kist, has to go to the relief camp straightaway, whereas in the latter case, he will be just able to pay his kist but then if he does so, he too has to seek the help of Government for subsistence for the year as in the former case. The situation is such that in both these cases absolute remission should be granted, though it is necessary to do so only in cases where the outturn is less than 8 annas.

"Sir, I may take this opportunity to mention the fact that there is an impression in the Ceded districts, that the subordinates of the

[24th January 1935]

[Mr. K. Koti Reddi]

Revenue Department give, in their crop reports, exaggerated accounts of the outturn of the crop. These subordinates, except perhaps the karnams who are expected to over-estimate, know very little of how to correctly estimate the crop and yet these estimates are relied upon by the higher officers. This practice on the one hand misleads the officers above and on the other gives the impression to the ryots that these subordinates are expected to give such reports, though it is possible that these do so owing to the fear that they will be taken to task otherwise. The evil does not stop with the lower subordinates. It extends right up to the Revenue Divisional Officer and probably even to the Collector who, not being acquainted with the estimate of crops, usually confirm the subordinate officers' estimates as I have already said. The other day, when the Member of the Board of Revenue visited Pulivendla taluk, I expect, he got the impression that as the cholam crop was looking quite green, it would yield a good return. But, as one who is a bit cultivator himself, I may say that it is very difficult to estimate outturn on the field and generally the impression formed will be wrong when actually harvested."

* The Hon. the PRESIDENT:—"I may tell the hon. Member that he is exceeding his time-limit."

Mr. K. KOTI REDDI:—"I am finishing, Sir. As I was saying, there is an impression that the subordinate revenue agency is expected to exaggerate the outturn in their reports. I request the Government not to simply rely on the returns sent up by these subordinates which are usually confirmed by the higher authorities but to leave enough margin for possible exaggerations. For instance, if the return says that the outturn is more than 8 annas, they may take it at about 8 annas, so on.

"Now, Sir, I expect the Government to move quickly in these matters. The first instalment of kist has to some extent been already collected. In these cases if it is not possible for them to refund the amount, I would request them at least to grant remission for the amount yet to be collected. The declaration has to be made immediately. If this is not done promptly, even people unwilling to go to the relief works after selling away what little they have for meeting the land revenue would be compelled to do so. I hope Government will take steps in time to see that not only 50 per cent but full remission is granted."

* Diwan Bahadur M. GOPALASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—"Sir, I beg to second the amendment. I do not think I need detain the House long. In view of the fact that the present Famine Commissioner is an officer who had been in Anantapur as Collector for nearly three years and as he knows the condition of the ryots in Anantapur and adjoining districts quite well, I expect that he will render every possible help. As a matter of fact he has recently visited these districts and has seen with his own eyes the test works that have been opened. I do not want to say much about it far from the few remarks that he made when visiting these test works—of course Government Members are

[Mr. M. Gopalaswami Mudaliyar] [24th January 1935]

very cautious and reticent about those remarks, etc.—I am confident that he sympathizes with the ryots of the Ceded districts and that he will do all he can to help them at this time of distress.

“I would like in this connexion to mention one thing. There is a mentality that the ryot is unwilling to pay the kist and that he wants to escape the assessment altogether even if he happens to have a good and plentiful yield. I would respectfully represent to some of the administrators who happen to have such a mentality to rid themselves of it. The other day when some of these distressed ryots approached the administrator on the spot they were told that they ought to be ashamed to go and ask for remission. What they had to pay was only the King's portion of the produce. The King's administration cannot go on if they did not pay it. They, therefore, ought to be ashamed for going and asking for remission of even a part of the kist. They must pay the dues to the Government in full. Sir, I certainly appreciate the fact that it is the bounden duty of the ryot to pay the King's share because it is impossible otherwise for the administration to go on. The ryot is certainly not unwilling to pay the King's share. He will be only too glad to pay his share. But unfortunately he is unable to do so. He is always willing to give but is now unable to give. He is always the giver and never the receiver. He is always there in order to help others. For example, in ordinary times who is the person who feeds your revenue peon when he goes to the village? May I know who it is that feeds the post peons who go to the villages? May I know who it is that feeds your salt peon when he goes to the villages? May I know who is the man who feeds your police peons when they go to the villages? Again, who is the man who feeds the revenue inspector when he goes to the village? May I know who feeds the tahsildar when he goes to the interior of the taluk? Who is it that goes and feeds the Revenue Divisional Officer when he visits the village? May I know who will feed the Hon. the Revenue Member if he decides to visit the villages to-morrow? It is the ryot that does so. The Hon. Member might take with him a few peons and butlers, but so far as the necessities of life such as salt, sugar, ghee, milk and so on, he must get them from the ryot and the ryot ungrudgingly offers these things. What about the others who visit the villages? May I know who gives succour to the poor people who go to the villages? It is the ryot. Who again is it that meets the vagrants that go to the villages? It is this same ryot. It is he again that feeds the travellers and the pilgrims that go to the villages. He, therefore, is always the giver. He is never the taker. It is, therefore, most humiliating to him to be told that he ought to be ashamed of himself for having gone and asked for relief in his most distressing hour. I believe that in such circumstances, if shame and humiliation lie anywhere, they lie only on the part of those who are in a position to grant the request and not on the part of those who make the request. The fault and the whole fault is that of the person who is in authority and is unwilling to move in the matter. That is the position which I want to lay emphasis upon. This is what I have been constantly saying.

[24th January 1935] [Mr. M. Gopalaswami Mudaliyar]

“So far as my district is concerned I would state one point and the Hon. the Revenue Member who visited the place in 1931–32 as Member of the Board of Revenue will bear out my statement. He had the privilege of coming to our district in 1931–32 and visited several famine-affected areas and, as a consequence we got timely help. He will bear me out when I say that this unfortunate district is being constantly visited by famine. We had famine in 1926, in 1929, in 1930. We have had a series of depressions in the last one decade as a result of which the ryot has been completely swept off his feet. He is, therefore, not in a position to pay the assessment. Because in some villages cholam crop is fairly good, it cannot be concluded that the ryots in the whole area are well off and could pay. It cannot be denied that the general situation is as I have described. I do not want to take up more time of this hon. House as there are several other Members desiring to speak on the subject. I sympathize with hon. Members in their desire, during this period of economic depression, to secure a remission of 25 per cent. But so far as the famine districts are concerned, I hope and trust that the Hon. the Revenue Member will come to our aid and immediately see that the kists are not collected.

“And as a matter of fact as my hon. Friend from Cuddapah has been saying they have already remitted one instalment there. So I request that Government will be pleased to take steps as early as possible and see that remission is granted to my district also.”

12-30
p.m.

* Mr. G. RAMESWARA RAO :—“Sir, in the previous speeches on this resolution all the general factors with regard to remission have been placed before this House both by the Mover as well as those who followed him. I want to specially emphasize the sad plight in which the district of Anantapur has been placed. It is a place where very few irrigation works have been constructed by this Government and the few irrigation works that were constructed by ancient Governments have been falling into decay because the present Government have not spent any money for putting those works in good repair, and have left the people of the district entirely in the lurch. I know of a taluk in my district, viz., the Madakasira taluk, which was supposed to be the garden of the district, where there used to be number of plantain, coconut and arecanut topes. They have here very little rainfall for the last 25 years, so much so, that if I go there now I cannot have a look at any one of them even for the sake of a specimen. Sir, to-day Madakasira taluk has been reduced to the position of a desert and Government have not spent anything for irrigation purposes. If God has not given to the people of my district the average rainfall and if added to that the Government also insist upon their pound of flesh and collect their revenue due to them, I say the Government will be the immediate cause in bringing ruin to the people. I would point out to the Hon. the Revenue Member that the average rainfall in my district was 11 inches in the current year as opposed to the usual normal of 22 to 23 inches. Even that little rain was undoubtedly availed of by the ryots and they invested the little they had by way of purchasing seeds

[Mr. G. Rameswara Rao]

[24th January 1935]

and for the purpose of employing labour and thus completely rid themselves of their little money they had or they could raise on credit. Unfortunately for them there was no rainfall afterwards and consequently the seeds did not sprout well. Even the very few seeds that sprouted were not able to mature. I had the pleasure or displeasure of going in person to some of the taluks in my district and not even in one of these places was I able to see any crop, maturing well enough at least for the purpose of collecting seeds for the next year. When that is the position, I submit that it will be cruel on the part of Government if they did not come to the rescue of the ryot if not by restoring to the ryots what all they have lost, at least by remitting the circar kist without claiming it from them as a matter of course. This sort of concession is absolutely essential. I know the Famine Commissioner has been touring in the district with the Collector and I hope that they have been touched with the actual sufferings of the people. What I fear is that those who have not got previous experience of famine areas are likely to fall into error in exactly gauging the situation. The Board's Standing Orders provide for a sort of gradation in the yield and a sort of gradation in the remission or suspension. For instance, if the crop is between 0 to 4 annas remission will be probably from 25 to 50 per cent. The village karnam simply notes in his accounts that the estimated yield is 0 to 4 annas. It may be a zero or it may be 4 annas when recommendations are to be made by the local officers, they may have the maximum as the actual outturn and the minimum limit as the only scale that the ryot is entitled to. This would be an unfortunate way of dealing with the matter. The outturn accounts in the adangals are very misleading, because they are not actuals. There is what is called the karnam's note-book and the karnam is supposed to enter in that note-book the actual outturn after the harvest is over. During my tours I have always been asking the village karnams as to why the actuals were not entered in the note-books and they have invariably given the reply that it all depended upon the orders to be given by the Revenue Inspector or his superior and till they received his orders they would not fill up the register. No doubt the Government certainly do not expect their subordinates to do such things. As a matter of fact, these subordinate officials are so much over-powered by the officials above them that they do not fill up the columns in the register with regard to the outturn when they actually observe, but they do so only in the taluk office long afterwards when they go and sit there for Jamabandi for 20 days. Government know all this routine and hence, they ought not to attach very great importance to these accounts as if they were made in the usual course of business. Accounts are not very strict and they are only made to keep up to a form and not in the spirit in which they are required to be made. When that is so, I would press that the outturn reports should be looked into with some caution especially as the recommendations made by the local officials are likely to be lacking in sympathy as they may choose not the lowest scale for purposes of outturn but the highest and the lowest figure in the scale for purposes of percentage of remission. In view of the fact

24th January 1935] [Mr. G. Rameswara Rao]

that the accounts themselves are misleading I would ask the Government to realize the situation and do the right thing to relieve the sufferings of the ryots.

“There is one other point which I wish to touch upon. Not only the prices of commercial crops have fallen, but also there has been a rise in the price of staple-food crops. If you will just refer to the *Fort St. George Gazette*, dated 8th January 1935, you will find that in Anantapur the price of one imperial maund of rice was 5.18, to the pre-War standard averages of 1913-14. The pre-War average was 5.18. Now this week it has fallen to 4.04. Now in the case of cholam the pre-War standard price per imperial maund was 2.91, 1.90 for the corresponding week of the previous year, and 3.02 this week. In the case of cumbu the price per maund according to pre-War standard was 2.95, for the corresponding week of the previous year it was 1.86 and it rose to 3.04 last week and it remains where it was this week. Similarly in the case of ragi. Taking the staple-food crops, their prices have risen as much as up to pre-War standard price or even higher in some cases. The prices of commercial crops have fallen. Therefore, I would ask the Government to take into consideration the very bad predicament in which the ryot has been placed. He has no foodstuffs. He has to buy it at a very heavy price. The prices of commercial crops have fallen and so he has less of money. If in addition to these, the Government also want the ryots to pay the entire kists due to them, I think it is impossible for them to get on. Therefore, I would ask the Government to take a sympathetic and a humane view of things and give the ryots full remission. Suspension may be thought of, but I fear that Damocles' sword will always be hanging on their head. I would, therefore, submit that full remission in all reasonable cases be given to the ryots. Except in cases where it is impossible to find that the ryot has made out a case for the concession. Wherever you are in doubt, I say, give the benefit of doubt to the ryot.

“With these few words I move my amendment, i.e., to add the following words at the end:—

‘and that Anantapur district deserves special consideration, apart from the other districts in the Presidency.’”

The amendment was duly seconded.

Mr. G. SIMHACHALAM PANTULU:—“Sir, I wish to make a few remarks on this motion. Though I cannot claim that Narasaraopet division should be included in the famine area, still I have got some justification. In three taluks, the crops are rain-fed crops. Time and again we approached the Government to take up some project in that portion of the district and we were often told that whatever project was investigated the result there was negative, and so no projects that we suggested were undertaken. The ryot has to depend upon his dry crops and these too have yielded very poorly owing to want of rains. God also has not been helping the people in their miserable plight. Whenever we bring forward this subject, the question of statistics come in our

[Mr. G. Simhachalam Pantulu] [24th January 1935]

way. When we say there is no proper yield, the Hon. the Revenue Member will stand up and say that he has got information from the Collector to say that the yield was good. As rightly pointed out by my hon. Friend, Mr. Koti Reddi, we have to depend upon the estimate of the Revenue Inspector. After all, with no experience, he is not expected to give an accurate estimate of the crop. After all 25 per cent or full remission is certainly a modest request in a time like this especially in a place where the ryot has to depend upon the rain-fed crops. The reasons advanced by most of the Members of this House have now to be faced. It is no use saying that they are common-place arguments. It is also usual for the Government to say 'no.' Every time when this question was brought before the Council the reply from the Hon. Member was that the information given by the non-official Member was not correct, and therefore the Government could not act upon it. If the Government doubt the genuineness or the accuracy of the statement given by the representatives of the people here they can very well institute an enquiry by having a non-official committee and have a correct estimate of the crops. Instead of doing that if they simply say that the information given by us is not correct we cannot help it. May I submit that it all depends upon the view that the Government take in a matter like that? If the Government really and seriously intend to take a sympathetic view, certainly they will find ways and means. They can also find out arguments for the other aspect of the matter. Here, if Government admit that the economic depression is causing havoc in villages, certainly they can adopt measures to survey the actual state of things and grant remission to the ryots."

* The Hon. the PRESIDENT:—"The resolution and the amendment read as follows:—

2. *This Council recommends to the Government that a remission of not less than 25 per cent be granted in the land revenue kist in all the districts in respect of wet and dry lands and inclusive of water-rates for the current fasli, i.e., 1344, except in the case of famine-affected areas where full remission is absolutely necessary and that Anantapur district deserves special consideration, apart from the other districts in the Presidency.*"

* Rao Bahadur Dr. C. NATESA MUDALIYAR:—"Mr. President, Sir, I strongly support the motion moved by my Friend, Mr. Hameed Khan. He is a Madrasee and I am also a Madrasee. I believe we have got some lands in the Chingleput district.

"There should be some commission appointed. There is no use of hon. Members moving resolutions here every session and whether the Council passes them or not the Government not yielding to our wishes. There is something radically wrong with our land revenue system. My hon. Friend, Mr. Abdul Hameed Khan Sahib, explained the situation in many districts. Even the mirasidars of Tanjore, I learn who have first-rate fertile lands, get only a net income of Rs. 50 per acre. That income is not enough to maintain a single family. When such is

[24th January 1935] [Dr. C. Natesa Mudaliyar]

the case with regard to Tanjore, I have a sorry tale to tell with regard to Chingleput. Those who can voice forth their grievances like the people of the Ceded districts are heard in this Council, but what about Chingleput district? First rate land in Chingleput district is assessed at Rs. 10 an acre. But look at the cost of cultivation. Seeds cost Rs. 3, ploughing Rs. 8, weeding for the first time Rs. 5, weeding for the second time Rs. 3, reaping, threshing, winnowing, etc., Rs. 5 and manure Rs. 3, making a total of Rs. 37. One acre of land produces 100 marakkals of paddy and at the rate of three marakkals a rupee, the landowner gets only Rs. 33-5-4. Therefore he will have to borrow about Rs. 3-10-8 even to pay the kist. Then where will he go for his maintenance? A family of five souls, two parents and three children, require at least Rs. 10 a month. I presided over a conference of mirasidars at Mamandur and I know the real state of things. Some of the landlords have lands in Chingleput and they know what little they get from the lands. The mirasidars who have relations in Madras go to them for help to pay the kist. The landlords who live in Madras think of their lands in Chingleput only when their relations go to them for help to pay the kist or to feed themselves. But there are many other people who have no relations to help them and what will be their fate? The difficulty is the lands are producing only half of what they were yielding when they were originally assessed. The rivers also have been silted up and even when only a normal quantity of water flows in them they are overflowed and the fields are inundated and the crops are submerged. The Revenue Department takes no care to make these lands yield more, but still they want the same rate of assessment as they got some years ago when the lands were very fertile. Let them increase the productivity of the lands by constructing dams across rivers and by other means. They constructed a dam across the Courtalliar river by means of which they have been enabled to supply the whole of Madras City with over six lakhs of people with water. If they do the same with other rivers the money will be properly utilized and the lands also will be made more fertile. Let there be a commission appointed and let them go into the question whether the Chingleput district can pay these assessments without suffering. I have tabled a resolution recommending a permanent remission of 33½ per cent but if the other districts can afford to take a lesser remission, I urge that the Chingleput district at least should be given that remission. I request the Hon. the Revenue Member to take into the consideration the cost of cultivation I have given and decide for himself how it is possible for the people in Chingleput to maintain themselves. They have already sold away their jewels and mortgaged their lands, perhaps never to recover them. Even the long-term loans advanced by the Government are not being repaid by the people because they cannot do so. Men who possessed extensive lands some 30 years ago do not possess them now. Those people who have been getting some help from people in Madras have been able to get on, but not others. I request the Hon. the Revenue Member and whole Cabinet to judge for themselves whether remission of 33½ per cent is not necessary for the Chingleput

[Dr. C. Natesa Mudaliyar] [24th January 1935]

district. In fact it is necessary for the whole Presidency, but as my hon. Friend, Mr. Hameed Khan, has asked for 25 per cent only for the whole Presidency, I accept his percentage for the whole Presidency while pressing for a remission of $33\frac{1}{3}$ per cent for the god-forsaken district of Chingleput."

* Mr. K. S. SIVASUBRAHMANYA AYYAR:—"Sir, I beg to move—

'that for the figures "25" the figures " $33\frac{1}{3}$ " be substituted.'

"In doing this, I am quite sure I am proceeding with a full sense of responsibility, due caution and moderation. Anyone who knows the condition of the agriculturists, and those who depend on them to-day will agree with me that this proposal for a remission of $33\frac{1}{3}$ per cent on the current demand is not a wild one. As has been pointed out by my hon. Friend, Mr. Natesa Mudaliyar, it is the most modest one and not at all an extravagant one. Sir, in the communiqué issued by the Government wherein they propose to give a remission of As. 1-9 in the rupee for the wet lands, etc., they anticipated that the prices were likely to recover. I shall just show that the prices have not risen, but on the contrary they have fallen. The figures quoted from the *Fort St. George Gazette* by Mr. Hameed Khan in his speech on the resolution recommending a reduction of 25 per cent clearly show that the tendency of the prices has been to go down rather than to go up. With regard to my district the price of rice per imperial maund has been given as follows in the *Fort St. George Gazette*:—

On 12th January 1935 3-49

On 12th January 1934 3-5

On 12th January 1933 3-60

"This clearly shows that the prices are on the decline. The rainfall statement published in the Gazette shows that while the average rainfall per year is 42.5 inches, we have had only a rainfall of 27.4 inches in the last year. The north-east monsoon has utterly failed. There are certain other relevant figures collected by the Secretary of the Tanjore Delta Mirasidars' Association which I wish to place before this House. The price of samba in the first week of January 1934 was Rs. 3-6-0; the price of big samba was Rs. 3. In the second week the prices were Rs. 3-12-0 and Rs. 3-4-0 respectively. In the third week the prices were Rs. 3-12-0 and Rs. 3-4-0 respectively. This year the prices have gone down. In the first week the price of samba was Rs. 3-4-0, of big samba Rs. 3 and of kuruvai Rs. 2-5-6. In the second week the prices were Rs. 3-4-0, Rs. 2-14-0 and Rs. 2-5-6 respectively. In the third week the prices were Rs. 3-4-0, Rs. 2-14-0 and Rs. 2-5-6 respectively. Prices quoted are mill delivery prices per one bag. Village prices are always 7 or 8 annas less than the mill delivery prices. These figures clearly show that the prices have not risen as anticipated. On the contrary they are falling. The failure of the north-east monsoon coupled with the fall in prices and the import of foreign rice has added to the difficulties of the ryots in all

[24th January 1935] [Mr. K. S. Sivasubrahmanya Ayyar]

directions possible. The yield of paddy this year is not expected to be what it used to be owing to the failure of the monsoon and also owing to the prevalence of a crop disease called in Tamil (அலிவெட்டு) (destruction by rats). The difficulties of the ryots have been enhanced by the recent rains last week, because the little that the ryots were expecting has been submerged. Nearly 75 per cent of the population depend upon agriculture and the agriculturists and therefore is it too much to expect a reduction of $33\frac{1}{3}$ per cent especially when the ryots are about to be ruined? I need not dilate on the condition of the ryot to-day as everyone knows what it is. He is very heavily indebted, cannot pay the interest and he cannot even pay his kist. The price of land has gone down. The price of the foodstuffs has gone down considerably and even for that low price, he cannot effect a sale of his produce. What little the ryot had saved and had by way of jewels, vessels, etc., he has sold and met the Government demand during the last two faslis. So much so, to-day he is a pauper indeed, pure and simple. If under these circumstances he is not able to meet the Government demand, it is likely to be misinterpreted or misconstrued as being an attempt on his part to resort to a campaign of no-tax. I should like to impress on the Government that if the ryot does not pay, as is likely to be, it is because he is not able to pay at all rather than because he is attempting to disobey the law. Sir, we are on the eve of new constitutional reform being introduced about whose success the Government are anxious. Therefore I would request the Government to think twice before following or sticking on to the present policy of niggardliness in the matter of granting remission to the ryots on the ground of prestige or other reasons as it is likely to drive them to despair but instead come to their rescue by granting this remission.

"Any further delay in the matter will not only be a danger but it will mean death to that class of population. I would also appeal to the Government to consider specially the case of the districts which were settled after 1918-19. I request the Government to give them at least $33\frac{1}{3}$ per cent remission; so, I have come forward to move this amendment. I appeal to the Hon. the Raja of Bobbili, the Chief Minister who is not here, to lend his support and the support of his party to this amendment. Recently when he opened the Conference of Mirasidars at Shiyali, he was very sympathetic and made us understand that all efforts will be taken to see that the interests of the ryotwari population are safeguarded, that much more remission is given to them. We have understood from the papers that when the question of giving remission of land revenue was considered by the Cabinet, he was forced by circumstances or otherwise to absent himself from the Cabinet meeting. Perhaps that was the reason why we were not fortunate enough to get more liberal suspension or remission of land revenue. We were expecting much; as soon as he returned to Madras, we were under the impression that he would use his influence in the Cabinet and see that more liberal remission is granted to us. But we were sadly disappointed and nothing has been done till now. I would appeal to him

[Mr. K. S. Sivasubrahmanya Ayyar] [24th January 1935]

to remember the promise, the undertaking he gave us at Shiyali and to put up a strong fight on behalf of the poor ryotwari population and to see that a more liberal remission is granted to us. . ."

* The Hon. the PRESIDENT:—"The hon. Member has exceeded his time-limit."

* Mr. K. S. SIVASUBRAHMANYA AYYAR:—"One minute, Sir. I would also appeal to the Justice Democratic party whose leader we miss to-day very sadly, to support this amendment, as it is an amendment in the cause of the poor ryotwari population for whose welfare he has always been working and putting up a very strong fight here. Lastly I would appeal to all the hon. Members of this House to support this amendment and carry it unanimously."

Mr. A. Pl. N. V. NADIMUTHU PILLAI:—"Sir, while seconding this amendment moved by my hon. Friend, Mr. Sivasubrahmanya Ayyar, I wish to say a few words. Though several hon. Members of this House have been speaking on the floor of this House on this important question of land revenue remission the Government have been hard-hearted and have not taken into consideration the real plight of the ryots in this Presidency. During the last fasli even in spite of the inadequate recommendations of the Finance Committee for a remission of 18½ per cent and the verdict of this Council for a remission of 25 per cent the Government were pleased to grant only a temporary suspension of 12½ per cent in some districts and 9½ per cent in some other districts which they finally remitted. This small meagre concession did not at all help the ryots. The borrowing capacity of the agriculturists having reached the maximum, they are unable to command any credit and the banks do not pay even 15 per cent on the security of the lands since the price of the lands and their produce have reached a rock-bottom price. I am sure the Government would have received memorials and copies of resolutions passed at the various Taluks and District Conferences of Landholders from all parts of the Presidency. From the number of such memorials and the nature of resolutions the Government could easily imagine how the condition of the ryots has not improved. On the other hand their position is becoming very acute day by day. In fact the burning question of the hour is about the ryot and land revenue."

"The recommendations of the Government for a suspension of 10-15/16 per cent in the land revenue for the current fasli will not in any way mend matters and is not at all encouraging to the ryots who are hard pressed for money. Very recently in the small Indian State of Pudukottah, the Government having realized the acuteness of the untold sufferings of the agriculturists have granted a remission of 50 per cent. The other Local Governments also have come to the rescue of the mirasidars by liberal remissions. This Government alone is deaf to the cries of the ryots. To say that conditions have improved and the prices of paddy have risen is a mistaken calculation. Of course there were signs of increase in the prices of foodstuffs in some stray places. But this increase lasted only for about a week by which time the foreign rice

[24th January 1935] [Mr. A. Pl. N. V. Nadimuthu Pillai]

was dumped into those markets. As long as the foreign rice is continued to be imported, there will be no market for our paddy being sold at a fair price. This Government and the Central Government should take immediate steps to stop dumping foreign rice or to impose a very heavy duty on the same. Then and only then the condition of the agriculturists can to a certain extent improve. In conclusion I would request the Hon. the Revenue Member and the Hon. the Finance Member to take a sympathetic attitude towards the ryots and recommend to the Government for a remission of at least 33½ per cent from this fasli in the land revenue both for wet and dry lands without any distinction. If the Hon. the Finance Member is not able to balance the budget if this remission is to be granted, I would once more urge the Government to revive the cut on salaries and reduce the strength of the staff in all departments."

Mr. A. RAMAKRISHNA REDDI:—"Sir, I rise to support the amendment. The Hon. Member for Revenue will remember that during the budget discussion last year, hon. Members of this House were describing the plight in which the ryots were then. The House almost unanimously declared that the Government should grant very liberal remissions. Probably the only hon. Member who was in favour of the policy of the Government was Sir Patro and the House might remember the encomiums the Hon. the Finance Member then showered upon him. Sir Patro while sympathizing with the plight of the ryot, pointed to the House that it was not possible for the Government to undertake to give wholesale remissions. He threw out an excellent suggestion that the Government may undertake to investigate into the actual localities where distress existed to a greater extent and that remission might be granted on that basis, rather than on the basis of the recently resettled districts. Of course that suggestion was a very good suggestion; when it was a question of giving relief to the poor, it must be done on the basis as to where relief is required. Unfortunately for Sir Patro, while the Government accepted his support, they gave him up by not paying the least attention to the excellent suggestion he then gave. If the Government had taken up that suggestion and had instituted an enquiry in the Presidency as to where actual relief was most needed, I am sure that the Ceded districts, which is very well known as the famine zone of the Presidency, will be the first to require the greatest relief. The fact that the Ceded districts is the worst districts in the Presidency is not a thing which is new; nor does it require many arguments in support of it. So far as these districts are concerned, it is well known that there are no irrigation projects at all; and the Government have been tantalizing us by the Tungabhadra Project which is supposed to be coming."

"The House knows that absolutely no progress has been made so far, as far as the starting of this project is concerned. The Government have been only giving this excuse for not spending more money on irrigation and for not repairing any of the existing irrigation works; we are asked to wait till the Tungabhadra Project comes. But unfortunately we see very little prospect of this project coming into existence."

[Mr. A. Ramakrishna Reddi] [24th January 1935]

So far as the Ceded districts are concerned, they practically depend upon precarious rainfall; it is also well known that nature also is not certainly bountiful to the extent to which it is in other districts of the Presidency. The actual crops that are raised, the House and the Government might know, are not crops which yield any amount of money. The only money-bringing crop so far as these districts are concerned, is groundnut. I am sure the Government, the Board of Revenue and everybody can know by this time that so far as the groundnut crop is concerned, it has been total failure in all the districts comprising the Ceded districts. The only other major crop is cholam; I think the Hon. the Revenue Member may know that cholam was selling at 16 measures per rupee two years back. On account of the famine conditions that are now prevailing, it is selling at 11 or 12 measures per rupee. One can imagine what is the amount of money that would come to the hands of the ryot in these districts which is not like other districts where money-crops can be raised in abundance. Here the crop upon which the ryot has to depend, namely, groundnut, has been a failure and so far as the other crops are concerned, they get very little money; that has been the chronic condition of the ryot for a long time. Added to the chronic condition of the Ceded districts, one can imagine by the very nature of the soil and the very nature of the rainfall, and by what one gets from the nature of crops than one can raise, that the effects of the economic depression are greater in these districts than in the rest of the Presidency. So far as the Ceded districts are concerned, the ryots have sold away every tola of gold. Everybody knows the condition of the ryots in the Ceded districts; how very conservative these people are; jewels are supposed to be *stri-dhanam* property and not a property belonging to the family. When these jewels have been sold to the last tola, one can imagine what is the nature of the plight the people are at present. In these districts, insolvency petitions are the order of the day. The only courts that are busy now are the insolvency courts. In the Ceded districts one can see now that there is a very large increase in crime, which is due to the fact that there is clash between the creditors and debtors. Unfortunately, creditors on account of the very nature of their business have to press for payment of the money lent by them, as the value of the properties are depreciating very rapidly and the debtors unable to give up their houses and probably small extents of land on which they are living, have to take up a desperate attitude. The result has been and I am sure the figures will show that there has been a very large number of murders on account of the clash between the creditor and the debtor; that is the present position of the Ceded districts. Added to this plight, this year there are special famine conditions throughout the Ceded districts. A large number of meetings have been held to impress upon the Government the serious situation which is now existing in the Ceded districts and so far as Kurnool is concerned—portions of Pattikonda and Dhone—very rigorous famine conditions are existing. The Government themselves have opened some kitchens in those places to afford some protection to the starving ryots; all reserve forests were

24th January 1935] [Mr. A. Ramakrishna Reddi]

thrown open for grazing. After that, probably on the 31st October 1-15 there was some small shower and later on again on the 3rd November p.m. in those parts.

“Taking advantage of this, the ryots were able to sow only cholam to a very large extent. After the 3rd of November till to-day there has not been a single drop of rain, and in spite of the repeated representations made by the ryots, by the representatives of ryots and by ryots' associations, the kist collection is unfortunately going on very vigorously, and absolutely no attempts have been made to stop such collections. I need hardly mention the other portions which are in similar plight, such as the Kurnool taluk, Dhone and Markapur. My submission is that taking into consideration the chronic state of famine generally existing in this province, and the facts that the Ceded Districts have to depend upon a precarious rainfall, that the economic depression is telling upon these districts to a much more extent than the rest of the province and that especially this year famine conditions in these districts are very acute, it is absolutely necessary that the Government should come to the rescue of these districts. It is no good for the Government to cling to their old formula of recently resettled districts or remotely resettled districts in order to find out where relief is acutely needed and then give such relief. There is no use acting upon such formula now when there is great distress among the people. I therefore make an appeal to the House that so far as the Ceded Districts are concerned, they should see that we are unanimous in voting for some special measure of relief to them. Probably every hon. Member would like to emphasize the conditions in his district, and think that any special relief to the Ceded Districts might affect the relief to his own district. But, Sir, this is not a case of speaking for constituencies; it is a case of having humanitarian considerations towards a people who are actually starving. I hope, Sir, the House will be unanimous in giving such a special measure of relief to the Ceded Districts.”

* Mr. V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—“Mr. President, Sir, to my mind it looks as if a resolution of this nature, repeated as it has been this year, raises the fundamental question of not only temporarily solving the difficulties of the ryots and of the agriculturists, but also of giving them a permanent relief. Time and over, it has been stated in this House that the entire system of land revenue taxation in this province is based upon a fundamental error, viz., of taking 50 per cent of the net income of the agriculturist. Taking this admitted fact into consideration, the revenues we are deriving from the agriculturist is hopelessly high and large which is unparalleled in any other part of India. In fact, compared with the taxation in regard to other professions, the taxation levied on the agricultural classes, to which about 80 per cent of the population of this province belong, is unsupportable. As one who has kept himself abreast of the actual conditions of the agriculturists in the interior parts of the district it looks to me that the resolution moved by my Friend from the City is a very modest one. True, the argument would be adduced that if as much as Rs. 1½ crores

[Mr. V. M. Ramaswami Mudaliyar] [24th January 1935]

is to be taken away from the revenues in the shape of remissions by a 25 per cent remission, the administration will be brought to a standstill. That argument has been trotted out on more than one occasion; and it has been equally emphatically replied to and in a convincing way by members of this honourable House who took part in a similar debate last year. Sir, we request Government to go back to the days of 1914 and 1920, so as to keep the cost of administration down to that level. From 1914 to 1934, within these twenty years, the cost of administration in this province has more than doubled, and the supreme question of the moment seems to be whether the bulk of the population employed in agriculture, from whom as much as 40 per cent of the entire revenues of the province is derived, can bear this topheavy administration. Relief in this direction, Sir, is an urgent necessity. Hon. Members who preceded me in this debate and hon. Members who participated in a similar discussion last year have brought to the notice of the Government the sad plight of the agriculturists of this province. I contend, Sir, that the condition of the agriculturists of this province was never prosperous, and least of all in years such as this. An unparalleled economic depression has overtaken them and broken their very backbone. I am sure the Government are well acquainted with the fall in prices of foodstuffs, the admission of which by the Government has taken the shape of a paltry concession of $12\frac{1}{2}$ per cent remission last year— $12\frac{1}{2}$ per cent remission in the case of districts which were resettled before or after a particular time and $9\frac{3}{4}$ per cent in the case of others. The price of agricultural products has fallen by 45 to 50 per cent; and although there has been a slight rise now and then in the price of such products, I think it will be generally admitted that there has not been a sufficient rise so as to warrant even the withdrawal of the small concession shown last year. Added to that, we have this fact, viz., that during the last two years, several hundreds of thousands of tons of foreign cereals, especially rice, have been imported into this country which has affected the price of foodstuffs adversely. The Madras Government have been sitting still without coming to the rescue of the agriculturists; and to this extent, I must say there has been a confession of failure to appreciate the exact position.

"I was saying, Sir, that the economic condition of the agriculturist was never too high, much more so these two or three years when he has been faced with a crisis. His reserve power has dwindled down within the last two years and the flight of gold from this country bears most eloquent testimony to the fact that whatever he had, he had to sell in order to meet the demands of the Government. Sir, the other day, in answer to an interpellation by me, the Hon. the Law Member on behalf of the Government admitted that the agricultural indebtedness of this country runs to the enormous amount of Rs. 150 crores. I say that most of this indebtedness is due to the fact that to-day we have to pay a land taxation which is unparalleled in any other province of this country. It may be said that a large part of this indebtedness is due to the fact that the agriculturists of the province waste money on ceremonial occasions; but those who know the agriculturists

[24th January 1935] [Mr. V. M. Ramaswami Mudaliyar]

of this country will admit that you cannot find a race of more thrifty, hard-working and toiling people anywhere. To me at any rate it seems that money spent on certain ceremonial occasions is money rightly spent, which cannot be avoided in certain circumstances. That being the agriculturist's economic position, his reserve power being nil, the only question is whether he is in a position to pay the kist amount demanded of him.

"I have further to refer to one or two important suggestions. A suggestion has been made that the collection of kist may be made in six instalments by the Government instead of four, as at present. Another suggestion is that in view of a general failure of monsoon in most districts of the province, a larger measure of relief than 25 per cent should be afforded to the agriculturists. But I shall content myself for the present with supporting the resolution moved by my Friend Mr. Hameed Khan. He has referred to various districts such as Tanjore, Vizagapatam, Madras, South Kanara, etc., where prices have fallen. He has referred to other districts also where rains have disappointed this year. An unanswerable case on behalf of the agriculturists has been made out. I would therefore appeal to the Hon. the Revenue Member to give us an idea as to how he proposes to meet this economic situation of the agriculturists.

"One other point to which I would like to draw the attention of the House is that although in certain districts prices have improved to the extent of 1 or 2 per cent, still the outturn of produce has fallen considerably, and what he gained by the slight rise in prices, the agriculturist has lost by reason of the produce not being up to expectations. The result is that the economic condition is the same, the budget of the agriculturist is the same. The Government having admitted this acute situation, by giving a remission, cannot have any other answer to the resolution now, but to give a substantial remission of the kist. As I said, the reserve power of the agriculturist having fallen much lower than even last year, it behoves the Government to give a greater concession to him this year.

"I would like also to point out that on the question of marketing facilities, the reduction in transit charges has not benefited the agriculturist materially. This argument was advanced by the Hon. the Finance Member and also by the Hon. the Revenue Member last year on a similar motion before the House; but I make bold to say that during the last twelve months, adequate marketing facilities or transit facilities have not been given to the agriculturist. Such of the facilities as were given have not been of much help to him at all.

"With these words, Sir, I support the resolution moved by my Friend Mr. Abdul Hameed Khan."

After Lunch (2-30 p.m.)

Rao Bahadur P. C. MUTHU CHETTIYAR spoke in Tamil.

"கனவான்களே! லாண்டு ரிவினியூவில் இந்த பசலிக்கு ரிமிஷன் 100-க்கு 25 வீதம் குறைக்க வேண்டுமாயும் அதற்கு அமெண்டுமென்ட் சில ஜில்லாவுக்கு 33-4-0 வீதம் குறைக்கவேண்டுமாயும் வந்திருக்கும் ரிசலூஷனை ஆதரித்து சில விஷயம் சொல்ல எண்ணுகிறேன்.

[Mr. P. C. Muthu Chettiyar] [24th January 1935]

“லாண்டு ரிவினியூவில் என்று பொதுவாய் ரிசலூஷனில் கொல்வதை தெளிவாய் கொல்லுகிறேன். அதாவது இனம், ஜமீன், அயன் கிராமங்களுக்கும் சேர்ந்ததாக பொருந்துவதோடு சர்க்காருக்கு வசூலாகிற எல்லாவித கிஸ்தி, தண்ணீர் தீர்வை, குயிட்ரென்ட் முதலிய எல்லாவித புஞ்சை, நஞ்சை வகையறு நிலங்களுக்குரிய தீர்வைகள் என்று டாலிக்கவேண்டும்.

“எனென்றால் இரண்டு வருஷத்துக்குமுன் கவர்ன்மென்ட் அயன் கிராமத்துக்கு மட்டும் சில தீர்வைக்கு ரிமிஷன் யென்றும் சூழ்ச்சியாக உத்திரவு போட்டுவிட்டார்கள். அவ்விதம் செய்யப்படாது.

“1934-ம் வருஷத்தில் இந்த பிராவின்சில் மற்ற ஜில்லாவைப் பார்க்கிலும் அதிகமாக மதுரை ஜில்லாவுக்கு இரண்டேழுமடங்கால் லக்ஷத்திற்கு மேலே புஞ்சை தருசாகவும் அரையோ அரைக்கால் லக்ஷம் வரை நஞ்சை தருசாயும் இருப்பதாக தெரிகிறது.

“புஞ்சைகளுக்கு தீர்வை வஜா செய்ய ரூல் இல்லை என்பார்கள். அப்படி சொல்லாது புஞ்சை தருசுக்கும் நஞ்சை தருசுக்கும் சாவிக்கும் பூறு தீர்வை வஜா செய்யவேண்டும்.

“மதுரை ஜில்லா விவசாயமானது வானத்தையே நம்பியுள்ள மானாவாரி கிராமங்கள் ஒரு பாகம், வைகை நதி பாசனத்தை நம்பியுள்ள கிராமங்கள் ஒரு பாகம், பெரியார் பாசனத்தை நம்பியுள்ள கிராமங்கள் ஒரு பாகம், ஆக மூன்று விதமாயிருக்கிறது. ஆனால் இவைகளுக்கு காலாகாலத்தில் மழை பொழிந்தால் மட்டும் ஆதாரமாகும்.

“இந்த வருஷத்தில் மழையே யில்லையே யென்று சொல்வதில் யோசனை இல்லை, மான்குளைப்பற்றி மாசங்களைப் பற்றியும் விவரமாக சொல்ல அவசியம் இல்லை. மழை இல்லை என்பது கவர்ன்மென்ட்டுக்கு தெரிந்த விஷயம்.

“வைகை நதியில் ஜலமே வரவில்லை. பெரியாறு பின்னடைந்துவிட்டது. ஆனால் பெரியாறு அதிகாரிகள் எப்படி அதை சரிக்கட்டி ரிப்போர்டு செய்து வருவார்களோ தெரியாது. பெரியாறு சப்ளை செய்யும்விதம் முறை சிஸ்டமாக விடுகிறார்கள். ஜலம்ருக்கிற கண்மாய்க்கி அப்படி செய்தாலும் பிரயாசையாய் ஏற்கலாம்.

“ஜலமே இல்லாத கண்மாய்களுக்கும் நேர் பாசனத்துக்கும் இரண்டு தினத்திற்கு ஒரு முறை நாலு தினத்திற்கு ஒரு முறையாக பகலில் சில நேரத்திற்கு மட்டும் விடுகிறார்கள். இப்படி 3, 4 தாலாகாவையும் பூறு சப்ளை செய்தாக திருப்தி செய்துவிடலாமென நினைக்கிறதாக இருக்கு, அது முடியவில்லை.

“ஏதாவது தண்ணீர் வருகைக்கு தகுந்தபடி யோசித்து சில பாகத்துக்கு பூறு சப்ளை செய்து பாக்கி இடங்களை சாகுபடி செய்யாதருக்க பூறு தீர்வையும் தள்ளி கொடுப்பதாக எச்சரித்தால் தர்மமாயிருக்கும். வீணை பிரயாசையும் பண சிலவும் செய்து விவசாயம் செய்திருக்கமாட்டார்கள். அப்படியல்லாது பெரியாறு தண்ணீர் சிறிது சப்ளையாவதை நம்பி மழையை எதிர்பார்த்து செய்த சாகுபடி நஷ்டமும் பயிர்களுக்கு ஒருவித நோயும் உவர் கொடுத்தும் சுட்டி சுட்டியாக கண்ட கண்டபடி பயிர் இல்லாதும் குருத்து எடுக்காமலும் பயிர் களிருக்கின்றன. அனேக கண்மாய்களில் தண்ணீரே வருவது கிடையாது.

“இம்மாதிரி இன்னும் இரண்டு வருஷங்களிருந்தால் தாங்க முடியாது.

“லோக்கல் அதிகாரிகளுக்கு பஞ்ச அருமை தெரியாது. அவர்களிடம் எந்த சம்சாரிகள் போய் கத்துகிறது. இந்த சந்தர்ப்பத்தில் விஸ்தாரமாய் பேச வேண்டியதற்கு கவர்ன்மென்ட்டுக்கு தெரியாதிருந்தால் சொல்லவேண்டும்.

“முந்திய வருஷங்களாக பலவிதமாக இந்த ஹவுசில் கதரி கூவியுள்ளது தெரியாததல்ல. ஆனால் அப்போதிருந்த ஆனரபிள் ரெவினியூ மெம்பர் சர் ஆதர்பால் காம்பல் துரை அவர்களிருந்தால் சொல்ல தேவையில்லை.

“இப்போது ஆனரபிள் ரிவினியூ மெம்பர் சூட்டர் துரையவர்கள் வந்த திருப்பதால் சிறிது விஷயம் அவர்களுக்கு சொல்லத்தான் வேண்டுமென எண்ணினேன். இதில் அவர்கள் ஜெனறாக மனதை கொடுக்கவேண்டும்.

[24th January 1935] [Mr. P. C. Muthu Chettiyar]

இதனால் எந்த காரியத்துக்கும் பாதகமாயிராது வேறு புகல்கள் கற்பிக்கப் படாது. மதுரை கலெக்டராயிருந்த ஆனரபிள் ஸ்காட் பிரெளன் துரையவர்கள் இங்கு வந்திருக்கிறார்கள். அவர்களுக்கு மதுரை ஜில்லா பெரியாரால் திருப்தி செய்ய முடியவில்லை. என அறிவார்கள்.

“சமீபத்தில் எக்ஸ்சிக்யூட்டிவ் எஞ்சினீயர் மிஸ்டர் ஆர். வி. துரையவர்களை பார்த்தேன். நான் ஒன்றும் கம்பினைடாக கொடுக்கவில்லை. ஏனென்றால் இது மூன்று, நான்கு வருஷத்திற்கொருதரம் இப்படி கஷ்டம் பெரியாரில் வந்திருப்பதை அனுபவித்து தரும்பாய்விட்டது. ஆனதால் அவரிடம் கம்பினைடு சொல்வதில் பயனில்லை. மழையில்லாததால் ரோம்ப கஷ்டமிருக்கிற தென்று அவர் சொன்னார். கடவுளுடைய காரியம். நீங்கள் என்ன செய்யலாம். ஆனால் மழை பெய்தகாலத்தில் கண்மாய்களை எடுத்துவிடலாமென்று சில சந்தர்ப்பம் பலமா சாதிக்கிறது. பிசகு என்றும் இந்த சமயம் நிதானங்கள் என்றும் யாது செய்தேன்.

“இந்த ஹவுசில் கனவான்கள் ஒரு முகமாய் முந்திய வருஷத்தில் 25 வீதம் தீர்மானம் செய்ததையும் கமிட்டியார் ஏற்கனவே 18½ வீதம் சிபார்சு செய்ததையும் கவனிக்காது கவர்ன்மென்டு 12½ வீதமாக மாற்றி விட்டார்கள்.

“இதை உத்தேசித்து கமிட்டியில் இப்பவும் ரூபாய்க்கு ஒன்னேழுமடங்கால் அணுவாக சிபார்சு செய்திருக்கிறார்கள். கடைசி 12½ வீதம் செய்யலாமென கருதப்பட்டது.

“ஆனரபிள் மெம்பர் இதை பரியாலோசனை செய்தால், உயர்ந்த விலை வாசிகள் கூடிவந்த காலத்தில் செய்த செட்டில்மென்டு ஆனதால் இதை மூன்றில் ஒருபாகத்தை பெர்மனெண்டாக குறைக்க யோசித்தால் நலமாயிருக்கும்.

“ஆகையால் தயவு செய்து மூன்றில் ஒருபாகம் ரிமிஷன் செய்ய நியாயமிருக்கிறதென பிரார்த்திக்கிறேன்.”

Mr. MAHBOOB ALI BAIG:—“Mr. President, Sir, I beg to move the amendment that stands in my name, namely— 2-45 p.m.

‘Add at the end, “and that in the case of districts which are resettled, the increase in assessment due to resettlement shall also be suspended.”’

“Sir, it hardly requires any argument on my part to convince the House that this amendment is a necessary one and a just one. The position is this; speaking about my district, that is Kistna, the enhancement was about 18 per cent and the proposed suspension is about 12 per cent. The Council will therefore realize that the districts that have been resettled have not been given any relief at all. Thus, I request the House to support me in this amendment. Speaking generally about remissions, I wish to state that the subject has been dealt with so thoroughly both in the Press and on the platform and also in this Council that there is very little scope to contribute to the discussion as far as the merits of the case are concerned. The facts and figures have been canvassed on both sides by the Government as well as by the people. But the Government, however, admit that the monster of depression has not yet loosened its grip, that the purchasing power of the people continues still to be at its lowest ebb, and in consequence agricultural products have not been fetching at least that minimum of prices which are calculated to leave the agriculturists a surplus sufficient to keep his body and soul together. Again, by the appointment of a Special Officer to investigate into the

[Mr. Mahboob Ali Baig]

[24th January 1935]

rural indebtedness and also by allowing the non-official Bill of my Friend, Mr. T. A. Ramalingam Chettiyar—the Debts Conciliation Bill—to go before the Select Committee, the Government have evidently shown their interest with regard to the grave situation that is growing in the rural areas of the Presidency. More than all the suspension of a percentage of revenue for this fasli, however meagre it may be, for which our thanks are due to the Government, clearly indicates that the Government is alive to the condition of the ryot and is alive to the fact that the ryot is not in his normal condition and is unable to pay his normal dues. But one is tempted to ask how is it then that in spite of the fact that Government is alive to all these factors and have got the knowledge of these facts, how is it then that the Government does not take any step and remit a sufficiently large percentage of the revenue which would go to give a proper and sufficient relief to the poor. To some extent, Sir, the land revenue policy is responsible for this. The poorest ryot is taxed and taxed at a similar rate as the richest ryot. More than this, Sir, the conception that finances must be ensured for running the Government at any cost, whatever conditions might prevail in the country and that stability should be secured only by pampering public servants and keeping them satisfied even in these days of depression, I dare say, Sir, that it is this conception on the part of the Government that is really responsible for not giving the relief that is required in the circumstances."

* The Hon. the PRESIDENT:—"The hon. Member has got only two minutes more."

Mr. MAHBOOB ALI BAIG:—"May I with your permission, Sir, state that the Government is short-sighted if it devoted its whole attention to the collection of revenues and felt anxious and certain at the prospect of decrease in the revenue. It is very unfortunate, Sir, that an impression is gaining ground in the country that the Government is a heartless machinery and that it does not heed the miseries of the people. When it wants, it collects money whether the ryot is able or is not able to pay. Sir, we, the representatives of the people, are anxious to dispel this impression from the minds of the people and want to tell them that their impression is really wrong and the Government still exist for the people and not the people for the Government. We, therefore, request the Government, Sir, to strengthen our hands by being responsive to our appeal so that we might go back to the country and tell the people that they were wrong in their impressions. Now, Sir, may I throw out a suggestion when the agitation in the country is more and if it is not an essentially political, it is more economic rather than political agitation. No wonder, therefore, that the party in the country which is opposed to Government finds it easy to disturb the minds of the people. The situation in the country is really fraught with dangerous implications. I, therefore, say with all the emphasis in my command for the stability of the country and for the peace therein and for all that goes to make for the better governments of the country, a substantial relief is necessary in the present circumstances."

[24th January 1935]

* Rai Sahib C. KOLANDA REDDI:—"Mr. President, Sir, in seconding this motion I wish to say a few words. This remission or suspension is a painful affair. I wonder, Sir, how the Government arrived at this petty figure of 12½ per cent and something less. It is a great pity that the Government do not realize the magnitude and the gravity of the situation. Of course, my friends who preceded me have furnished plenty of statistics and are imposing array of facts and figures, which I am afraid the Hon. the Revenue Member with all his intelligence and with all the files before him cannot rebut. (Laughter.) Now, Sir, as a Reddi, I am a ryot myself and you will pardon me if I present the ryot's case, the point of view of the man-in-the-street, of the under-dog who bears the whole burden of this administration. As I was leaving Bezwada, I found that the new paddy was selling at Rs. 20 to Rs. 25 per candy. Of course, it consists of 10 bags of 166 pounds each. Now, Sir, fortunately or unfortunately, two things have coincided. That is the harvest season and the kist season. I think it is needless for me to state that the revenue officials are ultra-busy now. They are busy now with one purpose, i.e., to squeeze, to squeeze and squeeze until the ryot is bled white as he is. Then you know the plight of the ryot. He will be thrown on the scrap heap. He will not be remembered until the next season comes round. Now, Sir, everybody knows that on account of this depression, the prices have fallen of not only paddy, but also other commodities and the fall has been so steep that whatever quantity is sold, the money that the ryot gets in return is precious little and the one thing that presses very heavily upon him is revenue assessment. After paying the assessment, the balance that he has is neither fish, nor flesh nor good red-herring. It serves no purpose at all, and he cannot make both the ends meet with what remains on hand so much so that the condition of the ryot is awfully deplorable, critical, nay, disastrous. I wonder, Sir, how you can expect the ryot under such conditions to beget children, to rear the children that he has, to educate them, to marry them and play the part of a human being. And he forms the very foundation, the backbone of this grand Government in this agricultural country."

"It is needless for me to say that 95 per cent of South Indians 3 p.m. are agriculturists. Kistna, Sir, from which I come, Kistna which was blessed by the presence of Mr. Souter more than once and that for long periods, I must say that when Mr. Souter was there, Kistna was a land flowing with milk and honey. In those halcyon days, there was prosperity all round and the ryot was rolling in wealth. (A voice: 'Who was responsible?') Of course, the Government is responsible. Now, Sir, at present, the ordinary average ryot's condition can be very well explained by quoting the case of the biggest ryot in the Kistna district. That man cultivates about one thousand acres of paddy, and before the depression spread its tentacles over the land, he was selling his paddy for Rs. 96,000. After paying the kist of Rs. 16,000, he had on hand Rs. 80,000, liquid cash, with which he could do anything. Now, what is his fate? Now, he realizes out of the sale of the same proceeds only Rs. 26,000, out of which he has

[Mr. C. Kolanda Reddi]

[24th January 1935]

to pay Rs. 16,000 in the shape of kist. With the balance of Rs. 10,000, it is for you to see what he can do with regard to cultivation expenses and other things. Sir, he has been reduced to such a plight that he was unable to meet a decretal demand of Rs. 4,000, so much so that he had to allow all his heads of cattle and other movables to be attached. Such is the condition of the ryot in Kistna. During the Christmas, I have travelled over some more districts and I find that the condition of the ryot is the same all over.

"Now, with regard to dry crops, they are no better than the paddy crop. The dry lands were leased out, I know as a matter of fact, at Rs. 12 per acre before the depression. Now men are not coming forward to take up the same land on even Rs. 4 per acre. That is the condition, and if we are ourselves to cultivate it, of course we may not be able to realize that amount. I say, Sir, in these circumstances, this remission or suspension of 12½ per cent is *baniya's higgie* or *Komati beram*. What I submit is these poor people have been bearing the burden with more than asinine patience. Even for that there is a limit, and it is for the Government to understand that limit and to act as it ought to save the situation.

"Now, Sir, I may submit that this is the time for the Ministers to show their sympathy for the ryot and tell the Reserved Half to be more human and humane, if they are not, warn them that there would be a parting of the ways. I am afraid, Sir, Sir Kurma is not here. He too is supposed to be a ryot, and I think ryot's interests must be nearest his heart. Of course, there is our Finance Member who is bidding us adieu shortly who is meeting other demands very liberally such as restoration of cuts and construction of houses for high officials as if they are now floating in the air for want of accommodation. But when it comes to the ryot, I am sorry to say he is rather close-fisted. I would earnestly request him to loosen the purse strings wide as more or less a parting gift and to remit at least 33½ per cent. We in Kistna, which is resettled just as West Godavari, are already paying an enhancement of 18¾ per cent and what is the good of remitting only 12½ per cent out of it? It is absolutely useless and as Mr. Krishnayya Choudari said this morning, the amount is so small that it slips away in the course of transit to the ryot. It is intangible and very inappreciable. So, make it at least 25 per cent, if you cannot 33½."

* The Hon. the PRESIDENT:—"I think the hon. Member has exceeded his time by more than three minutes."

Rai Sahib C. KOLANDA REDDI:—"Only one word more, Sir, and that is this. We have been requesting the Government off and on to be humane and to treat the ryot as he ought to be in these hard days because as I submitted already he is responsible for the sustenance of the whole Government. We entreat you to pay heed to it; if you do not, I must say in Biblical terms, 'We have been baptizing you with water; others would come who would baptize you with fire.' Beware!"

[24th January 1935]

* Rao Sahib N. SIVA RAJ:—"Mr. President, Sir, on behalf of the group to which I have the honour to belong, namely, the group of the representatives of scheduled classes in this Council, I desire to make our position clear with reference to this question of land revenue remission. We feel, Sir, that whatever justification there might have been in the past for the land revenue remission that was granted, no such justification exists just at present. (Voice: 'Question.') In any case, the Mover of the motion himself admitted that there has been a general rise in prices at least in the districts of the Presidency, which are not famine-stricken. There is also the fact that there are districts which are undoubtedly in the grip of famine conditions. We on our part are prepared to sympathize with the case of those districts like the Ceded districts, and also agree to the principle that remission to a great extent ought to be granted to these districts. We are not convinced of the share that every district ought to get in the remission which they ask for now. Even the Government was alive to the fact that the conditions which existed last year did not wholly disappear but still persist to some extent, and having recognized that fact granted a general remission though not to the extent that they were prepared to grant last year. That being so, we feel that we cannot support the motion that was moved by my hon. Friend, Mr. Hameed Khan, for the granting of 25 per cent remission of the land revenue assessment. We are, however, for supporting Mr. Ramakrishna Reddi's amendment for remission being granted to the Ceded districts. Our point of view is that hon. Members of this House ought also to realize that the Government is not merely concerned with land revenue administration and land revenue administration alone. They have got other activities which ought not to be seriously hampered by the grant of any large remission that some hon. Members of this Council may ask for. We particularly are interested in the matter of the ameliorative activities which the Government contemplate on behalf of our community, which are also in the interest of the nation-building departments. They ought not to be curtailed to such an extent as that our welfare will be seriously affected, and I do not see any proposal by which we can keep up and continue those activities at the same time as the Government grants the land revenue remission on the scale asked for by my hon. friend. That is the reason why we say we cannot agree to this motion, and we make it perfectly plain that we are supporting those famine-stricken districts and we are for giving them any relief that is possible for the Government to give."

Mr. DANIEL THOMAS:—"Mr. President, Sir, various amendments have been proposed. The main motion brought by my hon. Friend, Mr. Hameed Khan, as the hon. Members are aware, which is before the House is as regards the remission of 25 per cent of the Government kist for all the districts in the province. I may take it, Sir, as a result of all that has been said in the previous speeches of my hon. friends, that certain things may be taken for granted. In the first place, it may be taken for granted that there is a great deal of widespread agricultural distress not only in certain districts but all over

[Mr. Daniel Thomas]

[24th January 1935]

the province. (Hear, hear.) It may also be next conceded that the extent of distress and the condition of the ryots vary in different districts. From these facts, it would appear that generally the province as a whole is in need of a certain amount of relief and also in the case of certain districts something over and above the general remission that may be given to the province as a whole. There are individual districts which require special consideration and special treatment at the hands of the Government. I may say at the outset that when the Government realize these conditions, when the Government took the action that they proposed in suspending one anna nine pies in the rupee of kist due, they realized and admitted that the ryot of this province stood to a great extent in need of relief. I would appeal to the Government that the extent of the remission ought to be such as to enable the ryots to feel that substantial relief has been afforded to them. I would say that even from the Government's point of view it is no use making so small a remission, such a trifling proportion of the tax that has to be paid by the ryot, that it is not felt that any relief has been afforded to him at all. I would submit that the relief proposed to be given, viz., 21 pies in certain districts, half of it in other districts, and as regards dry lands a still smaller percentage, is indeed too small to afford any relief to the ryot even with reference to most districts in the province. Hon. Members have referred to almost famine conditions in the Ceded districts.

15
m. "I would mention here that my own district of Tinnevely is in no better state. The south-west monsoon has proved a complete failure, and the second crop has proved an almost entire failure throughout the district, and as regards the coming crop (pisanam) the failure of the north-east monsoon has made the prospects of harvest in the coming season extremely gloomy. If that is so as regards the river-fed and irrigated lands, the condition of lands under rain-fed irrigation and also the conditions of land under dry cultivation are appallingly bad. I may say that throughout the district there has practically been no dry cultivation, and with reference to all dry lands there has been a failure of crops.

"I would mention also in this connexion that with reference to double-crop lands the Government does not take note for the purpose of remission where there has been a failure of single crop; and most of the paddy lands in Tinnevely would come under this category. Therefore I submit that here again is a matter which requires urgent consideration by the Government.

"There is one other point. Tinnevely perhaps is the district in Madras where palmyra is most largely grown. With reference to a very large area in the district, most of the people live on the produce of the palmyra trees. But unlike in other cases a special tax is levied on it. I find that with reference to this question of remission it was contended by the Government last year that remissions given by the Government with reference to wet lands and dry lands should not be extended to the palmyra tree. The conditions of palmyra cultivation are growing harder and harder every year, and people are giving up palmyra cultivation. Palmyra climbers are imported from Travancore and these

[24th January 1935]

[Mr. Daniel Thomas]

people are brought after making heavy payments in the way of wages for labour, etc. In those conditions it can be imagined what difficulties the palmyra-owners have to undergo. Of course palmyra trees are being tapped for toddy purposes, and the Hon. Minister for Excise may feel glad that so far as the excise revenue is concerned there would be no fall. But for sugar-manufacturing purposes, the conditions are getting harder and harder. I would appeal to the Hon. the Revenue Member to consider all these difficulties and extend the privilege of suspension of revenue with reference to the palmyra trees as well.

"In this connexion I may refer, Sir, to the position taken up by Mr. Siva Raj on behalf of the depressed classes. I would submit, Sir, that the interests of the depressed classes in this matter are closely allied to those of the land-owning classes, so far as this matter is concerned. Unless the land-owner, the small land-owner, is in a position to realize some outturn from his land he would not be able to pay the labourers. Therefore I say their interests are bound up for good or ill with the interests of the land-owning classes in this matter. I would therefore appeal to my hon. Friend to reconsider his position. Whatever amenities or ameliorative efforts the Government intend for the benefit of the depressed classes will not be affected by the grant of remission to the land-owners."

* Mr. N. SIVA RAJ:—"I never said in my speech that the depressed classes are not connected with agriculture. What I really said was if there was to be a general remission to all districts, there might be a fall in revenue and Government may not be in a position to spend anything on behalf of the depressed classes. Then it will be a question of choosing between two evils."

Mr. DANIEL THOMAS:—"I do not think that the Government will be forced to the necessity of cutting down the ameliorative measures because of the remission of revenue. I believe that the Government will realize that ameliorative measures for the depressed classes is one of the foremost things they have to do, and I do hope and trust that whatever relief is afforded by Government in the matter of revenue remission will not react in any way against the depressed classes. Apart from that I hope and trust that in this matter the representatives of scheduled classes would co-operate with all sections of the House and support the demand for substantial reduction in the land revenue for this year."

* Mr. K. P. RAMAN MENON:—"Mr. President, Sir, this subject of land revenue has been cropping up every year and I hope this perhaps would be the last time when we have to handle this for I expect that the future Minister would be in a position to dictate terms to Government."

"The Government has also a duty to the cultivating ryot. The condition of the ryot has been going from bad to worse. I do not want to speak on all those facts referred to by previous speakers, but I want to lay emphasis on this fact; if it is granted that there has been a fall in the price of produce, where is the justification for Government

[Mr. K. P. Raman Menon]

[24th January 1935]

to collect taxes on the same level as when the prices were high? I remember Sir Malcolm Hailey speaking in the United Provinces saying that the payment to Government of revenue must be graduated with reference to the prices that the ryots are able to raise on the produce that they raise on the land. If that is a correct statement that he has made, then certainly it ought to apply to the ryots here as well. Sir Thomas Munro and several authorities have stated that the assessment must stand for good or bad for thirty years, and it is stated that it became necessary to fix a period of thirty years on account of constant revisions that were made in 1854 and 1855 on applications from Collectors of various districts. Therefore it became the settled policy of the Government to have the tax fixed for a period of thirty years. This scheme no doubt worked very well when we see that the prices after the Mutiny year rose from a low level to a fairly high level for some time and then there came the booming prices during the War which upset all precedents. To frame the budget of the ryot with reference to the booming rises in the War period and tax the ryot on that basis is tantamount to wiping him out of existence. It will be seen that the ryots will not be able to make both ends meet if he is to pay the entire Government revenue demanded of him. As I said before, when the prices have fallen the demand must also fall. If you have Rs. 100 on hand you are able to pay Rs. 25 out of it. But if you have only Rs. 80 on hand you must have a reduction from Rs. 25 to Rs. 20 to keep the proportion of the demand to your income. It is a matter of arithmetic. I submit no elaborate argument is necessary to convince anybody that the ryot cannot afford to pay what he has been paying.

"A word has to be said about the attitude taken by the hon. Mr. Siva Raj. He posed as the representative of the scheduled classes, at least as representative of the scheduled classes in the Presidency town. I have the authority of Mr. Premayya, another representative of the same class, who tells me that as a matter of fact he does not share the view that Mr. Siva Raj shares. Mr. Siva Raj, no doubt, with his snug salary as lecturer in the Law College is unaware of the conditions of the wage-earners in all parts of the Presidency. Their living is most miserable on the wages that they earn. I have more sympathy with them than he and his colleagues. We see them from morning to evening in the dirtiest surroundings. We want to ameliorate their condition; how can we do it unless we pay them more from the profits of the land. Only if we have profits from the land, if we have a margin left, we can pay; without that we cannot go on paying at the old old rates. As regards the ameliorative measures the Government are taking we shall be the first to oppose any movement on the part of the Government to interfere in any way with the amounts of money which are earmarked for the scheduled classes. He may depend upon it and he can rely upon me to come to the rescue of the scheduled classes if it comes to that. But why should he be so uncharitable to Government also; why should he think that Government will apply their shears to that item? Certainly, Sir, I was surprised to see that Mr. Siva Raj has taken up that attitude on the question before us.

[24th January 1935]

[Mr. K. P. Raman Menon]

"Then again, Sir, speaking particularly with reference to the years we are concerned with, it is seen that the monsoons have failed in all the districts; and if the monsoons have failed, it is clear that no crop can be raised. With reference to the manavari lands the Revenue authorities know that most of the lands in Malabar so far as second crop is concerned is manavari and there is no justification for expecting any revenue from second-crop assessment. Turning to Anantapur, I have been reading in the *Madras Mail* contributions from a special correspondent pointing out that the conditions in Anantapur are horrible. It is a wonder to me how they are able to survive all these difficulties. I shall repeat what I read the other day, that a man was getting down into a well about 40 feet deep to take water in a coconut shell and fill the pitchers which others were carrying to the top of the well for drinking purposes. There was almost a rush for this water. Water is so scarce even for drinking purposes. I may say there is absolutely no water for other purposes. The average rainfall for the district is 25 inches and there is only 11 or 12 inches this year and the crop has failed. The ryots laid out their little money in cultivation of their land hoping to get rains in season and as there were no rains they lost all that money. The condition of the ryots must be deplorable. I have the greatest sympathy for the amendment which was moved by Mr. Koti Reddi. So far as Anantapur is concerned, the entire tax should be remitted for the current fasli.

"Then, Sir, that there is some flaw in the very theory of this basic foundation for revenue assessment is clear from the way this question has been cropping up every year. Have the Government noted, with reference to all other professions, the tax is not so high as in the profession of agriculture? The theory of the Government, with regard to agriculture, is that they are entitled to half the profits, that is, eight annas in the rupee. Now, what is the highest income-tax that they take from the persons who follow other professions? I believe the maximum is not more than four annas in the rupee. Now what is the difference between the other professions and this profession of agriculture? What is the position of the agriculturists? Why should they pay eight annas in the rupee whereas the others pay much less in proportion to the profit they get? That aspect of the question has to be considered and, I believe, the Government will find out some principle on which it would be possible for them to charge the profit made from land.

"Sir, it has been often stated—it was stated last year and it will be said this year also—that if you want the land-tax to be reduced, all the development departments will suffer. I say, let them not develop at all. I would prefer the ryot to have two meals a day to any other amenities which the Government may be pleased to confer upon us. These development departments, even the Pykara and other schemes may stop for the present until the ryot is put on a stable basis.

"With these words, I support the motion."

Khan Bahadur P. KHALIF-UL-LAH SAHIB Bahadur:—"Sir, my hon. Friend, Mr. Choudari, complimented the Government on the remission

3-30
p.m.

[P. Khalif-ul-lah Sahib Bahadur] [24th January 1935]

that they have been pleased to give for the mere fact that it is an out-and-out remission. It is mere suspension of revenue. (Mr. P. V. Krishnayya Choudari: I know that it is only suspension of revenue. I only complimented the Government for passing early orders.) So far as this question is concerned a mere remission of 25 per cent is not sufficient at all considering the condition of the ryots throughout the province. All accounts show that the condition of the ryots is most depressing and that every day it has been growing worse and worse. Their condition is not better to-day is seen from the very fact that the Government themselves have thought fit to grant this paltry suspension of 1 anna 9 pies in the rupee. That shows that it is a recognized fact that the condition of the ryots require help by way of remission of assessment. But what we beg to point out to the Government is that the remission of 1 anna 9 pies goes nowhere to help the ryot in his present circumstances. He has been suffering from this depression for the last four years and, as has been several times repeated here, he has sold away all his movable property to meet the demands of the Government for the payment of tax. To-day he does not even command sufficient credit to borrow any moneys. Such being the case it is most necessary that the Government should go to his rescue whole-heartedly and not certainly in the half-hearted manner in which they have come forward now.

"Sir, we heard piteous tales of the condition of the ryots in the Ceded districts, and Kistna. I may add my own tale about Trichinopoly which is supposed to be irrigated by the Goddess Cauvery. There, Sir, all that we know of the results of the Mettur Project is that our schedule of taxation has been raised. The first-class land has been converted to the second class and the second-class land has been raised to the first class and assessed accordingly. That is the net result to us of the Mettur Project. We do not know of anything else of that project. Our land is not producing one grain of paddy more than what it used to yield in the past. If at all, the production has gone down particularly this year on account of want of rains.

"Sir, so far as the dry lands are concerned, the position is worse. No crop has been raised this year for the reason that the rains came late. But, the poor farmer hoping to get something out of the land borrowed wherever he could and tried to cultivate his land taking advantage of the small showers that there was in the beginning of the season. The monsoon, however, stopped there and so, wherever one went into the villages, mere *chavi*, that is, grain with nothing inside it which is the result of lack of rains at the budding period, greeted his sight. So the poor farmer lost not only what he had, but also what he had borrowed.

"I shall now mention to the House how this question of remission affects the depressed classes. My hon. Friend, Rao Sahib N. Siva Raj, saying that he represented the depressed classes in this House, came forward with a bold statement to the effect that he is not for remission, simply because the depressed classes would suffer on account of the Government retrenching, consequent on remission, in the ameliorative measures for the depressed classes. So far as that subject is concerned,

24th January 1935] [P. Khalif-ul-lah Sahib Bahadur]

Sir, may I point out that the depressed classes would be nowhere if no remission is granted? There must be depressed classes to be ameliorated. They will die from day to day and there will be none left to be ameliorated if timely and adequate remission is not granted. They must be enabled to live first by granting this remission and till then this question of their betterment can wait. They are the parties seriously affected in the matter of kist collection. It is only if anything is left to the poor farmer that the depressed class labourer can hope to live. I am speaking from personal experience. I have known depressed classes in several villages in my district and I know them personally. All of them are living unable to get even a full meal a day. This is so because the poor farmers are hard hit. They have nothing left even to pay their labourers. That is the whole trouble. If the farmer is relieved by a proper remission, I feel sure that the depressed classes will be the first party to be relieved by him. With these words, Sir, I beg to support both the motion and the amendment."

* Mr. C. BASU DEV:—"Mr. President, Sir, I rise with considerable hesitation to speak on a question of such popular interest as the present one on land revenue remission—popular in the sense that it involves profit to an influential section of the public whose voice invariably influences the public opinion of this Presidency. But, Sir, as one representing the workers of this Province, I feel it my duty to speak frankly on this question. The depression which is the basis of this demand for revenue remission has been continuous for the last few years and has not yet shown definite signs of lifting; neither its cause nor its duration has been correctly assessed and it is more than probable that this unfortunate state would continue for a few years more. This depression has lowered the price of agricultural produce, especially of paddy. No one has yet definitely stated that the supply of rice is more than the demand in this Province, even including the imported Siamese rice. The reported imports have certainly had a psychological effect in keeping down the price of local paddy. Though at the present moment and in this year the prices have risen appreciably, it has been contended by the advocates of remission that the cost of the produce leaves nothing above the cost of production. If this is a true statement, as I admit, it is very near the actual facts, surely remission of any portion of the revenue cannot help the ryot to live or persuade him to cultivate his land again and certainly remission is not the remedy for this continuing malady, though it may be the popular cry. One would expect an attempt to keep the prices above a certain economic level. I see no such attempt being made except the representation of the Government of Madras made to the Government of India for the imposition of adequate duty on imported rice. I would appeal to the Government to kindly focus their attention on the question of preventing prices from falling below an economic level. There must certainly be some other methods by which the level can be kept up. My hon. Friend from Guntur, Mr. Krishnayya Choudari, though he stood up to support the resolution for increased remission, his whole speech was not so much for asking for remission as for making valuable

[Mr. C. Basu Dev]

[24th January 1935]

and constructive suggestions as how best the Government could help the ryot to tide over his difficulties and how to maintain a particular level of prices. Again on the question of remission itself, Mr. Krishnayya Choudari admitted that most of last year's remission did not reach most of the ryots and thanked the Government for announcing this year's remission in time, as he hoped this early announcement would enable the ryot to enjoy it by withholding it from his payments. After all to the poorer pattadar, this remission means nothing appreciable, though its total amount makes a big slice of the provincial revenue. As to the wage-earners and to the landless, remission of such a big amount is bound to retard the ameliorative measures which may otherwise be profitably undertaken. Village communications, rural water-supply are two different items of rural development which will be very badly affected by this remission.

3-45
P.M.

"The hon. Member from North Arcot, Mr. V. M. Ramaswami Mudaliyar, had stated that the exorbitant taxation is responsible for the rural indebtedness which aggravates the present misery of the ryot. Sir, that is a statement with which I cannot agree. Just now, we heard Mr. C. K. Reddi, from Kistna telling this hon. House how Kistna was till recently flowing with milk and honey. The indebtedness is due largely to the improvidence of the ryot who invested large amounts of borrowed money on land which, in the present depression, proved to be absolutely unprofitable. Unless this indebtedness is tackled boldly by the Government, nothing can help the ryot. As in the State of Bhavanagar, the Government must take up the whole of the agricultural debt and treating its position as one of insolvency, declare a dividend for the creditors which would bring down the total amount of debt by 40 per cent at least. The amount should be collected in easy instalments along with the rent.

"Land mortgage banks are not going to solve the problem and recently Government allowed the bank to issue debentures offering up to 5 per cent interest. The problem of agricultural indebtedness, as I said above, requires a bold and courageous handling and I very much hope that the Government will not be deterred by any difficulties however serious but boldly adopt the example of the State of Bhavanagar. Again the middlemen who are to a great extent responsible for the depression and fluctuations in prices will have to be brought under control and their operations severely regulated. Over and above this the Government will have to chalk out a 20 years plan during which well-considered steps should be taken to revivify the fast dying ryot. Remission, Sir, I once more beg to submit, is not a remedy which a statesmen will apply, for it may be a palliative for an year or two, but no responsible person will think of it to meet a continuing difficulty.

"Mr. K. P. Raman Menon, the Leader of the Justice Democratic Party, has taken my hon. Friend, Mr. Siva Raj, to task for speaking on behalf of the scheduled communities. I do not know when the hon. Member from Malabar constituted himself as the representative

24th January 1935]

[Mr. C. Basu Dev]

of the scheduled castes. If this is the kind of representation which the scheduled castes in Malabar have, the word 'unapproachability' still darkens their lives!"

Mr. V. P. NARAYANAN NAMBIYAR:—"On a point of order, Sir. How is unapproachability in Malabar relevant to land revenue? (Laughter.)"

Mr. C. BASU DEV:—"I admit that it has no relevancy to revenue remission. But I referred to it because the hon. Member from Malabar got up and attacked the statement of my hon. Friend who represents the scheduled castes. Mr. Raman Menon represents the rate-payers of Malabar. They are not the scheduled castes of Malabar. I am a socialist and my main concern is about the workers. But I am prepared to support any constructive measure calculated to help the ryot, big or small, to realize a good return from his investment on land, but I cannot vote for a remedy of the nature of tinkering patch work. I once more beg to say that I am prepared to vote for any amount or measures necessary to permanently and substantially solve the question of agricultural depression."

Mr. M. B. RANGASWAMI REDDI:—"கனம் தலைவரவர்களே! தற்போது பிரசிடென்ஸில் இருக்கும் லாண்டு ரிவினியூரிமிஷன் வஜா தீர்மானத்தை நானும் ஆதரிக்கிறேன். ஏனென்றால் குடியானவன் கஷ்டம் சொல்லமுடியாது. இவ்வருஷம் மழையின்மையாலும் விளைபொருள்கள் விலையில்லாமையாலும் இம்மா காணத்தில் 28 லக்ஷம் ஏக்கர் (சுமார்) புஞ்சை நிலங்களும் 14 லக்ஷத்திற்கு மேற்பட்ட ஏக்கர் நஞ்சை நிலங்களும் பயிரிடப்படவில்லை யென்றால் இதிலிருந்து குடியானவனின் கஷ்டம் சொல்லவேண்டியதில்லை. கோவாபரேடிவ், பப்ளிக் ஹெல்த் டிபார்ட்மெண்டு, ரெவின்யூ போர்டு ரிபேரட்டுகளில் இது மூன்று வருஷ காலமாய் மழையின்மையாலும் விலைவாசிகள் இல்லாமையாலும் குடியானவர்கள் கஷ்டப்படுவதாக கண்டிருக்கிறது. போதியசான்றாகும் உழகிறவன் கணக்கு பார்த்தால் உழவுகோல் கூடம்ஞ்சாது என்பது பழமொழி. இதுகளை உத்தேசித்தும் ரெவின்யூ போர்டார் சில விதிகளின்பிரகாரம் புஞ்சைகளுக்கு தீர்வை வஜா செய்ய அதிகாரமில்லை. மேலும், நேற்றைய என் கேள்வியிலிருந்து மணிலா முதலிய பயிர்கள் போன வருஷத்திற்கு இவ்வருஷம் பாதியளவுகூட பயிர் செய்யவில்லை என்று தெரிகிறது. என்னுடைய ஜில்லாவின் நிலைமையைப் பற்றி ஆகஸ்ட் மாதங்களில் மழையின்மைப்பற்றியும், கிணறுகளில் ஜலம் கிடைக்காமையால் சாவியாய் போனதுபற்றியும் ஜனங்கள் கஷ்டப்படுவது பற்றியும் கலெக்டருக்கும் கவர்ன்மென்டிட்கும் அடிக்கடி தெரியப்படுத்தியிருக்கிறேன். இதுகளை உத்தேசித்து தீர்வையை வஜா செய்யக் கோருகிறேன்."

Mr. AHMED MEERAN:—"Mr. President, Sir, I fully associate myself with the resolution moved by my Friend, Mr. Hameed Khan, and the amendment moved by Mr. Sivasubrahmanya Ayyar. In doing so I should like to say a few words.

"It has been repeatedly brought to the notice of the Government that the economic position of the agriculturists who constitute the bulk of the population in this Presidency is a deplorable one and needs drastic measures for improvement. The repression which set in well nigh five years ago, has heavily told upon them and has reduced them to the position of undeclared insolvents. In the early stages of the

[Mr. Ahmed Meeran]

[24th January 1935]

economic depression they were not faced with such a situation as confronts them now. There was plenty of crops and successful harvests, their only difficulty then being the dearth of money which strained them considerably in the payment of kist. The difficulty was tided over by them by resort to borrowing, their income having considerably diminished while their expenditure remained stationary in some cases and grew in others. The result was that their indebtedness grew worse and their solvency sank to a depth.

"The depression entered a new phase. More than a year ago, successful harvests and abundant stock of agricultural produce which marked the early part of the depression, ceased to exist and failure of monsoons brought in its train a thorough failure of crops. Of the utter failure of 'kar' crops in several portions of the districts, Government are fully aware and the case of 'pishanam' is becoming worse. The Collector of Tinnevely, in his letter to the President, District Board, Tinnevely, says, 'As you know, there has been very little rain in the season and it is likely that many of the crops will fail and that there will be serious shortage of drinking water.' The ryots are actually faced with grim starvation now, and their cry for relief demands immediate response.

"In spite of the intense distress on the part of the ryots it is surprising that Government have not adequately responded to the real needs of the ryots. The Government Order granting meagre concessions to the ryots, discloses an utter lack of realization of the plight of the ryots. It is a matter of grave dissatisfaction that the resolution passed by so many district boards and peoples' conferences, in various districts on the necessity for substantial relief, have been cast to the winds by the Government with little or no reason.

"It is really strange that though the plight and misery of the ryots has enormously increased in recent times owing to the failure of monsoons, there is no corresponding generosity on the part of the Government in the matter of relief. Instead of liberalizing the grant of remission, the Government have sought to curtail even the 12 per cent granted last year. There is no case at all for Government for curtailing this meagre concession granted during the last fasli. The reason put forward by the Government for reducing the concession given last year seems to be that there has been an upward trend in the prices which, the Government presumes, must have improved the lot of the ryots. This is a wholly erroneous diagnosis of the situation. The Government have failed to realize that this alleged upward trend in prices is only temporary and that the unsteady tendency of upward rise in price has been brought about not by any improvement in world conditions, but stimulated only by local demands of a transitory nature. The price rose only because of the failure of kar crops and the local supply for a time. It is clear from the Government Order that these details of the case have not been taken into account by the Government in granting concessions. The case of my district (Tinnevely) is certainly more hard than that of any other part of the Presidency.

[24th January 1935]

[Mr. Ahmed Meeran]

Tinnevely pays the highest assessment for wet lands in the Presidency. I beg to draw, in this connexion, the attention of the Government to the proceedings of the ryots' conference held at Srivaikuntam last month in which the ryots' case is clearly set out. Is it not grossly unfair on the part of the Government to treat this district on the same footing as others which are not subject to so prohibitive an assessment? The distinction made between districts settled before and after 1918 for purposes of remission is most distressing when the actual situation in Tinnevely is considered. Such distinction ought not to apply to my district which, in fact, deserves most liberal and sympathetic treatment.

"It is surprising that, meagre as the concessions are, they are still more niggardly in that they are to be enforced from the kist of April instead of from February, the first kist itself. There seem to be no justification when once concessions are granted, to postpone them until the April kist, except that such an arrangement causes serious hardship to the ryots. I cannot but say, Sir, such half-hearted concessions cannot adequately meet the situation and that unless some greater and more effective measures for relief are taken by the Government, the ryot is sure to sink into irretrievable misery and disaster.

"Further the plea of the Government against an enhanced rate of remission has been want of money. The Government is aware that the All-India Services are still subject to a 5 per cent cut in salaries, and there is no justification whatever to restore the cut for the provincial services with that speed with which it was done. While the price of produce has been steadily depreciating and while the value of money in relation to its purchasing capacity has been steadily and surely appreciating there is no reason why the servants of the Government alone should continue to enjoy this advantage to the detriment of the tax-payer. I would, therefore, urge that the Government should take up once again the question of imposing a cut on the salaries of all provincial services and make that money available for purposes of relief to the suffering ryots. I refer here to one curious phenomenon which takes place in connexion with the resolution on remission. Every time the Ministerial party makes a show of being with the people by allowing certain of its party members to vote with the opposition, but when the actual question of grant of remission is taken up they seem to exert no influence whatever with the reserved half or on the Governor to ensure adequate relief to the ryot. They are only playing a double game little realizing that the ryot is only too clever as not to see through this big joke which is repeated as often as the question arises. I wish they realize that they cannot fool the ryots for all time. I, therefore, support the motion for at least 33½ per cent remission, which is a modest one and request the hon. Members of this House to unanimously accept this resolution."

* The Hon. Mr. C. A. SOUTER:—"Mr. President, Sir, I fancy that hon. Members are rather weary of this debate. I must say that I am having listened to every word of it from this morning.

[Mr. C. A. Souter]

[24th January 1935]

The debate has ranged over a very wide field and has covered details which, I venture to think, the hon. the Mover of this resolution did not anticipate. I am afraid, Sir, that on behalf of the Government I must oppose the motion and the amendments to it. I shall give my reasons as briefly as I can and in doing so I should like to make a sharp distinction between the general question of remission of 25 or 33½ per cent and what appear to be the amendments proposed mainly on behalf of the Ceded districts that special concession should be shown to them. I think it was a mistake and a pity that the two things were mixed up. I think myself it would have been wiser and perhaps more convincing if those Members for the Ceded districts, Tinnevely and other districts which have this year suffered more than others on account of want of rain, had brought up separate motions for special consideration for those districts. Government would probably then have been able to assure them that special measures would be taken if the conditions in the district proved so serious as they were represented to be. I am perfectly prepared in the case of those districts which have been very heavily hit to see that their cases are considered sympathetically. I may say at once that, for instance, in Anantapur we have already granted remissions to the extent of 50 per cent in the Kadiri taluk and to the extent of 30 per cent in the rest of the district. We have already granted remissions to the extent of 30 per cent in the Vayalpad and the Madanapalle taluks of the Chittoor district. I can assure this House that if cases like these are put forward to Government, they will be considered quite as sympathetically. I am perfectly well aware that in certain dry parts or rain-fed parts of Madura, similar portions of Tinnevely and in Ramnad and in parts of Malabar, the reports show that conditions are not good. I shall consider these cases on their merits. I hope that these remarks will dispose of those particular cases which Members brought up with reference to their own districts.

"I now propose to proceed to the general question as to whether a remission of 25, 33½ or 50 per cent or whatever it is, should be granted all over the Presidency. Last year, as hon. Members are aware, the same subject was debated and Government, after the debate, gave a general remission of 12½ per cent. In considering the question this year, we studied the condition of the market as it prevailed at the time when the order was passed last year and its condition this year. Last year, remissions were granted mainly on account of the fall in prices. It is logical, therefore, to compare the prices this year with the prices of last year and see whether the same amount of remission that was given last year is advisable or permissible this year. I have here before me a statement—I have shown it to some hon. Members—in which the prices on 15th January this year are compared with the prices in January last year. I shall be glad to show this statement to any hon. Member who cares to see it. This shows that in every case except one the prices of January this year are higher than the prices of January last year, but that those prices are very considerably in excess of the commutation rates on which the present settlement in the various districts was made. (Mr. Basheer Ahmed Sayeed: 'What

[24th January 1935]

[Mr. C. A. Souter]

is the source of your information?') The source of my information is the figures published in the *Fort St. George Gazette*, the figures reported to us by the Board of Revenue and the Director of Agriculture. Now, this statement shows that, as a general proposition, we will not be justified in giving the same amount of remission generally as we gave last year. But it has been urged from several quarters that our conclusion might possibly be vitiated by the alleged fact that the crops this year are very much less than they were last year. That, I think, was the second main argument advanced. As regards that, our reports—you may take them for what they are worth; they are reports on which Government have consistently proceeded for a number of years—our reports show that at any rate the wet crops from Nellore up to Ganjam are pretty normal and in some cases very good indeed. In Tanjore, the next big producing centre, the crops although not as good as they have been are still good and this was mainly due to the fact that Mettur existed this year. If it had not been for Mettur, Tanjore, even the old delta under the Cauvery, would have suffered very greatly. In Madura, the next biggest, under the Periyar project where recently they have had the turn system, I think, it is fair to say that the outturn though not so good as it has been for some years past, has been generally speaking good.

"But generally speaking, the outturn of wet crops this year is probably only about 1½ or 2 per cent less than last year. I am talking only about the wet crops under the big irrigation systems from which naturally the far greater proportion of our paddy is derived. As regards dry crops, the House is aware that we cannot grant remission for them unless there is widespread scarcity or practically until famine conditions exist. As I have mentioned, in those districts which have been depending upon dry crops, we have given large amounts of remission and we are prepared to consider other places in which recognized scarcity exists. Hon. Members must remember that these remissions which we have granted are in addition to seasonal remissions which, this year, are certainly very considerable, and if we in special cases decide to grant increased remissions in particular areas, it is in addition to seasonal remissions. I think hon. Members should take into account not only 10 per cent which we have granted this year but also the large quantity of seasonal remissions which have been granted and which may be granted hereafter.

"I would point out one other factor which is perhaps relevant. It is claimed that statistics for the last year show that there was a large amount of distress amongst the agricultural population. In spite of that, Sir, the Revenue Department, without very great difficulty collected 98 per cent of the revenue. I do not think myself that this collection of 98 per cent of revenue from the ryots is due to any unusual endeavour. In spite of the small decrease in the general remission which we propose to give this year, we hope again to collect 98 per cent of our revenue this year. That I think is certainly an index of the capacity of the ryot

4.15
p.m.

[Mr. C. A. Souter] [24th January 1935]

to pay, although hon. Members will not, I know, agree with me. But facts speak for themselves, and I prefer to go on facts rather than on theory.

"There are some matters of detail which various Members mentioned; for instance, Mr. Krishnayya Choudari referred to certain areas in Guntur for which a certain fee was collected. I must confess I never heard of it before but since he mentioned it, I shall have the matter enquired into; there are various other points of detail of the same sort which I think that in a general debate of this kind, it would have been better if they had not been brought forward; if those points had been made to the Government by different specific representations, I can assure hon. Members that they would have been very carefully considered. I do not propose to say much more on these cases.

"I am aware that there is a feeling of very great discontent (which I may admit I myself share), that imported rice from Siam and Indo-China has not been stopped. It is not the fault of this Government. This Government have urged the motion to the Government of India almost in season and out of season and they are still urging it; they have not given up hope yet. I now trust that our action will be strongly supported by this Presidency's representatives in the Assembly and the Council of State and that between us we may get some good result.

"Fodder, in the Ceded districts, was referred to. I may tell the House that a Special Officer has been appointed to see that supplies of fodder are sent to those areas which require them. He is a Forest Officer who has had to do with this item of work during the war and I am certain that so far as lies in his power, everything will be done.

"I may point out that if $33\frac{1}{3}$ per cent were remitted, it would cost the Government something like Rs. 2 crores. Our total revenue is Rs. 16 crores; in other words it is proposed that one-eighth of our revenues should be remitted in a single year. I hope I shall not be thought hard if I tell hon. Members that such a thing is impossible in any Government run on well-considered budgets. If we did this, it would simply result in future Governments of this Presidency being left at a great handicap for want of funds and it would be putting the Ministers under the new Reforms in a very difficult position. (A voice: It is their concern.) It is said that it is their concern; it is not their concern; at least in my own opinion I consider it very much my concern and I know my hon. Colleagues think it is their concern too not to leave the future reformed Ministry in a state in which they cannot function satisfactorily.

"Another point which I think, was not brought out sufficiently strongly, although it was referred to, is this; to whom does this 10 per cent remission go? I find that all the representations or most of the representations that have been made to the Government on this subject, have come from large landholders, those who are specially benefited by large works of irrigation which the Government have carried out, at any

[24th January 1935] [Mr. C. A. Souter]

rate those representations that have come to the Government. I should like hon. Members to remember also that some 70 per cent of the ryots of this Presidency who have got small holdings of land, pay Rs. 10 or less of land revenue. I would ask hon. Members to state what great difference it is going to make to a man who pays Rs. 10 or less—a great number of them, pay Rs. 5 or less—if you remit one anna or two annas in the rupee. Most of that money that we remit goes undoubtedly not to the small ryots on whose behalf hon. Members of this House have spoken to-day; but to those large mirasdars or landholders who are paying a large amount of revenue, a difference of one anna or two annas or three annas in a rupee may matter a great deal. The argument on behalf of the poor ryot who cultivates his own land is, to put it bluntly, eye-wash. I conclude my remarks and I sincerely trust this House will not carry this motion; the Government must oppose it."

MR. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—"I move that the question be now put."

* The Hon. the PRESIDENT:—"I will put Mr. Koti Reddi's amendment to vote first. The question is: 'Insert at the end—"except in the case of famine-affected areas where full remission is absolutely necessary".'"

The motion was put and carried.

The following amendment of Mr. G. Rameswara Rao was put and carried:—

"Add at the end the following:—

and that Anantapur district deserves special consideration, apart from the other districts in the Presidency."

Mr. K. S. Sivasubrahmanya Ayyar's amendment, i.e., "for the figures '25', substitute the figures ' $33\frac{1}{3}$ '" was put and carried.

Then the following amendment of Mr. Mahboob Ali Baig was put and carried.

"Add at the end:—"and that in the case of districts which are re-settled, the increase in assessment due to re-settlement shall also be suspended."

* The Hon. the PRESIDENT:—"The question is:

This Council recommends to the Government that a remission of not less than $33\frac{1}{3}$ per cent be granted in the land revenue kist in all the districts in respect of wet and dry lands and inclusive of water-rates for the current fasli, i.e., 1344, except in the case of famine-affected areas where full remission is absolutely necessary and that Anantapur district deserves special consideration apart from the other districts in the Presidency, and that in the case of districts which are resettled, the increase in assessment due to resettlement shall also be suspended."

[24th January 1935]

The motion was declared carried. Mr. Abdul Hameed Khan demanded a poll. It was taken with the following result:—

Ayes.

- | | |
|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| 1 Mr. V. M. Ramaswami Mudaliyar. | 31 Mr. K. S. Sivasubramanya Ayyar. |
| 2 " T. Narasa Reddi. | 32 " P. Peddi Raju. |
| 3 " G. Ranganatha Mudaliyar. | 33 " Ahmed Miran. |
| 4 Rao Sahib V. I. Muniswami Pillai. | 34 " K. P. Raman Menon. |
| 5 Mr. M. Vedachala Mudaliyar. | 35 Diwan Bahadur C. S. Ratnasabha- |
| 6 " B. P. Sessa Reddi. | pati Mudaliyar. |
| 7 " G. Sriramulu. | 36 Mr. M. S. Sreshta. |
| 8 Khan Bahadur T. M. Moidoo Sahib | 37 " P. V. Krishnayya Choudari. |
| Bahadur. | 38 Sriman M. G. Patnaik Mahasaya. |
| 9 Mr. P. K. Ramachandra Padayachi. | 39 Diwan Bahadur M. Gopalaswami |
| 10 " I. C. Iswaran Pillai. | Mudaliyar. |
| 11 " K. M. Duraiswami Reddiyar. | 40 Mr. C. Indrayya. |
| 12 " Daniel Thomas. | 41 " J. Kuppuswami Choudari. |
| 13 Rao Sahib C. Jayaram Nayudu. | 42 " Mahaboob Ali Baig. |
| 14 " D. V. Narasimhaswami. | 43 " H. B. Ari Gowder. |
| 15 Mr. K. Kesavaramamurti Nayudu. | 44 " G. R. Premayya. |
| 16 S. M. K. Beyabani Sahib Bahadur. | 45 " K. Pattabhiramayya. |
| 17 Mr. A. Ramakrishna Reddi. | 46 Rao Sahib C. Kolanda Reddi. |
| 18 Dr. P. Subbarayan. | 47 Rao Bahadur R. K. Venugopala |
| 19 Diwan Bahadur T. A. Ramalingam | Nayudu. |
| Chettiyar. | 48 Mr. K. Koti Reddi. |
| 20 Mr. Abdul Hameed Khan. | 49 Rao Bahadur C. Natesa Mudaliyar. |
| 21 " Basheer Ahmed Sayeed. | 50 Khan Bahadur Mahmud Schamnad |
| 22 " V. T. Arasu. | Sahib Bahadur. |
| 23 " A. B. Shetty. | 51 Mr. M. B. Rangaswami Reddi. |
| 24 Khan Bahadur P. Khalif-ul-lah | 52 Diwan Bahadur S. Ellappa Chet- |
| Sahib Bahadur. | tiyar. |
| 25 B. Pocker Sahib Bahadur. | 53 Mr. R. M. Palat. |
| 26 Mr. M. A. Manikkavelu Nayakar. | 54 " P. Ratnavelu Thevar. |
| 27 " A. P. N. V. Nadimuthu Pillai. | 55 " V. P. Narayanan Nambiyar. |
| 28 " U. C. Subrahmanya Bhatt. | 56 " G. Simhachalam Pantlulu. |
| 29 " K. A. Nachiyappa Gounder. | 57 " G. Rameswara Rao. |
| 30 The Pattagar of Palayakottai. | |

Noes.

- | | |
|-----------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| 1 The Hon. Sir Hopetoun Stokes. | 13 Mr. T. B. Russell. |
| 2 " Rai Bahadur Sir K. V. | 14 " T. Sundara Rao Nayudu. |
| Reddi. | 15 Khan Sahib Syed Tajuddin Sahib |
| 3 " Rao Bahadur A. T. Pan- | Bahadur. |
| nirselvam. | 16 Rao Sahib N. Siva Raj. |
| 4 " Mr. C. A. Souter. | 17 Mr. C. Basu Dev. |
| 5 " Diwan Bahadur S. | 18 Rao Sahib V. Dharmalingam Pillai. |
| Kumaraswami Red- | 19 Mr. A. V. Bhanoji Rao. |
| divar. | 20 " H. M. Jagannatham. |
| 6 " Mr. P. T. Rajan. | 21 Rao Bahadur D. Krishnamurti. |
| 7 " the Raja of Bobbili. | 22 Rao Sahib P. Subrahmanyam |
| 8 Mr. W. Scott-Brown. | Chetti. |
| 9 " H. R. Uzielli. | 23 The Maharaja of Venkatagiri. |
| 10 " C. E. Jones. | 24 Mr. R. Foulkes. |
| 11 Diwan Bahadur V. N. Viswanatha | 25 Rao Sahib Pandit Ganala Rama- |
| Rao. | murti. |
| 12 Mr. R. Madanagopala Nayudu. | |

Neutral.

- | | |
|--------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| 1 Subadar-Major S. A. Nanjappa | 2 Mr. W. P. A. Soundara Pandyan. |
| Bahadur. | |

Ayes 57. Noes 25. Neutral 2.

The resolution was carried.

24th January 1935]

(3) ALLOTMENT FOR THE RELIEF OF THE UNEMPLOYED.

* Rao Bahadur C. NATESA MUDALIYAR:—"Sir, I move the resolution standing in my name, viz:—

'This Council recommends to the Government that at least a lakh of rupees be set apart from the Provincial revenues to relieve the unemployed in the City and in the mufassal.'

"Sir, the unemployment problem has become a very serious question now. In Western countries there is almost only one kind of unemployment, i.e., mostly industrial. In our Presidency to-day there are four kinds of unemployment; intellectual unemployment, agricultural unemployment, industrial unemployment and unemployment among the poor.

"There are a large number of graduates and others who have taken degrees in various special subjects in India and on the continent of Europe and America and also a number of school finals who are without any employment in the City and in the mufassal. As I said the other day, there are 485 local graduates and those who have taken degrees in other universities in India and abroad, in the City itself to-day, and about 2,024 school finals. I have taken these figures from the census of 1930. Taking into consideration the number of candidates who graduate every year, I think the number of graduates to-day will be at least 500 more than in 1930; so that instead 485 in 1930 we will have to-day at least 985 graduates who are unemployed in the City. In the mufassal there are 479 graduates and others who have taken degrees on the European universities—this figure is taken from the 1930 census. There are also in the mufassal 1,955 school finals; and that number perhaps might have been doubled to-day. That is the present condition of intellectual unemployment to-day. In addition to all this, we are having retrenchment, and a number of people have been recently retrenched. People who have put in even ten years' service and fifteen years' service have been retrenched. I do not know why the Retrenchment Committee did not think for a moment if so many people were retrenched, where they could find food. What are they to do who have even small families consisting of two parents and two or three children? I want to know how the authorities concerned—our own Cabinet Members, Europeans who had put in 30 or 40 years' service in this country or Indians themselves—allowed so many families to go adrift and suffer from starvation. The middle classes especially are the worst sufferers in this respect. Yesterday a man came to me and said 'I have no food to eat to-day; I have got a number of children, five or six.' I say, Sir, the Government are responsible, the Cabinet Members are responsible for this state of affairs.

"There is the survey office and there are the survey parties. One fine day they simply say: this party is abolished or that party is abolished. Say each party consists of 300 or 400 people; and that means, if these people are sent out, 300 or 400 families are ruined. It is the Cabinet Members that have to see that such things do not occur.

[Dr. C. Natesa Mudaliyar]

[24th January 1935]

After all, we are having these Cabinet Ministers in the Government simply to safeguard the interests of our countrymen. Some two years ago there was a proposal to take away the Central Survey Office at Madras; but thanks to wiser counsels, thanks to the Governor and thanks to the then Revenue Member, everything was afterwards all right. It is now a self-supporting office, and I think it is necessary too. I hope the Government will not interfere with it hereafter.

"I now come, Sir, to agricultural unemployment. I have already pointed out in detail the condition of the people in the Chingleput district. They have nothing to eat; most of them have come to Madras in the hope of finding some appointment. They came here, they were disappointed and they have only served to swell the number of unemployed in the City.

"Then there is the industrial unemployment, e.g., in railway companies, factories, etc. The railway companies all of a sudden retrench 300 people one morning; where are these people to go to? I do not know if the situation has now improved. But some time ago there was a proposal to retrench some 800 people in the workshop at Arkonam. I ask: why should not Government step in and prevent such occurrences? They have some rules regarding short-time work, regarding holidays, etc. Why not apply all these rules in such cases? Government are the sole authority in these matters to interfere; we look upon the Government to take care of the unemployed, not the Railway companies. It is the Government, the Cabinet Members and the Governor that ought to take care of the unemployed. If an intelligent man is unemployed, he is more dangerous to the people than an unintelligent unemployed man. A man with brain and tongue who is discontented, will create discontent among thousands of people.

"Turning now to unemployment among the poor, everyday nearly 40 or 50 people come to me and request me to get some employment for them. One man says: 'I come from Tindivanam.' I told him 'our youths even in Madras are not able to get appointment; why should you come from such a distance? Yet I will try'.

"In addition to all this, we have repatriation. Our countrymen have been in Malaya, in South Africa, in Kenya and other places making the unproductive lands in those places productive. After their reclamation work is finished they are asked to go back to India. Here they find no employment. They want work or relief. In the Madras Corporation I gave notice of a resolution to give them relief; it was not moved because it was not reached. What can Madras do with so many unemployed men? Their number has reached a limit beyond which it cannot go. I request the Government to seriously think of the situation. We are loyalists; we want our Government, our British Government; and we want our British Government to make all the people contended in the land. What are they now doing? Except in India, in all countries of the world, the State is taking care of the unemployed. In England, in addition to their national insurance, unemployment insurance, grants to orphans, grants to destitute widows, old age pensions,

24th January 1935]

[Dr. C. Natesa Mudaliyar]

etc., they have taken up the distressed areas scheme now. Mr. Lloyd George is coming in with new schemes; they are very careful in England. Those English people who are coming to India, let them see that we are also helped with these schemes here and we get as much relief as possible. In Germany, when Hitler became Chancellor in February 1933, 'the unemployed in Germany numbered 6,001,000; to-day they stand at 2,426,387.' 'The main plank in the Nazi policy for ensuring productive employment for all is the utilization of the German soil to the utmost of its capacity. They have, in addition, large schemes for new roads, for the building of houses, for the renewal of industrial plants, etc., but these are merely auxiliary to the great agricultural policy.' Not only that, Sir. In America, they are going to spend 105 billion dollars on a long range policy of schemes for housing and slum clearance, spread over a period of twenty or thirty years. I do not want the Hon. Member to give us all the money required—it may be some crores of rupees—but he may allot yearly some decent sum for some public work in order to relieve unemployment. It will indeed be a very great relief if he only does this. They are doing such things all over the world, except in India and most probably in our own Presidency. No doubt, the Hon. the Home Member started it by undertaking to examine the family budget of the workers and I hope he will extend it to the other classes of people also. I do not think a lakh of rupees will be enough, but I only want them to start. It is a token motion I am making. What I would request the Hon. Member to do is, if you really want to give relief to the large unemployed in our Presidency, large schemes should be taken up on hand, so that they may give employment to a large number of people for several years. The Tungabhadra Project, if taken up immediately, will go a long way to relieve unemployment among the people. Twenty-one lakhs has been voted the other day which the Hon. the Law Member wanted for hydro-electric schemes; it would relieve unemployment a little for a few years and if the Tungabhadra Project also is taken up, thousands of people will be employed. It should not be said, are we to spend so much money upon people who are unemployed although the schemes undertaken will be remunerative? Remuneration should not be taken into consideration. In Germany they spent to relieve 2,350 people about £29,900. This shows that they consider that the people of Germany belong to one joint family. That the world is one human family is the preaching of the Hindu religion, the Muhammadan religion and the Christian religion. This principle is acted upon in Germany and other European countries. As a matter of fact there are about one million acres of cultivable land remaining uncultivated in our Presidency. If projects like the Tungabhadra Project are taken up it will not only relieve unemployed, the land will become richer and more productive. The Hon. the Law Member came in the other day for a grant of 21 lakhs; it will relieve unemployment in a way. Let him tackle all resources of electricity in the whole Presidency, it will go a great deal. Through such means industry and agriculture will be developed, the country will become industrially and agriculturally

4.45
p.m.

[Dr. C. Natesa Mudaliyar] - [24th January 1935]

better. Unless you do all these things, what is the use of the English people governing us and ourselves submitting to them? English people are sympathetic people. I do not want any other country to come into our country except England. Let them do all these things to make India as rich as possible and thus we will be for ever intimately connected with England.

"There is yet another thing which I want to mention and that is the question of the poor unemployed. They must be helped; every day they are starving. At least a thousand people are starving to-day in the city of Madras itself and I know this because I come in contact with such people. People come to me and say they have no food and that their children are actually starving in their houses. What they do in Germany for such people is this. There is the Labour Registry, people go there, register their names. The Labour Registry is trying its best to see that these people are employed somehow or other. 'Some registries endeavour to find employment for children leaving school, for domestic servants, for consumptives and other persons of limited physical capacity; or the registry keeps a list of foster-parents for use in the boarding out of orphans and other children maintained by the poor relief authority; and the municipal house registry, the legal advice agencies, and writing-rooms for unemployed clerks and others are sometimes worked along with the public labour registry.' That is the real relief given to the poor in Germany. Supposing they do not find any employment, they give boarding, lodging and clothing for the unemployed. In some places in Germany for the unemployed they give 15 to 37 shillings for a man or woman and for a family they are giving 45 to 55 shillings. There is no word like 'pauper' in Germany. There are other places where the poor are paid in kind. Food, articles of furniture, especially bedding, cooking utensils, fuel, clothing and food are supplied in suitable cases, and other common forms of relief in kind are tools and material for work. Medical attendance, medicine, help in confinement and burial belong everywhere to the usual range of poor relief and the Federal Settlement Board has decided that sanatorium treatment and salt-baths should also be given to these poor people.' That is the ideal state of affairs in Germany. There is also the system there of poor inspectorate. That inspector goes to every house and if he finds that a family bread-winner earns only 30 pounds and if he has to earn 50 pounds to keep his family, this extra 20 pounds is given by the local authority. They have also an arrangement by which they supply 'beds and bedding to families which are found by the visiting officers to lack sufficient provision of the kind. A nursing staff is also placed at the service of the poor in many towns.' There are medical men appointed to the poor. If a poor man is not sent to the hospital, if he does not like it, he is allowed to consult his own doctor. In this he is equal to the richest man in the land because the Government supplies the greatest physician in the land if he only wants him. Sir, many more things can be quoted as to what happens in Germany. (A voice: 'What is that book?') That is *Government in Germany*.

24th January 1935] [Dr. C. Natesa Mudaliyar]

(A voice: 'That is a pre-War book.') Yes, that is a pre-War book. These are pre-War things. In regard to the present state of affairs, I have already showed you how after Hitler came into power, he has reduced the number of unemployed by about 4 millions. Even now, German people are careful at least to take care of their community. I therefore request the Hon. Member to accept my resolution and start giving relief to the poor unemployed, as well as the educated unemployed. There are at present several B.As., B.A. B.Ls. and M.As., who are unemployed in the land. If he wants any statistics, he can go to the Museum or send for the statistics from there. He can consult the several census reports and thus get a list of such people. I request him also to see that not only the poor people in the city but also the several educated unemployed in the mufassal as well are relieved.

"As to agricultural unemployment, we were singing the song the whole of to-day to give relief to the agriculturist; Government should come to the relief of people in these matters. If only the Hon. the Home Member has a mind to do it, he will certainly pounce upon the various authorities or employers and take them to task if they begin to treat their employees badly or drive them away after a service of 10 or 15 years. Both the Home Member and the whole Cabinet which consists of Europeans also who have spent almost all their life here and have consequently become naturalized and have adopted India as their home, they will all join together and give us some relief in this matter of unemployment. I once again request the Hon. the Home Member to accept my resolution."

Mr. M. S. SRESHTA:—"Mr. President, Sir, I beg to second the resolution which has just been moved by my hon. friend, Dr. Natesa Mudaliyar. I do not propose to take up much of the time of the House. It is unfortunate that this very important question has been taken up immediately after the question of remission of land revenue assessment. Unfortunately, the question has not attracted the same attention and interest that it ought to have attracted. The question of unemployment is part of the programme of all democratic Governments now. It figures very largely in the programme of statesmen in Europe; and if up to this time this question has not been taken up in our country it is because democratic institutions were not functioning, but with the new constitution before us, our minds naturally go to all institutions which exist in democratic countries and we feel that the time has come when we should take up the question of unemployment. The figures which have been given by my hon. Friend, Dr. Natesa Mudaliyar, ought to be sufficient to convince any one that the time is ripe for us to take action. The usual reply given to us is that no funds are available. But I am rather surprised how in certain matters that reply is not given. We have just now the case of the Pykara Project where no difficulty is raised and the money is made available. (The Hon. Sir K. V. Reddi: 'That is remunerative and it relieves unemployment.') I can understand that. My own opinion is that for such things money is readily voted. What I

[Mr. M. S. Sreshta] [24th January 1935]

say is, why is it only in some cases such a reply is given? There is such a thing as invisible profit and visible profit. There are certain matters in regard to which you can at once see that they are remunerative, but in the case of certain other matters, though they are also remunerative, the profit on the transaction may not be visible. I think it is owing to lack of imagination on the part of the Government that in some cases which ought to receive the attention of Government, no attention is paid.

"Now, as regards unemployment, we know that is one of the concomitants of modern civilization. It is pitiable to see the amount of unemployment everywhere and Government is not going to take action in the matter. As a matter of fact, one lakh of rupees is a very small amount with which to tackle the question, but some step might be taken. At least we might be able to have a committee appointed to go into the whole question and investigate what things should be done. (The Hon. Rao Bahadur A. T. Pannirselvam: 'This will mean travelling allowance.') I am sorry the Hon. the Home Member takes a very sordid view of the matter. I do not think any of us want travelling allowance and that is not why we want the committee to be appointed. An official committee may be appointed to go into the question and I will be perfectly satisfied. In any case, I should like some initial step to be taken. We do not want that the whole lakh of rupees should be spent this year, but a part of it might be spent. My hon. Friend, the Mover, says he does not agree with me. I withdraw my remark. I think the whole lakh may be spent in the initial steps and I do not think that is much, seeing the amount of misery around us. I would point out that certain steps might be taken in hand immediately. For instance an information bureau or a labour bureau, can be established straightaway under the various departments. We have got this rural reconstruction . . ."

* The Hon. the PRESIDENT:—"The hon. Member may continue his speech to-morrow if he wants to speak for another five minutes or more."

III.—ANNOUNCEMENT RE CHAIRMEN OF SELECT COMMITTEES.

The Hon. the PRESIDENT:—"Before we adjourn, I wish to announce the names of the following Chairmen for the several Select Committees on Bills which were referred to them:—

The Madras Debt Conciliation Bill—Mr. Daniel Thomas.

The Madras Village Courts Act (Amending) Bill—Mr. Palat.

The Hindu Maths Bill—Diwan Bahadur T. A. Ramalingam Chettiyar.

Bill to amend the Madras Prevention of Adulteration Act of 1918—Mahboob Ali Baig Sahib Bahadur."

The House then adjourned to meet again the next day at 11 a.m.

24th January 1935]

IV.—PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE OF THE HOUSE.

1. G.O. No. a 3184, L. & M., dated 11th August 1932 and G.O. No. a 2201, L. & M., dated 5th May 1934 with reference to answer given to question No. 392 at the meeting of the Council on the 21st January 1935.

2. Communication regarding Muslim inams with reference to answer given to Question No. 762 at the meeting of the Council on the 24th March 1933.

3. Communication with reference to answer given to Question No. 462 at the meeting of the Council on 23rd January 1935.

R. V. KRISHNA AYYAR,
Secretary to the Legislative Council.

a Printed as Appendix II on page 451 infra.
b Printed as Appendix III on page 451 infra.
c Printed as Appendix IV on page 452 infra.

[24th January 1935]

APPENDIX I.

[Vide answer to question No. 507 asked by Mr. M. B. Rangaswami Reddi at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on the 24th January 1935, page 390 supra.]

Serial number and name of district. (1)	Name of taluk. (2)	Name of panchayat. (3)
1 Anantapur ..	Gooty ..	Guntakal.
2 Arcot, North ..	Arni ..	Arni.
3 Do. ..	Vellore ..	Ambur.
4 Arcot, South ..	Tindivanam ..	Tindivanam.
5 Chingleput ..	Saidapet ..	Sembiam.
6 Coimbatore ..	Sriperumbudur ..	Poonamallee.
7 Cuddapah ..	Gobichettipalayam ..	Gobichettipalayam.
8 Godavari, East ..	Jammalamadugu ..	Jammalamadugu.
9 Do. ..	Amalapuram ..	Amalapuram.
10 Do. ..	Cocanada ..	Samalkot.
11 Godavari, West ..	Pittapuram ..	Pittapuram.
12 Guntur ..	Tanuku ..	Penugonda.
13 Kistna ..	Bapatla ..	Bapatla.
14 Madura ..	Gudivada ..	Gudivada.
15 Do. ..	Palni ..	Ayakudi.
16 Do. ..	Periakulam ..	Cumbum.
17 Malabar ..	Do. ..	Gudalur.
18 Nellore ..	Ponnani ..	Ponnani.
19 Ramnad ..	Venkatagiri ..	Venkatagiri.
20 Do. ..	Aruppukottai ..	Aruppukottai.
21 Do. ..	Ramnad ..	Ramnad.
22 Do. ..	Srivilliputtur ..	Rajapalayam.
23 Do. ..	Tiruvadanai ..	Devakottai.
24 Salem ..	Paramagudi ..	Paramagudi.
25 Do. ..	Salem ..	Yercaud.
26 Do. ..	Rasipuram ..	Rasipuram.
27 Tanjore ..	Do. ..	Namagiripet.
28 Tinnevely ..	Tiruturaipundi ..	Vedaranyam.
29 Do. ..	Ambasamudram ..	Ambasamudram.
30 Do. ..	Do. ..	Kallidaikurichi.
31 Do. ..	Do. ..	Viravanallur.
32 Do. ..	Sankarankoil ..	Puliyangudi.
33 Do. ..	Tenkasi ..	Tenkasi.
34 Do. ..	Do. ..	Surandai.
35 Do. ..	Do. ..	Kadayanallur.
36 Vizagapatam ..	Tiruchendur ..	Tiruchendur.
37 Do. ..	Bobbili ..	Bobbili.
38 Do. ..	Parvatipuram ..	Parvatipuram.
	Salur ..	Salur.

24th January 1935]

APPENDIX II.

[Vide item IV (1) at page 449 supra.]

G.O. No. 3184, L. & M., 11th August 1932.

A question has been raised whether a village karnam is disqualified under sub-section (2) of section 54 of the Madras Local Boards Act, 1920, for election as a member of a local board. Government consider that, as he is not a whole-time servant of the Government, he is not disqualified for election or for holding office as a member of a local board.

(By order of the Government, Ministry of Local Self-Government)

E. CONRAN SMITH,
Secretary to Government.

To all Presidents of District Boards (with copies for Presidents of Panchayat Boards).
 „ all Presidents of Taluk Boards.
 „ all Collectors.
 „ the Inspector of Municipal Councils and Local Boards.
 „ the Revenue Department.
 „ the Board of Revenue.

G.O. No. 2201, L. & M., 5th May 1934.

G.O. No. 3184, L. & M., dated the 11th August 1932, is hereby cancelled.

(By order of the Government, Ministry of Local Self-Government)

E. CONRAN SMITH,
Secretary to Government.

To all Presidents of District Boards, with copies for Presidents of Panchayat Boards (ex-unions).
 „ all Collectors.
 „ the Inspector of Municipal Councils and Local Boards.
 „ the Revenue Department.
 „ the Board of Revenue.

APPENDIX III.

[Vide item IV (2) at page 449 supra.]

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

U.O. NOTE No. 3775-B/34, DATED 21ST JANUARY 1935.

COMMUNICATION TO THE COUNCIL.

[SUBJECT.—Inams—Muslim inams—List.]

With reference to the answer given to Question No. 762 at the meeting of the Legislative Council, held on 24th March 1933, the appended list* of Muslim inam lands in the Presidency is laid on the table of the House.

H. R. UZIELLI,
Secretary to Government.

To the Legislative Council Office (with enclosures).

* Printed separately.

[24th January 1935]

APPENDIX IV.

[Vide item IV (3) at page 449 supra.]

PUBLIC (POLICE) DEPARTMENT.

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL QUESTION No. 462.

Police—Constabulary—Recruitment in South Arcot district from 1st April to 30th November 1934.

With reference to the answer to Legislative Council Question No 462 given on 23rd January 1935, the following information since furnished by the Inspector-General of Police is placed on the table of the House.

Recruitment to the constabulary was made by the District Superintendent of Police, South Arcot, during the period 1st April to 30th November 1934. The total number of applicants was 548, of whom 47 belonged to the depressed classes. Seventeen men were actually appointed and of these 6 belonged to the depressed classes.

Depressed class applicants are generally given special consideration in the matter of recruitment to the constabulary. Though most of them know only the vernacular, preference is given to them wherever possible over better educated candidates belonging to other communities.

FORT ST. GEORGE,
23rd January 1935.

C. F. BRACKENBURY,
Acting Chief Secretary.

THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL OF THE GOVERNOR
OF MADRAS.

Friday, the 25th day of January 1935.

The House met at eleven of the clock, Mr. President (the Hon. Mr. B. RAMACHANDRA REDDI) in the Chair.

PRESENT :

Stokes, K.C.I.E., C.S.I., I.C.S., The Hon. Sir Hopetoun.
Reddi Nayudu, Kt., The Hon. Rai Bahadur Sir K. V.
Pannirselvam, The Hon. Rao Bahadur A. T.
Souter, C.S.I., I.C.S., The Hon. Mr. C. A.
Raja of Bobbili, The Hon. the. Rajan, The Hon. Mr. P. T.
Kumaraswami Reddiyar, The Hon. Diwan Bahadur S.
Abdul Hameed Khan Sahib Bahadur.
Ahmed Meeran Sahib Bahadur.
Alamelumangathayaramma, Mrs. K.
Annamalai Chettiyar, Mr. S. A. A.
Appadurai Pillai, Diwan Bahadur A. Arasu, Mr. V. T.
Ari Gowder, Mr. H. B.
Basheer Ahmed Sayeed Sahib Bahadur.
Basu Dev, Mr. C.
Beyabani Sahib Bahadur, S. M. K.
Bhanoji Rao, Mr. A. V.
Birley, Mr. F.
Devadasan, Mr. M.
Dharmalingam Pillai, Rao Sahib V.
Duraiswami Reddiyar, Mr. K. M.
Ellappa Chettiyar, Diwan Bahadur S.
Foulkes, Mr. R.
Gopalaswami Mudaliyar, Diwan Bahadur M.
Indrayya, Mr. C.
Iswaran Pillai, Mr. I. C.
Jagannatham, Mr. H. M.
Jayaram Nayudu, Rao Sahib C.
Jones, I.C.S., Mr. C. E.
Kesavaramamurti Nayudu, Mr. K.
Khalif-ul-lah Sahib Bahadur, Khan Bahadur P.
Kolanda Reddi, Rai Sahib C.
Koti Reddi, Mr. K.
Krishnayya Choudari, Mr. P. V.
Krishnamurti, Rao Bahadur D.
Krishnaswami Ayyar, Kt., Diwan Bahadur Sir Alladi.
Kumararaja of Venkatagiri, The. Kuppuswami Choudari, Mr. J.
Langley, Mr. W. K. M.
Madanagopal Nayudu, Mr. R.
Mahboob Ali Baig Sahib Bahadur.
Manikkavelu Nayakar, Mr. M. A.
Metherell, Mr. J. K.
Moidoo Sahib Bahadur, Khan Bahadur T. M.
Moses, Mr. P. C.
Muniswami Pillai, Rao Sahib V. I.
Muthiah Chettiyar, Mr. M. A.
Muthu Chettiyar, Rao Bahadur P. C.
Nachiyappa Gounder, Mr. K. A.
Nadimuthu Pillai, Mr. A. Pl. N. V.
Nanjappa, Subadar-Major S.A.
Narasa Reddi, Mr. T.
Narasimhaswami, Rao Sahib D. V.
Narayanan Nambiyar, Mr. V. P.
Natesa Mudaliyar, Rao Bahadur C.
Palat, Mr. R. M.
Patnaik Mahasayo, Sriman M. G.
Patro, Kt., Rao Bahadur Sir A. P.
Pattabhiramayya, Mr. K.
Pattagar of Palayakottai, The.
Peddi Raju, Mr. P.
Pocker Sahib Bahadur, B.
Premayya, Mr. G. R.
Rajagopala Pillai, Mr. P. V.
Raja of Kallikote, The.
Ramachandra Padayachi, Mr. P. K.
Ramalinga Chettiyar, Diwan Bahadur T. A.
Ramamurti, Rao Sahib Pandit Ganala.
Raman Menon, Mr. K. P.
Ramaswami Ayyar, Mr. T. S.
Ramaswami Mudaliyar, Mr. V. M.
Rameswara Rao, Mr. G.
Ranganatha Mudaliyar, Mr. A.
Ranganatha Mudaliyar, Mr. G.
Rangaswami Reddi, Mr. M. B.
Ratnasabhapati Mudaliyar, Diwan Bahadur C. S.
Ratnavelu Thevar, Mr. P.
Russell, I.C.S., Mr. T. B.
Schamnad Sahib Bahadur, Khan Bahadur Mahmud.
Scott-Brown, I.C.S., Mr. W.
Sesha Reddi, Rao Bahadur B. P.
Shetty, Mr. A. B.
Simbachalam Pantulu, Mr. G.
Siva Raj, Rao Sahib N.
Sivasubrahmanya Ayyar, Mr. K. S.
Soundara Pandian, Mr. W. P. A.
Sreshta, Mr. M. S.

[25th January 1935]

PRESENT—cont.

Srinivasa Ayyangar, Mr. T. C.
 Srinivasan, Rao Bahadur R.
 Sriramulu, Mr. G.
 Subbarayan, Dr. P.
 Subrahmanya Chetti, Rao Sahib P.
 Subrahmanya Bhatt, Mr. U. C.
 Sundara Rao Nayudu, Mr. T.
 Syed Tajuddin Sahib Bahadur, Khan Sahib.
 Thangal, Mr. P. M.
 Thomas, Mr. Daniel.
 Uzielli, C.I.E., I.C.S., Mr. H. R.
 Vasudeva Pillai, Mr. V. G.

Vedachala Mudaliyar, Mr. M.
 Venkatachala Reddiyar, Mr. K. C. M.
 Venkatarama Ayyar, Mr. K. R.
 Venugopala Nayudu, Rao Bahadur R. K.
 Viswanatha Rao, Diwan Bahadur V. N.
 Yahya Ali Sahib Bahadur, Khan Bahadur.
 Yakub Hasan Sahib Bahadur.
 Zamindar of Bodinayakkanur, The.
 Zamindar of Kirlampudi, The.
 Zamindar of Mirzapuram, The.

I.—QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

STARRED QUESTIONS

Elections to the Provincial Legislature

Budget provision, if any, for general elections to the Legislative Council during 1935–36.

* 522 Q.—Mr. P. V. KRISHNAYYA CHOUDARI: Will the Hon. the Member for Finance be pleased to state whether any budget allotments have been made for the conduct of general elections to the Legislative Council during 1935–36?

A.—No budget allotments are made until the Budget is voted. The Government will propose certain allotments for the year 1935–36 for the purpose referred to in the question.

Mr. P. V. KRISHNAYYA CHOUDARI:—“ May I know whether we can expect elections in September of this year? ”

The Hon. Sir HOPETOUN STOKES:—“ I am unable to say. ”

Mr. V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—“ May I know whether the next election will be under the new reforms or under the present constitution? ”

The Hon. HOPETOUN STOKES:—“ I must ask for notice of this question. ”

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—“ May I know whether there is a proposal to extend the period of this Council? ”

The Hon. Sir HOPETOUN STOKES:—“ So far, I am not aware of this. ”

Mr. V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—“ May I know when the Government of India Bill will become an Act? ”

The Hon. Sir HOPETOUN STOKES:—“ The Government have no idea. ”

[25th January 1935]

Railways

Proposal for the discontinuance of the Salem-Mettur railway service.

* 523 Q.—Mr. K. A. NACHIYAPPA GOUNDER: Will the Hon. the Member for Finance be pleased to state—

(a) whether there is any proposal to abolish the railway line between Salem junction and Mettur; and
 (b) if so, at what stage it is?

A.—(a) & (b) The Salem-Mettur Dam railway consists of two parts, viz., a permanent line from Salem to Mecheri and an assisted siding from Mecheri to Mettur Dam. The question whether the siding should be retained permanently has been deferred for consideration till the middle of this year to see whether there is any prospect of developing the Mettur township into an industrial centre on which the success of a permanent line from Mecheri to Mettur depends.

Diwan Bahadur C. S. RATNASABHAPATI MUDALIYAR:—“ May I know the length of the siding and the cost of construction? ”

The Hon. Sir HOPETOUN STOKES:—“ I must ask for notice of this question. ”

Electricity

Places served with electricity from the Pykara Hydro-Electric Works.

* 524 Q.—Mr. K. A. NACHIYAPPA GOUNDER: Will the Hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(a) what are the places that have been supplied with electricity so far from Pykara Hydro-Electric Works;

(b) what is the quantity of electric current consumed by each place in each month since January 1934; and

(c) what are the places which are yet to be served by the Pykara Hydro-Electric Scheme?

A.—(a) The hon. Member's attention is drawn to the answer given to question No. 367 at the meeting of the Legislative Council on 4th November 1933. Since then a number of other places in the Coimbatore and Nilgiri districts have been supplied with Pykara power, including a number of villages in which electric pumps to wells have been installed for purposes of irrigation.

(b) It will involve much labour and time to collect and collate the information wanted by the hon. Member. But if he wants information about any particular place, it will be called for.

(c) Karur, Trichinopoly, Srirangam, Negapatam, Tiruvarur, Tanjore and Kumbakonam for the present.

[25th January 1935]

Control of Books

Proscription of the book "Gandhi Mahatmuni Nithimanjari," written by M. Jagganna Sastri.

* 525 Q.—Mr. C. INDRAYYA: Will the Hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

- (a) whether M. Jagganna Sastri's book called "Gandhi Neethi Manjari" was proscribed by Government and, if so, when;
- (b) when the book was first printed and published;
- (c) how many editions of it were printed; and
- (d) whether notice of deletion of any passages in the said book was given to its author, Mr. Jagganna Sastri?

A.—(a) A book in Telugu entitled "Gandhi Mahatmuni Nithimanjari" by M. Jagganna Sastri was proscribed by the Government in G.O. No. 318, Public, dated 27th March 1934.

(b) In or before 1926.

(c) Three.

(d) No.

Mr. P. V. KRISHNAYYA CHOUDARI:—"May I know, Sir, whether the objectionable portions were intimated to the author?"

The Hon. Rao Bahadur A. T. PANNIRSELVAM:—"The author might cut out the objectionable portion and publish it again."

Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR:—"May I know why the Government allowed two or three editions to pass before they proscribed the book?"

The Hon. Rao Bahadur A. T. PANNIRSELVAM:—"Action was taken immediately the matter was brought to the notice of the Government."

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—"Will not the Government enable the author to know exactly what the objectionable portion is in order that he might delete them?"

The Hon. Rao Bahadur A. T. PANNIRSELVAM:—"It is easy enough for an author to know it."

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—"May I know why the Government itself cannot give this?"

The Hon. Rao Bahadur A. T. PANNIRSELVAM:—"There is no necessity for it."

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—"May I know what the objectionable portions are?"

The Hon. Rao Bahadur A. T. PANNIRSELVAM:—"Notice."

Mr. P. V. KRISHNAYYA CHOUDARI:—"Is it not possible to assign reasons?"

The Hon. Rao Bahadur A. T. PANNIRSELVAM:—"The reason assigned is that they are objectionable."

[25th January 1935]

Mr. V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—"Will the Government be pleased to point out the objectionable portions so that the author may delete them?"

The Hon. Rao Bahadur A. T. PANNIRSELVAM:—"If an application is made, the matter will be considered."

Police

Exhibition in the office of the Commissioner of Police, Madras City, of the portrait of an Inspector of Police killed as a result of a bus accident.

* 526 Q.—Mr. U. C. SUBRAHMANYA BHATT: Will the Hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

- (a) whether an Inspector of Police (Traffic Department) of Madras City was run over by a bus and killed; if so, what his name is; and
- (b) whether his portrait is hung in the office of the Commissioner of Police with the inscription thereon that he was murdered; if so, what the inscription thereon is?

A.—(a) The hon. Member apparently refers to the late Sergeant Major R. Williams of the Traffic Department in the Madras City Police who was run over by a bus and killed in June 1934.

(b) No.

Mr. U. C. SUBRAHMANYA BHATT:—"May I know which part of the question (b) the answer refers to? I wish to know whether the Hon. Member means that no such portrait is hung or that no such inscription is there?"

The Hon. Rao Bahadur A. T. PANNIRSELVAM:—"The answer is to clause (b)."

Mr. U. C. SUBRAHMANYA BHATT:—"Is it for both the parts?"

The Hon. Rao Bahadur A. T. PANNIRSELVAM:—"When it applies to the first portion, naturally the second portion does not arise."

Recommendations of the District Magistrate and the District Superintendent of Police, Salem, in regard to the continuance of the Punitive Police at Attayampatti.

* 527 Q.—Mr. K. A. NACHIYAPPA GOUNDER: Will the Hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

- (a) what the recommendations of the District Magistrate and the District Superintendent of Police are with regard to the continuance of the Punitive Police at Attayampatti in Salem district; and
- (b) whether copies of the same will be placed on the table?

A.—(a) & (b) Relevant extracts* from the reports of the District Superintendent of Police and District Magistrate, Salem, are placed on the table of the House.

* Printed as Appendix I on pages 520-521 infra.

[25th January 1935]

Irrigation

Recommendation of the Director of Agriculture for the sanction of a sluice for irrigating the lands in Konala and Arulla Agraharam, Tadepalligudem taluk.

* 528 Q.—Mr. C. INDRAIYA: Will the Hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Director of Agriculture has recommended to the Government the sanction of a sluice for the irrigation of the lands of Konala and Arulla Agraharam of Tadepalligudem taluk in the district of West Godavari; and

(b) whether it is a fact that the above lands are reported to be fit for sugarcane cultivation?

A.—(a) The Director of Agriculture has forwarded a petition from the ryots of the villages asking for irrigation facilities to the lands to enable them to raise a sugarcane crop, and has recommended the grant of the request.

(b) The Director of Agriculture reports that the soil is suitable for growing sugarcane, but until it is ascertained whether sufficient water is available for that purpose, no definite conclusion can be reached on the question.

Mr. P. V. KRISHNAYYA CHOUDARI:—“ May I know whether the Government are prepared to consult the Agricultural department whenever they remodel an existing irrigation system? ”

The Hon. Mr. C. A. SOUTER:—“ No, Sir.”

Mr. P. V. KRISHNAYYA CHOUDARI:—“ Is it not advisable for the Government to consult the Agricultural department as to whether re-sludging is necessary or not in the interests of the ryots? ”

The Hon. Mr. C. A. SOUTER:—“ No, Sir. The Agricultural department is consulted as to the nature of the soil.”

Alleged damage to crops by floods from Daravaram Madugu and Appa Rao Canal in West Godavari district.

* 529 Q.—Mr. C. INDRAIYA: Will the Hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government are aware of the fact that the villagers of Daravaram in Kovvur taluk of West Godavari district have been sustaining serious loss of their crops every year by the floods from Daravaram Madugu and Appa Rao Canal;

(b) whether any petitions were sent up by the villagers to the Collector and Executive Engineer, West Godavari district, requesting them to make arrangements for putting up necessary bunds and for making other drainage arrangements; and

(c) whether any and, if so, what action was taken in the matter?

[25th January 1935]

A.—(a), (b) & (c) The Government have no information, but they have called for a report

Repairs to the anicut under the Chinna Eri and Peria Eri in Kanavoi-Pudur, Omalur taluk.

* 530 Q.—Mr. K. A. NACHIYAPPA GOUNDER: Will the Hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that the anicut under Chinna Eri and Peria Eri in Kanavoi-Pudur village of Omalur taluk in the Salem district has breached last year;

(b) if so, whether the breaches have been repaired and when;

(c) whether it is a fact that the ayacut lands of the said anicut lie uncultivated on account of not doing what is necessary for the anicut;

(d) whether the ayacutdars of the said anicut have applied for remission and, if so, when and what has been done with their prayers; and

(e) when the anicut is likely to be repaired, if it has not been already attended to?

A.—(a) to (e) A petition on the subject was received by the Government in November last. The petition was transferred to the Board of Revenue. Another petition on the same subject, with a request for remission, was received at the beginning of this month. The petitioner was informed that he should apply to the Collector of the district and the Board of Revenue before approaching the Government in the matter. The Government have no other information on the subject.

Land Revenue Administration

Confirmation of the temporary staff of the Central Survey office.

* 531 Q.—Rao Bahadur C. NATESA MUDALIYAR: Will the Hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that the Central Survey office has been self-supporting by sale of maps to private parties, local bodies and to other departments and the work turned out is independent of the party offices;

(b) whether it is a fact that the Director of Survey has recommended to the Government for the confirmation of the entire temporary staff, and, if so, what action has been taken by the Government in this direction; and

(c) what steps the Government have taken to redress the grievances of temporary men in the Survey office as regards the grant of time-scale of pay and eligibility to old scale of pay when absorbed in permanent vacancies?

[25th January 1935]

A.—(a) The Central Survey office is not entirely self-supporting. Some of the items of work are dependent on the Survey parties.

(b) The Director of Survey recommended that the temporary staff should be made permanent. The Government were unable to accept the recommendation.

(c) The matter is under consideration.

Mr. V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—" May I know whether the temporary staff referred to in clause (c) consists of persons who have put in several years' service in the Central Survey Offices? "

The Hon. Mr. C. A. SOUTER:—" I understand some of them have put in several years' service."

Mr. V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—" May I know why the Government are unable to accept the recommendations of the Director of Survey and confirm men with 7, 8, 10 or 12 years' service in the staff? "

The Hon. Mr. C. A. SOUTER:—" Reasons of finance, Sir."

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—" May I know, Sir, whether it is not a fact that persons who have put in service of 20 years and more are treated as temporary service persons? "

The Hon. Mr. C. A. SOUTER:—" Notice."

Objections received in respect of the Resettlement Scheme Reports relating to Salem and South Kanara.

* 532 Q.—Mr. K. A. NACHIYAPPA GOUNDER: Will the Hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) how many objections have been received with regard to the Resettlement Scheme Reports which were published in Salem and South Kanara districts some time ago inviting representations from the public; and

(b) what are the remarks offered by the Settlement Officer, the Collector and the Board of Revenue on those objections and representations; and whether copies of the same will be placed on the table?

A.—(a) The number of representations received in the period allowed for the receipt of criticisms was:—

South Kanara	...	97
Salem	...	1,240

(b) Orders on the proposals for the resettlement of the South Kanara district were issued in G.O. No. 42, Revenue, dated 5th January 1935, which has been placed at the disposal of the ' Press.' The objections and representations received on the scheme report for the Salem district which was placed on the table of the Legislative Council in G.O. No. 1892, Revenue, dated 23rd September 1934, are under the consideration of the Government. The Government do not consider that any useful purpose will

[25th January 1935]

be served by placing on the table of the Legislative Council the remarks of the Board of Revenue and subordinate officers on the representations received on the scheme reports.

Particulars of objections received regarding the Scheme Report for South Kanara.

* 533 Q.—Khan Bahadur MAHMUD SHAMNAD SAHIB Bahadur: Will the Hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state how many and from whom representations have till now been received by the Government objecting to the scheme report of the Settlement department regarding the resettlement proposals of South Kanara?

A.—The attention of the Hon. Member is invited to the answer to clause (a) of question 532. The Government do not consider that any useful purpose will be served by furnishing the names of the several persons or bodies from whom representations were received.

Medical Administration

Scale of pay of the Medical Establishment under Local Boards and Municipalities.

* 534 Q.—Mr. K. A. NACHIYAPPA GOUNDER: Will the Hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether orders have been passed fixing a uniform scale of pay for the medical establishments under the local boards and municipalities under section 67 (3) of the Local Boards Act;

(b) if so, whether copies of the same will be placed on the table;

(c) whether the pay obtaining in Government institutions for similar posts has been taken into consideration in fixing the new scales of pay;

(d) if the Government scales were not adopted, what the reasons therefor are;

(e) whether the L.M.Ps. and L.I.Ms. are treated alike in fixing the scales for them;

(f) if not, what the reasons therefor are;

(g) whether representations have been received from the persons affected and, if so, how many, and in what way they have been disposed of; and

(h) whether there are any proposals to revise the new scales, and if so, what they are?

A.—(a) & (b) A copy * of G.O. No. 2403, P.H., dated 15th October 1934, is laid on the table.

(c) Yes.

* Printed as Appendix II on pages 521-525 infra.

[25th January 1935]

(d) There was no uniformity in the scales of pay prevailing in the local bodies. Several local bodies had themselves already fixed scales of pay lower than those sanctioned for Government servants. Considering the various scales of pay prevailing and the general financial position of local bodies, fair and uniform scales of pay were fixed.

(e) No.

(f) The standards of training received by the L.M.Ps. and L.I.Ms. are different and the nature and quality of work turned out by them are also different. Local bodies themselves had adopted lower scales of pay for L.I.Ms. than those they had adopted for L.M.Ps.

(g) Representations were received from some persons. They have been referred to the presidents of district boards concerned for necessary action with reference to G.O. No. 2648, P.H., dated 14th November 1934, a copy of which is also placed on the table.

(h) No.

Mr. G. RAMESWARA RAO:—"The first sentence of paragraph 5 of the Government Order runs thus: 'In the case of subsidized rural dispensaries a sum of Rs. 600 a year is paid to a medical graduate, Rs. 500 a year to a L.M.P., A.L.I.M., or L.I.Ms., Rs. 300 a year to a first-class midwife and Rs. 200 for second-class midwife from the provincial funds.' My question is whether in this category the homœopathic doctor is also recognized and if so, the pay he is eligible for."

The Hon. the RAJA OF BOBBILI:—"I cannot say off-hand; I believe it is the same pay as the allopathic doctors get."

Diwan Bahadur C. S. RATNASABHAPATI MUDALIYAR:—"If so, may I know why there are two scales of pay in clause (e)?"

The Hon. the RAJA OF BOBBILI:—"To make them correspond as far as possible to the existing practice in the district board."

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—"May I know what exactly the Government mean by saying that there is difference between L.I.Ms. and L.M.Ps.?"

The Hon. the RAJA OF BOBBILI:—"The standard of education, the course, the existing practice of the local boards are all different."

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—"Is it not in view of the fact that one system is allopathic and the other is Indian?"

The Hon. the RAJA OF BOBBILI:—"No, Sir."

Diwan Bahadur C. S. RATNASABHAPATI MUDALIYAR:—"May I know why the Government should make any difference between the two when both are trained? Why should one be considered higher and the other inferior?"

* Printed as Appendix II on pages 521-525 infra.

[25th January 1935]

The Hon. the RAJA OF BOBBILI:—"It is considered that the L.M.P. standard is higher."

Diwan Bahadur C. S. RATNASABHAPATI MUDALIYAR:—"Are there not non-L.I.Ms., teaching in the Indian School of Medicine?"

The Hon. the RAJA OF BOBBILI:—"There may be some cases. They are exceptions."

Mr. P. V. KRISHNAYYA CHOUDARI:—"In view of the statement made by the Hon. Minister, are they going to make any reduction of grants to the rural dispensaries where L.I.Ms. are entertained?"

The Hon. the RAJA OF BOBBILI:—"No, Sir, the amount of contribution payable is clearly stated in the Government Order."

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—"In view of the fact that the existing incumbents are entertained on a particular scale of pay, may I know what justification Government find for reducing their salaries?"

The Hon. the RAJA OF BOBBILI:—"As far as my information goes, in no cases have salaries been reduced."

Public Health

Charges for the supply of drinking-water from Mettur reservoir to Salem town.

* 535 Q.—Mr. K. A. NACHIYAPPA GOUNDER: Will the Hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) at what stage the scheme for the supply of drinking-water to Salem town from Mettur reservoir is;

(b) whether there is any proposal to charge for the water taken from the reservoir for that purpose;

(c) if so, what it is and what rate they want to charge;

(d) whether the Government charge for the water taken for drinking purposes from Government sources in other districts in this Presidency;

(e) if so, in what places they so charge, at what rate they charge in each of such places, and from which source water is taken in each of such places;

(f) on what principles they charge for the water taken for drinking purposes; and

(g) whether the Government charge for the drinking-water taken from wells dug at Government's cost?

A.—(a) The Council has accepted the arrangement for financing the scheme on the basis of a half grant and half loan and the question of sanctioning the employment of a special

[25th January 1935]

staff for the preparation of detailed plans and estimates for the scheme is now under consideration.

(b) Yes.

(c) The maximum rate that is likely to be charged eventually will be at Rs. 2.39 per 1,000 cubic yards. The water charges will, however, be actually levied on a sliding scale on the rates of water-cess to be charged in the Cauvery-Mettur Project area from time to time. When the water-rate to be charged per acre comes up to Rs. 15 per acre, the charge to the municipality will be Rs. 2.39 per 1,000 cubic yards of water. When the water-rate charged is Rs. 5 per acre as is the case at present, the charge to the municipality will be only As. 11 per 1,000 cubic yards.

(d) & (e) Yes. A statement* furnishing the information required is appended to the answer.

(f) & (g) The hon. Member apparently refers to water taken from Government sources by municipal authorities. In the case of existing water-supply schemes no charge is levied where none has been levied hitherto. But if at any future time in connexion with improvements to existing schemes or the carrying out of new schemes any considerable quantity of water has to be diverted from irrigation sources, it will be open to the Government to decide whether any and, if so, what charge shall be levied on that account. Unless the local body is specifically exempted for this purpose or unless concessional rates are specially fixed by the Government in any case, local bodies are charged at the rate of Re. 1 per 1,000 cubic yards of water taken for drinking purposes.

Diwan Bahadur C. S. RATNASABHAPATI MUDALIYAR:—"May I know by when with regard to several municipalities the water-rate has been fixed at Re. 1 per thousand cubic yards, in the case of Salem Rs. 2.39 charged for the same quantity?"

The Hon. the RAJA OF BOBBILI:—"In Salem, the rate has been fixed with reference to the rates of water-cess in Tanjore."

Diwan Bahadur C. S. RATNASABHAPATI MUDALIYAR:—"May I know water used for drinking purposes is treated on the same level as water used for irrigation?"

The Hon. the RAJA OF BOBBILI:—"The point is this municipality which is being benefited by the Mettur Project should also make a suitable contribution towards the expenses."

Diwan Bahadur C. S. RATNASABHAPATI MUDALIYAR:—"Is it the object of the Government that the municipality should be made to contribute towards the cost of the headworks?"

* Printed as Appendix III on page 525 infra.

25th January 1935]

The Hon. the RAJA OF BOBBILI:—"It is considered fair and desirable that the water-rate charged should bear some relation to the water-rate charged to ryots in Tanjore. Otherwise it would mean that the general tax-payer would have to pay for the Salem water-supply."

Religious and Charitable Endowments

Alleged ruination of the Jama Masjid in Coimbatore by the trustee thereof.

* 536 Q.—Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED: Will the Hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether the ruination of Jama Masjid in the Coimbatore town and several acts of mismanagement of the trustee of the said mosque were brought to the notice of the District Collector by the committee for Muslim endowments or the public; and

(b) if so, whether any and, if so, what action has been taken by the Collector to restore the endowments and, if not, why not?

A.—(a) & (b) The Government have called for the information.

S. M. K. BEYABANI SAHIB Bahadur:—"In view of the fact that there are several similar cases in other districts, will the Government be pleased to call for information from the Collectors of districts?"

The Hon. the RAJA OF BOBBILI:—"I do not think, Sir, the District Collectors will be able to furnish the information."

Agriculture

Appointment of Assistant Directors of Agriculture made since 1930.

* 537 Q.—Mr. K. A. NACHIYAPPA GOUNDER: Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

(a) how many new appointments of Assistant Directors of Agriculture were made in each year since 1930;

(b) how many of them were made by direct recruitment and how many from the lower ranks of the department, and to which community each belonged; and

(c) whether any list of eligible candidates for appointment of Assistant Director of Agriculture is maintained, and, if so, whether a copy of it will be placed on the table?

A.—(a) & (b) A statement* giving the particulars is appended.

(c) A list of upper subordinates suitable for appointment as Assistant Directors of Agriculture is maintained. The Government regret that it cannot be placed on the table of the house.

* Printed as Appendix IV on page 526 infra.

[25th January 1935]

Mr. V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—"Arising out of clause (c), may I know why the list maintained by the Government with regard to the eligible candidates as Assistant Directors cannot be placed on the table of the House?"

The Hon. Mr. P. T. RAJAN:—"Because the list is liable to revision at the end of every year."

Mr. V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—"May I know why the list as it is maintained at present should not be placed before the House?"

The Hon. Mr. P. T. RAJAN:—"As I said, it is liable to revision and it is confidential."

Number of students that passed out of the Agricultural college since 1930 and the number employed under Government.

* 538 Q.—Mr. K. A. NACHIYAPPA GOUNDER: Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

(a) how many students of the Agricultural college, Coimbatore, have passed out in each year since 1930;

(b) of these, how many have been so far employed under the Government; and

(c) of these, how many hail from families of practical agriculturists?

A.—(a), (b) & (c).

A statement is appended containing the information.

Year.	Number passed.	Number employed as Upper Subordinates.	Number employed belonging to families of practical agriculturists.
1930	24	19 *	5
1931	32	17	5
1932	54	6	5
1933	48	18	9
1934	40	Nil.	..

* Excludes two men appointed and discharged.

Agricultural Experimental Station at Berhampur.

* 539 Q.—Sriman M. G. PATNAIK Mahasayo: Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

(a) the object with which the demonstration farm was started at Berhampur;

(b) whether the several varieties of paddy developed at Berhampur are intended for improving paddy cultivation in Ganjam;

(c) whether any steps are taken at the farm to instruct people in growing agricultural produce which commands a better market than paddy; and

(d) whether any attempt was made to undertake the survey of the soil of any part of the district by the Agricultural Department to help agriculturists of Ganjam to raise different crops?

[25th January 1935]

A.—(a) & (b) The station is an experimental station and it was opened with the help of funds from the Imperial Council of Agricultural Research which is financing a co-ordinated scheme of research in the major rice producing provinces in India. The main object of the research work carried on at this station is the improvement of the quantity and quality of all varieties of rice of major importance in the Ganjam district by the evolution of higher yielding strains and by adopting better cultural and manurial practices. When definite results have been obtained from the experiments, steps will be taken to recommend to ryots such improvements as will increase the yield of crops.

(c) As has been stated above, the station is not a demonstration farm. Though the main crop under experiment is paddy, fodder crops, and other crops such as cotton, sugarcane, fruit crops, etc., are being tried in order to explore the possibilities of growing them after the harvest of paddy.

(d) The soils of the stations have been studied but a soil survey of the district has not been made yet. Local officers can advise where crops can be newly introduced in their areas.

Opening of an experimental farm for dry sugarcane cultivation at Gudiyattam.

* 540 Q.—Mr. V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR: Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state the progress made in the question of opening an experimental farm for dry sugarcane cultivation at Gudiyattam?

A.—The necessary land for the farm has been acquired and will be taken possession of soon.

Proposals, if any, for opening an agricultural demonstration farm at Cumbum, Kurnool district.

* 541 Q.—S. M. K. BEYABANI SAHIB BAHADUR: Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state whether Government have any proposal under consideration to open an agricultural demonstration plot at Cumbum?

A.—No.

S. M. K. BEYABANI SAHIB BAHADUR:—"In view of the fact that Cumbum has a large area under wet crops, will the Government be pleased to open a demonstration farm and shift the headquarters of the Agricultural Demonstrator to Cumbum?"

The Hon. Mr. P. T. RAJAN:—"I will consider the question."

[25th January 1935]

Registration

Vacancies remaining unfilled in the cadre of upper grade Sub-Registrars.

* 542 Q.—MR. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED: Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that there are vacancies in upper grade of sub-registrar cadre, which remain unfilled; and

(b) if so, how many such vacancies there are, when they arose and why they have not been filled up?

A.—(a) & (b) The attention of the hon. Member is invited to the answer to question No. 411. Of the sixteen vacancies now existing eight are kept unfilled till the result of the enquiry shortly to be undertaken into the work, character and conduct of eight sub-registrars is known. The remaining eight vacancies will be filled up by the Inspector-General himself under the powers since delegated to him by Government.

11-15 a.m. B. POKER SAHIB Bahadur:—“ May I know whether communal inequality in the upper grade of sub-registrars will be kept in view in filling up these vacancies? ”

The Hon. Mr. P. T. RAJAN:—“ I believe promotions are being made according to seniority and merit. If so, communal inequality cannot be considered.”

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—“ May I ask whether in filling up these eight vacancies which will be done by the Inspector-General himself, he will give due consideration to remove communal inequalities that exist in the upper grade? ”

The Hon. Mr. P. T. RAJAN:—“ I said, Sir, that communal representation does not apply to promotions.”

Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR:—“ It is said that there is going to be an enquiry into the work, character and conduct of eight sub-registrars. Is it not the case that the supersession of the eight sub-registrars had nothing to do with their work and conduct which is proposed to be investigated now? ”

The Hon. Mr. P. T. RAJAN:—“ It had everything to do, Sir.”

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—“ I shall try to be more explicit in my question. It is said here that the remaining eight vacancies will be filled by the Inspector-General himself under the powers since delegated to him by Government. May I know whether the Government mean that these vacancies will be filled by promotion alone? ”

The Hon. Mr. P. T. RAJAN:—“ That is what is meant.”

[25th January 1935]

Education

Promotion of L.Ts. and B.Eds. working as secondary grade teachers as junior deputy inspectors and school assistants.

* 543 Q.—DIWAN BAHADUR M. GOPALASWAMI MUDALIYAR: Will the Hon. the Minister for Education and Excise be pleased to state whether L.Ts. and B.Eds. working as secondary grade teachers in the Government services are being promoted as Junior Deputy Inspectors and school assistants, as hitherto, without being necessitated to appear before the Services Commission?

A.—Yes.

Excise

Measures taken so far to give effect to the policy of the previous Ministry for the eradication of the drink evil.

* 544 Q.—SWAMI A. S. SAHAJANANDAM: Will the Hon. the Minister for Education and Excise be pleased to state—

(a) whether the policy laid out by the previous Ministry to eradicate the drink evil within twenty years is still in force;

(b) how the Government have given effect to this policy till now;

(c) what progress has been made in this direction;

(d) if no action has been taken, why the Government did not take any action at all;

(e) whether the Government propose to take any action on that scheme; and

(f) if so, in what way they intend giving effect to it?

A.—(a) to (f) The hon. Member's attention is invited to the answer given to question No. 517 at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on 2nd November 1931, which sets out the policy of the Government and the measures taken by them in pursuance of that policy. Of the schemes of partial prohibition stated therein to have been introduced in certain areas, those relating to the Salem and Tinnevely districts have had to be abandoned as they failed to achieve the object with which they were introduced. In recent years, there has been a heavy fall in the consumption of licit liquor, while illicit distillation and kindred offences have increased to a marked degree. This shows that the drinking classes are taking to illicit liquor, owing to the restrictions placed on the supply of licit liquor and its high price. The problem which confronts the Government at the moment is the eradication of crimes connected with illicit liquor, and they are taking steps to deal with this problem. It is impossible

[25th January 1935]

therefore to consider the question of introducing any large measures of prohibition unless this problem as well as the problem of finance is solved.

Diwan Bahadur C. S. RATNASABHAPATI MUDALIYAR:—" May I know whether this question was placed before the Excise Advisory Committee before the decision was arrived at by the Government? "

The Hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR:—" There is no specific proposal at all. I do not know what we should have placed before the Advisory Committee."

Mr. V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—" Are we to understand from the answer given that in the opinion of the Government the policy laid down by them to bring about complete prohibition in twenty years is given up as impracticable? "

The Hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR:—" It is not said so at all in the answer."

Rao Sahib V. I. MUNISWAMI PILLAI:—" It is said in the answer that the 'drinking classes are taking to illicit liquor, owing to the restrictions placed on the supply of licit liquor and its high price.' May I know in what districts that is obtaining and what steps the Government have taken to eradicate this practice? "

The Hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR:—" Notice, Sir."

Rao Bahadur R. SRINIVASAN:—" May I know, Sir, whether with a view to combat the existing evil of illicit trade and distillation and save the cost of detective staff the Government will consider the question of opening liquor shops and selling liquors of good quality at a lower rate? "

The Hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR:—" The Government are considering how best to combat the evil."

Mr. V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—" May I ask whether the Hon. Minister will be pleased to say whether he still adheres to the policy of complete prohibition within twenty years for which his predecessor-in-office was responsible? "

The Hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR:—" The policy adopted by the Government has not been changed."

Rao Sahib V. I. MUNISWAMI PILLAI:—" Will the Hon. the Minister for Excise be pleased to say whether in prohibited areas—I mean the Nilgiris—people, for whom partial prohibition is introduced are having full drinks due to the slackness of the staff? "

The Hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR:—" I am not aware that slackness of the staff has been responsible for those things."

25th January 1935]

Appointments of Excise Sub-Inspectors, Assistant Inspectors and Inspectors made since 1930.

* 545 Q.—Mr. K. A. NACHIYAPPA GOUNDER: Will the Hon. the Minister for Education and Excise be pleased to state—

(a) how many new appointments of Excise Sub-Inspectors, Assistant Inspectors and Inspectors were made in each year since 1930;

(b) how many of these were made by direct recruitment and how many by promotion from the lower ranks of the department; and

(c) what is the districtwar and communitywar strength of persons so appointed?

A.—(a) to (c) The Government have not the information.

B. POCKER SAHIB Bahadur:—" May I know who has got this information, if the Government has not got the information? "

The Hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR:—" It may be gathered from a number of offices, Sir."

B. POCKER SAHIB Bahadur:—" Are we to ask those officers, Sir, to give that information to us? "

The Hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR:—" I certainly do not want the hon. Member to ask them."

B. POCKER SAHIB Bahadur:—" I being not the Minister for Excise, and requiring this information, what am I to do, Sir? "

The Hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR:—" In view of the fact that the labour involved in gathering the information is so great, the Government did not consider it necessary to get the information."

Diwan Bahadur M. GOPALASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—" With reference to clause (c) of the question, viz., the districtwar and communitywar strength of persons appointed, may I know whether Government will be pleased to call for information? "

The Hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR:—" Many of these appointments are not made districtwar. For instance, sub-inspectors are appointed by Assistant Commissioners for their divisions. So, it is difficult to give the appointments districtwar, and it is not known for what purpose my hon. Friend wants this information."

Mr. V. T. ARASU:—" Will the Hon. Minister state whether any direct recruitment was made to the cadre of Assistant Inspectors and Inspectors in the year 1934? "

The Hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR:—" I cannot say offhand, Sir."

[25th January 1935]

UNSTARRED QUESTIONS

Electricity

Accidents due to electricity for the triennium 1932 to 1934.

546 Q.—Rao Bahadur D. KRISHNAMURTI: Will the Hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(a) the number of serious and fatal accidents connected with electric supply in this Presidency in the years 1932, 1933 and 1934; and

(b) whether there is any proposal to reduce the frequency of electrical inspection of factories and installations?

A—(a)—

(1)			Total number of accidents.	Accidents which were fatal.
			(2)	(3)
1931-32	..	..	14	4
1932-33	..	..	25	14
1933-34	..	..	22	6

(b) Yes.

Irrigation

The Kangeyan system under the Gadamar River in the Tinnevely district.

547 Q.—Mr. M. DEVADASAN: Will the Hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state with reference to his answer to question No. 117, dated 4th August 1934, relating to the Kangeyan system under the Gadamar River in the Tinnevely district—

(a) whether any, and, if so, what orders have been passed by the Government on the reports called for from the Board of Revenue; and

(b) whether the Government will be pleased to place the initial and further reports on the table of the House?

A.—(a) The Government have called for further particulars from the Board of Revenue and these are awaited.

(b) The question will be considered when final orders are issued.

Co-operation

Applications from Ceded districts for opening Land Mortgage Banks.

548 Q.—Mr. G. RAMESWARA RAO: Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state whether any applications for Land Mortgage Banks have been received from the Ceded districts and, if so, how many and from whom and how they have been disposed of?

[25th January 1935]

A.—A statement furnishing the information required is furnished below:—

List of applications for Land Mortgage Banks in the Ceded districts received in the Office of the Registrar of Co-operative Societies.

Serial number and Land Mortgage Bank for what area.	Application received from whom.	How it was disposed of.
1 Chennur in the Cuddapah district, a portion of Cuddapah taluk.	Ryots of the Chennur village.	Investigations were made by the Deputy Registrar, Land Mortgage Banks. A bank for the area was, however, refused as the area was found unsuitable for the successful working of a Land Mortgage Bank and as the condition of co-operative societies in the area was not satisfactory.
2 Harpanahalli in the Bellary district.	President, Local Co-operative Union, Harpanahalli.	It was found that the area was upland with rainfed tanks scattered here and there and that it was unsuitable for the successful working of a Land Mortgage Bank.
3 Dharmavaram in the Anantapur district.	Some applications were received from the President, Local Co-operative Union, Dharmavaram.	The question of organization of a Land Mortgage Bank at Dharmavaram is engaging attention. Investigations for the organization of the bank have been made by the Deputy Registrar, Anantapur, and the opinion of President, Central Land Mortgage Bank, has been called for. He has not expressed his opinion yet and he has been reminded.

[Note.—An asterisk (*) at the commencement of a speech indicates revision by the Member.]

II.—ADJOURNMENT MOTION RE BIFURCATION OF DISTRICT BOARDS.

Mr. P. V. KRISHNAYYA CHOUDARI:—“ Mr. President, Sir, I move that—

‘the business of the House be adjourned for the purpose of discussing an urgent matter of public importance, namely, the proposal of the Government to bifurcate district boards in the Presidency.’

“ The object of my moving this adjournment motion is not that I do not know that the Local Boards Act contemplates bifurcation proposals also. But recently, in the last Legislative Council session, the Hon. Minister has made a statement that he was anxious to carry out the amendments made in the Local Boards Act. All the same, he wanted to be given some interval of time for studying the new Act which was brought into force, and he made us to understand that the district boards are not going to be bifurcated as quickly as we all imagined. But the day before yesterday, with reference to a supplementary question, he has stated that he was going to bifurcate all the district boards or most of them in a month or two. In a challenging manner to a question from Mr. Arasu, he said that there are several other district boards which he is going to bifurcate. In view of the contradictory statements made by the Hon. Minister on the floor of this

[Mr. P. V. Krishnayya Choudari] [25th January 1935]

House, we felt that he should make a definite statement on the issue of bifurcation of district boards. In order to have a statement from him and to elicit information on the question, I just move this adjournment motion, and I hope the Hon. the President will give me an opportunity."

Mr. V. T. ARASU:—"I second it."

The Hon. the PRESIDENT:—"I am really at a loss to understand how the adjournment motion which the Hon. Member seeks to move now, is in consonance with the statement that he has made in its justification. According to the Madras Local Boards Act, the Government have a discretion to bifurcate district boards. If any statement has been made by the Hon. the Minister regarding the question of bifurcation which deserves to be discussed, the particular language in which the Hon. Member has chosen to put his adjournment motion, does not refer to it. In any case, I do not think that there is any urgency in this case, as the question of bifurcation of district boards has been before the Government and the public for nearly ten months past. I do not think the motion is in order."

NON-OFFICIAL BUSINESS—*cont.*III.—A BILL ^a TO AMEND THE MADRAS HINDU RELIGIOUS ENDOWMENTS ACT, 1926 (BILL No. 3 OF 1934).

* The Hon. the PRESIDENT:—"The House will now proceed to consider the later stage of the Bill to amend the Madras Hindu Religious Endowments Act."

Clause 4—New Section 48.

* The Hon. the RAJA OF BOBBILI:—"Sir, I move—

Sub-section (1).

'In line 2, for the words "any scheme," substitute the words "the scheme, if any,"

'In line 3, for the words "the Act," substitute the words "this Act."

'In line 7, omit the word "or" occurring before the word "temple."

'In line 8, for the words "The cost," substitute the words "Such cost."

'In line 10, for the words "per cent," substitute the words "per centum."

'In line 12, after the words "the trustee," insert the word "thereof."

Sub-section (2).

'In line 1, for the words "the amount," substitute the words "such cost." , , ,

^a Discussion resumed from 23rd January 1935.

A BILL TO AMEND THE MADRAS HINDU RELIGIOUS ENDOWMENTS ACT, 475
1926 (BILL NO. 3 OF 1934)

25th January 1935] [The Raja of Bobbili]

Sub-section (3).

'In line 1, for the words "audit of," substitute the word "auditing."

'In the same line, omit the word "temple" occurring at the end.'

"These are small drafting amendments."

Mr. K. KOTI REDDI:—"I second it."

The amendments were put and carried.

Clause 4 as amended was then put and carried.

Clause 5—Section 57.

* The Hon. the RAJA OF BOBBILI:—"Sir, I move—

'For lines 1 and 2, substitute the following:—

'In section 57 of said Act—(i) at the end of sub-section (1), the following shall be added, namely:—

'In new clause (d), in the last two lines, for the words "defining the duties," substitute the words "and defining the powers and duties." , , ,

'At the end of the Explanation, insert the word "and" , , ,

'For the last six lines, substitute the following:—

'(ii) after sub-section (i), the following sub-section shall be inserted, namely:—

'(1-A) The Board may, for good and sufficient cause, suspend, remove, or dismiss any executive officer appointed in pursuance of a scheme settled under sub-section (1) or direct the removal of such Officer.' , , , , ,

Mr. K. KOTI REDDI:—"I second it."

The amendment was put and carried.

Clause 5 as amended was then put and carried.

Clause 6—Section 63.

Sub-clause (i).

* The Hon. the RAJA OF BOBBILI:—"Sir, I move—

'Place the proviso occurring after clause (e) immediately after clause (c).'

'In the same proviso, in line 4, before the word "constitute" insert the word "to." , , ,

'In line 6 of the same proviso, before the word "members" insert the word "the." , , ,

[The Raja of Bobbili] [25th January 1935]

'In clause (d), in the penultimate line, for the words "defining the duties" substitute the words "and defining the powers and duties."'

'Omit the word "and" occurring at the end of the Explanation.'

Sub-clause (ii).

'For sub-clause (ii) and the last six lines of the clause, substitute the following:—

"(ii) after sub-section (1), the following sub-section shall be inserted, namely—

'(1-A) The Board may, for good and sufficient cause, suspend, remove or dismiss any executive officer appointed in pursuance of a scheme settled under sub-section (1) or direct the removal of such officer.'; and

(iii) sub-section (2) shall be omitted."'

Mr. T. SUNDARA RAO NAYUDU:—"I second it."

The amendment was put and carried.

Clause 6 as amended was put and carried.

Clause 8—Section 65-A (5) (a).

Mr. K. KOTI REDDI:—"Sir, I move—

'In clause 8, section 65-A, (5) (a) in line 1, for the words "the Board" substitute the words "a Committee of the Board."'

"Sir, in clauses (1) to (4) there is nothing to prevent a Committee of the Board to send notice of notification, to make an enquiry, sit in judgment and decide whether a certain temple should be notified or not, and in fact, by explanation to sub-section (4), power is given to the Committee of the Board to decide and an appeal is provided from the decision of that Committee of the Board to the Board itself under sub-section (5) (b)."

The amendment was duly seconded.

The Hon. the RAJA OF BOBBILI:—"Does the hon. Member mean by 'committee' Committee of the Endowments Board?"

Mr. K. KOTI REDDI:—"Yes; Board is defined in the Act."

The Hon. the RAJA OF BOBBILI:—"Then it is all right; there is no objection, Sir."

The amendment was put and carried.

Clause 8—Section 65-A, (5) (b).

* The Hon. the RAJA OF BOBBILI:—"Sir, I move—

'In line 1, for the words "person interested" substitute the words "person having interest."'

25th January 1935] [The Raja of Bobbili]

'In line 2, for the words "the decision" substitute the words "such decision."'

'In line 4, for the word "should" substitute the word "shall."'

'In line 7, for the words "no appeal is preferred" substitute the words "no such appeal is preferred."'

'In line 9, omit the word "thereupon."'

'Renumber the clauses in the numerical order.'"

Mr. T. SUNDARA RAO NAYUDU:—"I second it."

The amendment was put and carried.

Clause 8 as amended was then put and carried.

* Mr. K. KOTI REDDI:—"Sir, I move that the Bill be passed into law. I do not think it is necessary on my part to speak many words to commend the passing of this Bill into law. I know there is a certain class of opinion which is strongly opposed to any amendments that are proposed to be made to the Hindu Religious Endowments Bill. The origin of that opposition, it appears, is really due to the fact that any encroachment on the powers of the courts is looked upon as the greatest danger to the country. I know there are certain functions which it is absolutely necessary to entrust to courts. At the same time, I feel there are a number of other functions, mostly administrative, where entrusting them to courts is not only not effective in its purpose but will lead to all sorts of unnecessary complications and waste of public funds. It is more on account of that that I have proposed to move certain amendments to the Endowments Bill and I hope this Council will give its assent to them.

"There have been and there are certain defects in the present Act which it is absolutely necessary to set right. There are two changes proposed in this Bill which are commended for your acceptance. The first change is not of a radical nature; it is more or less to supply the lacunæ that have been found in the working of this Act and to put in certain provisions which no doubt were understood to be implied. But certain doubts have been raised during the course of litigation and therefore it was felt necessary in order to avoid any misapprehension, misunderstanding or doubt to put in some express provisions. One important change in that connexion was about the provision of kattalais. Every important specific endowment or kattalai—and there are many of that nature—has properties which require careful administration. Doubts have been raised during the course of litigation in courts whether the provisions of the Endowments Act would be applicable to such specific endowments. In a matter like levying fees from the kattalais, in a matter like framing schemes for kattalais, and in the matter of accounts and management of the kattalais, in such cases doubts have arisen. And this Bill as amended by the Select Committee and passed at the second reading makes clear provision for them. In all cases Kattalais are included along with temples and mutts for the purpose of the Endowments Act.

[Mr. K. Koti Reddi] [25th January 1935]

"The second thing is that doubts have arisen in the framing of schemes, both with regard to mutts and excepted temples and non-excepted temples, whether the Board could have the power which in some cases they have been exercising and which the courts in connexion with the suits brought before them have been exercising, viz., to add to the number of trustees, to remove them or to appoint salaried managers if necessary, to frame budgets and things of that type for the proper administration of the temples and mutts. For this purpose, clauses 5 and 6 have been inserted in the Bill. These are amendments, not of a very radical nature, but only intended to clear up doubts.

"There is one other provision, Sir, which one may not call radical but still is a great improvement on the present Bill. It is a well-known fact that although provision is made in the present Bill for the hereditary trustees and trustees appointed by temple committees to keep proper accounts of the endowments they have been managing and that an audit should be made of those accounts, on account of the financial bankruptcy—if I may so put it—of the temple committees, and should I not say, also of the Religious Endowments Board because it is not able to discharge all its pecuniary duties as yet, it is not possible for the temple committees or the Board to appoint auditors to go into the accounts and find out what mismanagement or improper management has taken place. A thorough audit was not possible before on account of the financial difficulties, and a provision is made in this Bill for meeting the costs of audit from the funds of the endowments concerned. That I think is a great improvement. No doubt, personally I should have wished to augment the resources of the Board and temple committees. As a matter of fact I gave notice of an amendment levying a uniform rate of 3 per cent from all the endowments—it is very confusing that certain endowments should be asked to pay $1\frac{1}{2}$ per cent and others 3 per cent—but seeing the temper of the House I thought it discreet not to press it. I hope the future Government will take up the responsibility of meeting the necessary expenditure for the Board and similar boards that are likely to come up hereafter, from the provincial funds itself, but till that time comes, it seems to me absolutely necessary for the proper management of temples, mutts and specific endowments, that the finances of the Board should be vastly improved in order to discharge its duties properly.

"One other thing which is of great importance and has given rise to a lot of criticism, i.e., with regard to the notification of temples. Ever since the passing of this Act, in many decisions of the High Court, it has been brought to the notice of the public that the courts really are not the proper persons to discharge the functions that are usually entrusted to them and are of an administrative nature. For many important temples schemes have been framed for their management, and very detailed provisions very often have been made for removing trustees, for substituting trustees, for providing for budgets, for

25th January 1935] [Mr. K. Koti Reddi]

providing for salaried managers, and interferences like that which are considered necessary for the efficient management of those temples. But it was pointed out many a time by the courts themselves that they are not the proper body for entering into the details of the administration of these temples and they have several times wished that a body like the Endowments Board with special experience of all the temples and possessing a universal and comprehensive idea of all the endowments in this presidency would be in a much better position than themselves to deal with these institutions. I do not want to quote from any judgment in support of my statement, but would simply refer to the famous judgment in 47 M.L.J., 714. The present provisions are absolutely inadequate to meet the needs of the situation and hence my Bill.

"There is first the question of cost. It would be absolutely necessary, in order to make a change in the schemes framed, that somebody should go to a court. It is said that anybody who is interested in the temple can go and that the Board also, which, as I already said, is not financially strong, can go. Usually on account of the question of cost involved nobody takes this step and nothing is done. Even if a charitably inclined person takes the initiative and goes to court, he soon gets disgusted with the business on account of the unfortunate delays. The other day, my hon. Friend Rao Bahadur D. Krishnamurti pointed out to us a decision of the High Court on this question of abnormal delays. So, both on account of cost and on account of delay in courts, it is absolutely necessary that power should be vested in somebody who can perform the functions satisfactorily. When that is granted, there is no difficulty in finding out such a body. It is none other than the Endowments Board constituted for the purpose.

"Sir, it is sometimes said that by trying to entrust all these functions to this Board, we would not be improving matters as the Board is a body which is not responsible to public opinion and that it would be much better to entrust the whole thing to the Government itself. I personally see no objection to this course. But it is necessary to do so in view of the fact that the Board is functioning only on behalf of the Government. These institutions were once managed by the Government direct. As a matter of fact before 1847, during the time of the East India Company who was it that was controlling all our religious institutions? It was really the Government. Even now, in Mysore, Travancore and other States it is the Government that is directly managing the religious institutions. I do not see why they should not do hereafter when we, in these democratic days, are going to manage our affairs by the accredited representatives of the people.

"One other point I desire to mention in this connexion. The Endowments Board has not been made a completely independent body yet. It is a sort of semi-Government body. The fault I believe does not lie with the Ministers. If the Hon. the Finance Member can

[Mr. K. Koti Reddi] [25th January 1935]

go to the help of the Hon. the Chief Minister, I believe the latter would have no objection to provincializing the Board."

* The Hon. the PRESIDENT:—"I wish the hon. Member makes remarks relevant to the motion before the House. He had better do that rather than think of provincializing the Endowments Board."

Mr. K. KOTI REDDI:—"Sir, I said that to meet the criticism that the Endowments Board is merely a political body run by the Ministerialist party and hence should not be entrusted with more functions. I suggested therefore that once it is provincialized, no such charge can be made."

"Sir, I have been often asked how, as a person with democratic tendencies, I proposed salaried executive officers for our temples and mutts. If I understand democracy properly I think there is room in it for my proposition. There is room under my scheme for experienced expert officers who are not influenced by political or other considerations in our religious institutions for work of an administrative nature. I therefore do not see where my democratic principles come in conflict with the appointment of salaried executive officers. I hope that this provision for appointing executive officers will enable full time competent men being appointed for the better management of the temples and mutts, some of which are very big institutions, like the Madura and Rameswaram Devasthanams having vast incomes. Honorary trustees are now in charge of them and, however well-intentioned they may be, they may not be in a position to devote the necessary time and attention for the proper management of the institutions. These institutions therefore do require full-time officers to administer them efficiently."

"Sir, before I conclude I wish to answer one charge that was made. I have been asked whether I am not inspired in bringing forward this Bill, whether I am not doing the work of the Government and whether the Government are not getting their work done through me."

* The Hon. the PRESIDENT:—"There were opportunities for the hon. Member to answer a charge of that kind. But now that the House has given its decision on those points, there is no necessity for the hon. Member to reiterate his answers. They are irrelevant to the question before the House."

* Mr. K. KOTI REDDI:—"I leave it there. I may however say that I am not inspired by anybody in bringing forward this Bill. A Bill of this kind seemed to me to be necessary and the Government also felt that it is a proper Bill. I personally see no objection to a Bill piloted by a private Member being supported by the Government, if they think it proper. I commend it to the acceptance of this honourable House."

Mr. K. A. NACHIYAPPA GOUNDER:—"I second it."

* Mr. K. R. VENKATARAMA AYYAR:—"Sir, I oppose this motion, not in the hope that my opposition would be supported by the majority of the Members, but in the plain discharge of a duty which I have

25th January 1935] [Mr. K. R. Venkatarama Ayyar]

always felt I owed to myself and to this House and to the large body of worshippers interested in the various devasthanams throughout the presidency. In 1923 when the Panagal Bill was on the legislative anvil, I sent up my criticism to the then Select Committee. I was not then in this House. One of the prophesies which I then risked, but which has now turned out to be no risk at all, was that in course of time the committees and trustees in charge of the various temples would be made the tools or instruments of the party in office to carry out their behests in matters affecting the wellbeing of the political party but not concerning at all the wellbeing of the institutions themselves. That criticism has been made absolutely true by the shape given to the Endowments Act by the Bill which is now passing into law. Under the Bill which now becomes law, it would be open to the Religious Endowments Board operating from Madras to notify a temple or temples and the moment a temple is so notified, the reign of law comes to an end in regard to the institution notified. The existing position of the law is that the trustee's powers and functions are a matter of law, which depend upon the law of the land. Whereas, hereafter, once a temple is notified, the trustee's powers and functions would cease to be a matter of law, but would begin to rest upon what the Hindu Religious Endowments Board chooses to define to be his powers and functions in relation to an executive officer whom they might superimpose upon such trustee. The executive officer is, in turn, made, for all purposes of law, to be a trustee, so that if when there is a trustee already you add another executive officer with the status and legal capacity of a trustee and choose to define the functions and powers as between the trustee already there and the executive officer whom you add, the relative functions and duties of these two functionaries no longer rest upon the law, but upon the executive orders of the Board. That, Sir, according to the experience of all who are versed in such matters, is a retrograde move. If there was one proposition with which judges, lawyers and others interested are always familiar in regard to this topic, it is this that a trustee, during the tenure of his office, has a free-hold in his office. He is not the servant of the committee or the Board. He represents the deity and the administration of the devasthanam is completely vested in him. But, hereafter, he has no freehold in his office. He has no real power except such as may from time to time be conferred or withdrawn by the Board and he is simply to carry out, as a servant at will, the orders of the Board. Sir, it is extraordinary that in this matter it has fallen to my hon. Friend Mr. Koti Reddi to take up the task of piloting this important legislation which would affect very much the big devasthanams down in the south of the presidency rather than the petty temples which alone probably they are acquainted with in the northern districts. Well, Sir, if you think of the Madura Meenakshi Devasthanam or the Rameswaram Devasthanam or the Kallazhahar Devasthanam or the Kudalalagar Devasthanam in the city of Madura or those big devasthanams in

[Mr. K. R. Venkatarama Ayyar] [25th January 1935]

the Tinnevely district, such as Tiruchendur, Sankarankoil, Courtallam, etc., or the big Vishnu temples at Alwartirunagari and Sri-villiputtur or the temples at Tirumalai and Tirupati, you will be impressed with the complexity of their administration and also with the nature of the work the respectable men of the locality are doing.

12 noon.

"Matters come up hour after hour, and day after day which absorb the attention of the local committees which assemble week after week to dispose of important business, and oftentimes the trustee in charge has important matters to dispose of and readily he gets the opportunity of disposing of them in consultation with local committees. Now these Temple Committees have had schemes settled for them and in most cases most of these schemes have gone up to the High Court and have been approved by the High Court. Now the Religious Endowments Board in the course of exercising its powers came into conflict with the courts, before whom matters in controversy relating to the devasthanams came. Down in the south at Madura in regard to both the big devasthanams of Sri Minakshi and Sri Kallazhahar, there were attempts made on the part of the Board to usurp the powers of the local committee and the trustee, as well as of the local court, and whenever such usurpation was attempted the Judges saw the absurdity of the pretences of the Board seeking to usurp the powers, the legitimate powers of the trustees, the local committees and the courts. On previous occasions, during the second reading of this Bill, I have invited the attention of the House to the excellent judgments of Mr. Wardsworth, the one relating to Kallazhahar Devasthanam and the other relating to Sri Minakshi Devasthanam. In the course of the conflict the Religious Endowments Board expressed itself to the following effect, viz., that inasmuch as they were unable to satisfy the judges in the encounters with the local authorities, the only go was to pass the Bill containing the provisions which are now passed in the name of Mr. Koti Reddi. That Bill which I suppose they then had up their sleeves, they got the hon. Mr. Koti Reddi to pilot. I am sticking to that statement and I want some responsible person to say that that is not so. I want the Hon. Minister to say if this Bill is not a Bill which the Religious Endowments Board then referred to in the course of that correspondence. My friend, Mr. Koti Reddi, felt that there was nothing wrong in the Government helping a private Member in his effort to advance a satisfactory legislation. In the whole range of experience of this House, after the Montagu Scheme was set up, I do not think there has been any instance of a private Member being as lucky as my hon. Friend, Mr. Koti Reddi. Anyway, it was a phenomenon worth witnessing that time after time, whenever clause after clause was reached, what was put before the House was not anything that my hon. Friend, Mr. Koti Reddi, seemed to be responsible for, but every motion for the amendment of this clause or that clause, or this phrase or that phrase, was the motion of the Hon. the Chief Minister."

Mr. K. KOTI REDDI:—"The Hon. Minister's amendments were all verbal."

25th January 1935]

Mr. K. R. VENKATARAMA AYYAR:—"I have also studied these debates and I know something of what I am talking about. Well, now the result of all this was, not being able to hold their own in any encounter before any judge or before any court of law, they say in this Bill, once we notify a temple, the jurisdiction of courts is gone in regard to that temple, the local committee does not function and though not abolished, it hangs in the air in suspended animation. The trustee is either replaced by an executive officer or there is another executive officer added on to him and the powers are distributed between them under the executive orders issued by the Board, and the executive officer who himself in turn is proposed to be dealt with in law as a trustee is liable to be removed at the sweet will and pleasure of the Board. That makes the trustee an absolute servant of the executive officer who is a creature of the Board. And all this administration is intended to be carried on from Madras over all these bigger and smaller temples. I think such a thing is impossible. It is only a device for exercising patronage and for creating appointments of executive officers all over the devasthanams, so that on necessary occasions for the furthering of your unconnected interests, you may utilize the whole army of your men. That is really the purpose and effect of this measure."

"I think, Sir, after all, these religious endowments stand to be protected if administered under the vigilant and fostering care and attention of the residents of the locality who go to the temple for worship and who feel a genuine interest in the management of their affairs rather than under this Central Body from Madras. Take the various occasions when the amendment of the Act of 1863 was thought of. Looking to the various Bills that were framed from time to time, whether the Robinson Bill, the Sullivan Bill, the Carmichael Bill or Sir T. Muthuswami Ayyar's Bill, you will find that whenever a central body like the Hindu Religious Endowments Board was thought of, it was not thought of for such an all-absorbing and comprehensive purpose of managing these devasthanams from Madras, but only for very limited purposes which were not provided for in Act XX of 1863. There were lacunae in the Act of 1863 and it was always felt that there was a necessity to fill up the lacunae by providing for audit and general administration reports and inspection and things of that kind. But never was it deemed feasible or proper that a central body like this should take upon itself the entire management of these devasthanams, through their servants. As I have pointed out it is not for the good of these devasthanams. It is impossible that this Religious Endowments Board could at all give the general public anything like one-hundredth part of the satisfaction given by the courts in the matter of settlement of schemes. One of the provisions of the Bill is that not only the courts' schemes should be scrapped, but their own schemes should also be scrapped. I have been at pains on earlier occasions in connexion with this Bill to point out my absolute conviction about the impotence and incapacity of this Board. If they settle schemes and

[Mr. K. R. Venkatarama Ayyar] [25th January 1935]

their only way out of their own schemes is to scrap them by notifying the temples, it only means they are not the people to be charged with the responsibility for settling schemes of big devastanams. I think they are adopting absolutely erroneous lines of legislation and I think the Ministry in lending itself to this move by utilizing its voting power for the successful piloting of this so-called private Member's Bill has taken a very great responsibility."

12-15
p.m.

* The Hon. the RAJA OF BOBBILI:—"I did not intend to participate in this debate but for some irresponsible statements and allegations made by the hon. Member Mr. K. R. Venkatarama Ayyar. I feel I should not leave those statements unchallenged. Mr. Venkatarama Ayyar started claiming to be a very wise prophet. He told us this morning that when the Hindu Religious Endowments Act was first passed he predicted that further in-roads would be made by further amendments taking away the powers of the trustees and the people of the locality. Of course if to-day it has been found necessary to enact this amending Bill which I do admit is drastic in some respects, I think it is not due to any ulterior motives or to further the political ends of any party, but because in the working of the present Act during the last few years, it has been found that no provision exists for ensuring that the provisions of the Act would be administered as its original framers had intended. Experience has shown that the Act is defective and that able lawyers like my Friend Mr. Venkatarama Ayyar can make the administration practically impossible owing to the ruinous and protracted nature of the litigation which this Act has given rise to. It seems to me that the only remedy is to move in the direction of the Board being given greater powers, and if it pleases my Friend I will say, autocratic powers in some respects. If my hon. Friend refers to the history of these religious institutions, he will find that during the days of the East India Company, all the religious institutions were managed by the State. Of course as a result of the assuming of the powers of Government by the Crown, the Government of the day considered it desirable to divest themselves of any direct connexion with the administration of these endowments. Unfortunately experience has shown that as far as the interests of these ancient institutions are concerned, the step taken then, has not been a wise one. Whatever might be the justification of the Government policy in the past, I think, in view of the contemplated political changes in the country, it should be the policy of the Government to place these institutions on a sound basis. When the House is now being asked to enact this legislation, I believe we are really on the road to making Government ultimately responsible for the proper administration of these institutions. My hon. Friend has attempted to make the House believe that the passing of this Bill into an Act will mean the end of the reign of law. He has also stated that in future the intention of the supporters of this legislation is to make the trustees impotent. As far as I can understand the scope of this legislation the intention is to appoint persons with administrative experience as executive officers of temples to attend to the secular affairs and business matters

25th January 1935] [The Raja of Bobbili]

connected with their administration. Neither the Hindu Religious Endowments Act, nor the Bill we are now discussing proposes to interfere with the religious rituals in these institutions. This Bill merely extends to other institutions the legislation passed by this House with reference to the Tirupati Devasthanam.

"I do not wish to detain the House longer with my remarks, but before I close I wish to say a few words in reply to the further remarks of my Friend that this is an attempt to further the political ends of my party. In the first instance, I have to state that if we are to be guided by previous experience alone I am sure if a political party desires to strengthen their hands, they would never have thought of supporting a Bill of this nature, because, as in the case of the Hindu Religious Endowments Act, we do realize that we are certainly not satisfying those vested interests which my hon. Friend, Mr. Venkatarama Ayyar, claims to represent in this Council. It is only after facing hard facts and after realizing that in the interests of the better administration of these institutions such legislation is absolutely necessary that my party has given its support to this measure. Another point, or accusation made by my Friend is that Government did not have the courage to bring in an official measure and that they have adopted the indirect method of supporting a non-official Bill. I may state at once that whoever might be the sponsor of this legislation, the large amount of support given by this House to this measure is an indication of public feeling that such legislation is necessary in the interests of the institutions themselves; and I should also like to remind my Friend with reference to his statement that I have moved the largest number of amendments to this Bill, that if he only studies them, he will find that practically all of them are drafting amendments and seek to put the various clauses in better language. I do not think it will be possible for the Government to say that because it is a non-official Bill they have no responsibility in the matter. If it will satisfy my hon. Friend, I will say that I am prepared to take the fullest responsibility for this measure and also to face the consequences with which my hon. Friend has threatened me. With these words, I support the motion before the House."

* Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. PATRO:—"Mr. President, Sir, I think the hon. Member from Madura has had all the questions raised by him replied to by a responsible member of the House. It is rather regrettable to note that the hon. Member from Madura has a curious conception of the responsibility of a member of this House. He thinks that all responsibility is centered in the front bench of this House and not in any other member of this House. I am sorry that a Nationalist of his temperament should have descended to this kind of argument with a view to discredit the members of this House. I am sure he will regret very much when he goes home and thinks over the matter very calmly and realizes what a great mistake he has made in calling the members of the front bench alone responsible. However, he is neither

[Sir A. P. Patro] [25th January 1935]

here nor there with reference to such observations. I am only concerned with one point, and that is this. As a lawyer member of this House he has stated that this Bill wants to take away the power that is legally vested in the legally-appointed trustees and committees—creatures of the law—and vest them in an executive authority, thereby depriving the people concerned of any right to take legal action in the matter. It is only with that aspect of the matter I am most concerned. He further stated that institutions which have been the subject-matter of litigation and for which the courts have framed schemes, would by a mere notification be deprived of the protection of the law and their administration vested in the hands of the executive. These are the arguments which were advanced by the hon. Member. He also referred to one other outstanding fact—the judgment of Mr. Wordsworth, the District Judge. Mr. Wordsworth is a District Judge and a very able Judge. But in this particular matter, we do not know what the circumstances were under which he gave his judgment. But it is rather sad to see that an able lawyer like my Friend should have for purpose of argument forgotten what the High Court has from time to time stated in this matter. The High Court has, in unmistakable terms pronounced that it is not the function of the District Courts or any Court of Justice to go into and determine schemes for the purpose of any religious institution. The High Court presided over by eminent Judges like Mr. Srinivasa Ayyangar has gone into the matter and expressed their view in unmistakable terms that it is not the proper function of these courts, but should be left to other agencies to decide. The court is not the proper place to take up the details or the circumstances connected with any religious institution and any scheme that may be prepared will not at all be a proper and acceptable one. I do not want to tire the House by quoting at length the remarks of the Hon'ble Judges, but I should like to refer hon. Members to what is stated in the Madras Law Journal, 47 Madras, 715-720. I shall quote a few lines which will justify the legislation that is now brought forward in order to regularize and stabilize the administration of these institutions—

'In fact, under such schemes the Courts of Law constitute themselves in some manner as Temple Committees and the whole burden of such functions for all time is thrown upon the courts. It is very undesirable that the Courts should be burdened with such tasks.'

'Mark the words 'It is *undesirable* that the courts should be burdened with such tasks.' They proceed:

'Even in the interests of institutions themselves, it is doubtful if such provisions are calculated to promote their improvements or efficiency. We are also not satisfied that Courts of Law are generally the best fitted to choose proper trustees more especially having regard to the procedure generally adopted in such cases. Further, we are disposed to consider though in the view we are taking it is unnecessary to decide the point, that such decrees are *ultra vires* having regard to the express provisions of section 92 of the Civil Procedure Code, which makes it imperative that for the purposes of getting certain reliefs in respect of public charities, suits should be instituted by persons interested after getting the sanction of the Advocate-General.'

25th January 1935] [Sir A. P. Patro]

'We do not consider it necessary to alter the scheme at present, but only direct that as soon as such enactment should be passed, no time or opportunity should be lost by the Court acting under the powers reserved to itself under the scheme to make the necessary alterations in the scheme so as to place the temples under the supervision of such agencies as may be constituted and to rid the court of much of the functions and duties assumed under the present scheme.'

'This was the opinion of two eminent Judges of the High Court, 12-30 p.m. Justice Sir Gordon Spencer, Officiating Chief Justice then and Mr. Justice Srinivasa Ayyangar. These are the two eminent Judges whose views I wish to place before the House to show that this Bill is not conceived for the purpose of exploitation or for the purpose of promoting party interests; it has been brought forward in compliance with the remarks of those eminent Judges. The hon. Member from Madura said that at the time when correspondence was going on between the Trustee of the Temple at Madura and the Religious Endowments Board, the Board stated that they would bring forward a Bill; the hon. Member asks now 'Is this the Bill that they referred to at that time?' It is not a day too late that this Bill has been brought forward. If this Bill is not supported by the view of eminent Judges, I would certainly have hesitated to interfere with the decision of the courts. Then I would be the first man to say that the scheme prepared by the court should not ordinarily be disturbed or interfered with; that should be the duty of every public man. But having had the deliberate opinion of the Judges of the High Court on this matter, you cannot help saying that this Bill is very necessary; it is quite right for my hon. Friend in the Opposition to attribute all sorts of motives to those that are in office and power, to say that they are actuated or guided by this motive or that, and that this Bill ought not to be accepted by this House. But, Sir, there is a method in madness; even my friend from Madura should not attribute motives; even for friends of the schools which he represents, there is some limit with regard to decency and public conscience; even though political conscience may be dead for the time being, public conscience would dictate that any remarks should be based on substantial grounds; otherwise, may I inform him that he would be considered to be irresponsible, to say the least. I am sure he will now regret for having made rash statements in support of his case; he has no case whatever; like a lawyer accustomed to make up cases where none exists, he has spoken against the present motion, and the House will consider his case to be very unjustifiable.'

The motion that the Bill be passed into law was put and carried and the Bill was passed into law.

IV.—RESOLUTIONS ON MATTERS OF GENERAL PUBLIC INTEREST—*cont.*

* (1) ALLOTMENT FOR THE RELIEF OF THE UNEMPLOYED—*cont.*

Mr. M. S. SRESHTA:—'Mr. President, Sir, as I said yesterday, the problem of unemployment is engaging the serious attention of every

* Discussion resumed from the previous day.

[Mr. M. S. Sreshta] [25th January 1935]

democratic country. The time is now ripe for our Government to tackle the question. It was pointed out yesterday that large sums of money are being spent on the Pykara scheme and other schemes. It is no satisfaction to the unemployed to find that the wealth of the country is being increased; it is desirable that some steps should be taken in the big question of unemployment. The question of unemployment is entirely a different one from that of increase of wealth and it is quite possible that wealth can be increased without in any way affecting unemployment. It is desirable that the two questions should be looked at from different points of view. I do not wish to deal at length with this question because there may be speakers who will do so.

"I would like to make a concrete suggestion. I would suggest that the Labour department may be asked to go into the question and see what amount of unemployment is to be found in the country. It will be easy for them along with their own duties to obtain statistics of unemployment in the Province. A suggestion was made yesterday which was more in the interest of the educated unemployed. It will be remembered that in the year 1926 a committee was appointed to go into the question of unemployment among the educated classes. That Committee made some valuable suggestions; I do not know whether any of these suggestions have been carried out or considered by the Government; but the question now before us is not unemployment among the educated classes only but unemployment among all classes. The question of unemployment in the lower classes should be dealt with in preference to the question of unemployment among the educated classes who can, to some extent, take up the question themselves. I hope this resolution, when carried, will help the hon. Member in charge to do something to solve the problem of unemployment. The number of homeless poor in the streets of Madras is a perpetual challenge to the rich who live in luxury and comfort. If some step is taken immediately, it will be possible to stop the increase of this disease which might otherwise become chronic. This question has been dealt with and I know great many minds, expert minds, have been applied to this question and great difficulty has been experienced in regard to the matter. But the difficulty of the task should not be a reason why an attempt should not be made to tackle this great task. I trust the hon. Member in charge of this portfolio, who is a Member who takes considerable interest in such matters, will apply himself to this question and will make his regime memorable by taking some steps to relieve the condition of the poor. In the first place I think some statistics will be necessary and it might be helpful to find out what volume of unemployment exists in the country. If a small staff is attached to the office of the Labour department and charged with the duty of ascertaining the number of unemployed and the directions in which unemployed may be given employment, it will to a great extent relieve the evil which is sought to be remedied by the resolution under discussion. I do not wish to weary the House any more in the matter. But it is unfortunate that this resolution comes wedged in between very important resolutions

[25th January 1935] [Mr. M. S. Sreshta]

which attract great notice and I trust nevertheless that the House will take interest in the matter and will carry this resolution unanimously so that the hands of the Member in charge may be strengthened."

* Mr. A. B. SHETTY:—"Mr. President, Sir, I beg to move the following amendment:—

"Substitute the words "early steps be taken to relieve unemployment among the educated middle classes" for the words "at least a lakh of rupees be set apart from the Provincial revenues to relieve the unemployed."

"My hon. Friend, Dr. Natesa Mudaliyar has always been pleading for the unemployed in this Council and he has been urging upon the Government to take some steps to give relief to these unfortunate people. I appreciate his object and his motive in coming before this House with such a resolution. But, Sir, the scope of the resolution is rather too wide. He wants the Government to deal with unemployment among all classes of people. We have no information regarding unemployment among factory workers, among agricultural labourers and labourers in general. I believe, Sir, that the evil of unemployment among these classes has not assumed very serious proportions in this country; at least this is what the report of the Labour Commission makes us understand. It is true that in western countries, unemployment among these classes of people has become an alarming evil. Unemployment has become a disease of modern industrial civilization; it has assumed serious proportions in the course of the present economic depression, particularly since the year 1929 in industrial countries like the United States of America, England and Germany. But in this country we have no information about unemployment among factory workers and labourers in general and as I said, I think the evil has not assumed alarming proportions. We have in this country a great deal of unemployment among the educated classes. The object of my amendment is to restrict the scope of this resolution to unemployment among the educated classes. The remedy which the mover suggests seems to be simple. He says that the Government should give at least a lakh of rupees from the Provincial revenues to relieve the unemployed people in the City and in the mufassal. I do not think the remedy is so simple or so easy. The evil of unemployment is very complex; it arises from very many causes; it is a very widespread evil and the remedy to tackle this problem must be necessarily comprehensive and of an all-embracing character. In this Council in the year 1925 a resolution was passed asking for a Committee to go into this question; a Committee was accordingly appointed and they made a report; I am afraid no action has been taken on the recommendations made by this Committee. Since that time the evil of unemployment has grown in extent and intensity. The output of our schools and colleges is greatly in excess of the number of places available in Government service; in the various professions as well as in other spheres of work. In a properly organized State, matters would not be allowed to drift in this

[Mr. A. B. Shetty]

[25th January 1935]

way. The needs of the various departments of Government service, and of the professions and the openings available in business careers ought to be ascertained. The supply should not be allowed to run far in excess of the demand. Young men should be given the education which is suited to their attitudes and abilities and they should be directed to appropriate lines of activity. But here there is no such thing. It has been repeatedly urged by educationists as well as others that what we want in this country is a re-orientation of policy regarding education. We want a re-adjustment of our educational system in order to meet the economic needs of the country. Our education is too literary and bookish. Sir George Anderson, the Educational Commissioner with the Government of India, in his recent address to the All-India Educational Conference has drawn pointed attention to this matter. He said that what we require in this country is a reconstruction of our school system. Young men who are not fit for higher cultural studies must be diverted to vocational training in separate institutions. A similar suggestion was made by the Punjab University Education Committee, and this suggestion has been endorsed by the Universities Conference which was held a short time ago. I understand, Sir, that the United Provinces Government have propounded a similar scheme and have solicited opinions from persons who are in a position to give opinions on this matter. We must have vocational schools running side by side with general schools; but it is not enough if we merely start such schools. The mere establishment of technical and technological institutions and turning out of young men equipped for various careers will not solve the question of unemployment. It will be a sheer waste, if proper avenues of employment are not found for them by the improvement of agriculture and development of trade and industry in this country. So, a scheme of vocational education must be properly planned, and it must be related to the economic needs of the country. We hear a great deal now a days about economic planning. National planning as well as international planning is being attempted all over the world. We cannot afford to remain without some plan for developing our country. This Government should not shut their eyes to the great and growing evil of unemployment as if it is not their concern, to tackle this problem. Let them reorganize education; so as to make it suit the needs of the present day. Let them have an expert Committee to formulate a plan of economic development. They must provide new avenues of employment in trade, industry, agriculture and so on, to men who are turned out of our schools and colleges. Of course this is a question which the Provincial Government alone cannot tackle; the Government of India also will have to take up this matter because the economic development of a country is intimately related to other questions such as tariffs, banking, currency and transport. I hope, Sir, the hon. the Home Member who is in charge of this portfolio will understand the seriousness of the present situation. Unemployment means a great deal of human suffering. It means a tragic waste of effort and it means also a social danger to the State. In western

25th January 1935]

[Mr. A. B. Shetty]

countries the State has been taking action in various directions, to tackle the problem of unemployment. International action also is being taken. In twenty-four countries they have organized public employment exchange services. Unemployment insurance has recently made a great deal of progress. It has spread to many countries; and about 50 (fifty) million workers have taken to unemployment insurance. In this country also I believe it is the duty of the Government, not merely to collect taxes and maintain law and order, but also to see that people do not suffer and that such evils are not allowed to grow beyond due proportions. Government must make a survey of the situation, collect statistics, employ experts to suggest ways and means of tackling this problem and devise with the aid of the Government of India, and if need be, with the aid also of the Imperial Government the measures that are necessary to ameliorate the present situation."

* Mr. K. A. NACHIYAPPA GOUNDER:—"Sir, I have much pleasure in seconding the amendment so ably moved by my Friend Mr. A. B. Shetty, that the scope of this resolution be, for the present, restricted to pressing cases. I do not stand in the way of considering the problem in all its aspects, but considering the present financial position, I think we must restrict relief only to pressing cases. We find almost every day of our lives that educated people are mostly unemployed; we find that distinguished graduates of our Universities are coming forward very often to accept such paltry salaries as Rs. 15 or Rs. 18 as elementary school teachers, etc. It is high time that the case of these educated unemployed should receive immediate attention. It has been stated that a sum of Rs. 1 lakh may be allotted; I do not think this sum is enough to meet the situation. It is necessary that the Government should come forward with much bigger amounts. The present-day education gives scope to youngsters to take to a habit of quill-driving and nothing else. I think if Government change the present methods of education, this grave situation may be met to some extent. As my Friend has already dealt elaborately with the details, it is unnecessary for me to say more. I have much pleasure in seconding the amendment."

* The Hon. the PRESIDENT:—"The amendment is:—

"Substitute the words 'early steps be taken to relieve unemployment among the educated middle classes' for the words 'at least a lakh of rupees be set apart from the Provincial revenues to relieve the unemployed.'"

"Both the resolution and the amendment are for the discussion of the House."

* Mr. T. S. RAMASWAMI AYYAR:—"Mr. President, if I am in order, I would like to propose another amendment, viz., for the words 'that at least a lakh of rupees be set apart from the Provincial revenues.'"

[25th January 1935]

* The Hon. the PRESIDENT:—"Order, order. If the hon. gentleman wants to propose another amendment, he may hand over a copy of it to the Chair in writing, so that I may look into it."

* Mr. C. BASU DEV:—"Mr. President, Sir, the question raised by my hon. Friend, Dr. Natesa Mudaliyar throws open very wide field of activity for the Government and private employers. I have listened with some amount of attention to Dr. Natesa Mudaliyar. While I appreciate the motive which has inspired his resolution, I have not been able to understand what exactly he wants to do with the lakh of rupees, he wanted to be set apart for the purpose of relieving unemployment. I hope, Sir, that he does not want to distribute that amount as doles to the unemployed. I am sorry I have not been able to catch his intention about the spending of that amount. Initial investigation is necessary as to the kinds and extent of unemployment in this Presidency and some money will be needed for such an enquiry."

"In the year 1926 the Government appointed a Committee to go into the question of unemployment among the middle classes, and the report of that Committee contains very good and useful recommendations, and has been at the service of both the Government and the public since 1926. It laid down two main reasons for unemployment; the decreasing attraction that agriculture was affording to the people and the increasing importance attached to Government service. In addition to these two causes, our social system had largely contributed to unemployment among the middle classes. Certain occupations are taboo to some classes of people by social custom. My Friend, Mr. Shetty in moving his amendment has sought to do grave injustice to the manual labourers who also are in need of immediate relief. I do not for a moment minimise the misery of the educated unemployed, but I submit that there is no need to discriminate between them and the manual workers without work and that it involves no additional difficulty or expense to undertake measures of relief for both. Sir, I know thousands of people, hand-loom weavers, who have been thrown out of employment on account of competition by the mill industry. I read that during the last budget debate in the Legislative Assembly, with a view to affording relief to the hand-loom industry, the Government of India proposed to give a subsidy, and I do not know what steps the Local Government have taken to take advantage of it. Certainly I find nothing definite yet, though nearly twelve months have passed. In the Coimbatore and surrounding districts, unemployment among hand-loom weavers is very acute, and thousands and thousands of people have been affected. Sir, in any measures which the Government may take in pursuance of the resolution we are discussing, I would respectfully submit that there should be no distinction made as between the educated middle classes and the manual workers, and that they will be comprehensive enough to include the poor workers."

"Sir, it is not possible for me to suggest ways and means over and above what is contained in the report of the unemployment Committee"

[25th January 1935] [Mr. C. Basu Dev]

of 1926, by which immediate relief can be given to the unemployed in this Presidency, except perhaps by distributing the vast acres of Government's cultivable waste land to the unemployed workers. At the present moment of agricultural depression, it is however doubtful if agriculture would afford a livelihood. Relief can be afforded only in gradual stages. One of the first things the Government will have to do is to encourage private enterprise. Sir, capital in this country is very shy and industry is not developed at all. Our capitalists indulge in the very profitable business of money-lending at increasing rates of interest, with the result that by the time the vicious cycle is completed, the capital, the capital is consumed with no commensurate profit to anybody in this country. Sir, we will have to impose restrictions on the rate of interest so that money-lending by itself may not prove an attraction to those that have capital and that capital may be diverted into more useful and profitable directions, calculated to benefit not only the capitalists but also the people of this country. 1 p.m.

"Sir, as I said, I am not in a position to offer any definite constructive suggestion with regard to this question, more than what is contained in the report of the Committee which the Government appointed in 1926 and they have made very useful suggestions. I do not want to repeat them and occupy the very valuable time of the House. I would only request that the Government will be pleased to take very early steps to implement those suggestions and to see that as early as possible some definite progress is made in the direction indicated."

"Already the Government had allowed eight years to pass by and the report had been resting in the archives of the Secretariat. Though unemployment in this country has not assumed the gigantic proportions which it did in other countries, especially in the West it has acquired, it is but proper and statesmanlike for the Government to initiate measures to meet the ever-growing problem of the unemployed. Before I sit down, I submit that whatever may have been the justification in other countries, for the institution of the 'Dole' it is not a step in the right direction."

The House then adjourned for lunch.

After Lunch (3 p.m.)

IV (a).—ANNOUNCEMENT RE BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE.

* The Hon. the PRESIDENT:—"Before we proceed with the business of the House to-day, I wish to give an idea of the business to be transacted on the days following. To-morrow morning the Elementary Education Act (Amending) Bill and the Local Boards Act (Amending) Bill will be taken up and the Madras Services Commission Report will not be placed before the House for its consideration; and to-morrow afternoon the House will not sit. On Monday and Tuesday, the discussion on the Joint Parliamentary Committee Report will take place."

[25th January 1935]

IV.—RESOLUTIONS ON MATTERS OF GENERAL PUBLIC INTEREST—cont.

(1) ALLOTMENT FOR THE RELIEF OF THE UNEMPLOYED—cont.

Mr. P. V. KRISHNAYYA CHUDARI:—"Mr. President, Sir, if we are not given copies of the Local Boards (Amending) Bill which is supposed to have been circulated to us—no doubt it was published in the *Fort St. George Gazette*—it would be difficult for us to take part in the Presidency."

* The Hon. the PRESIDENT:—"The matter may be raised to-morrow morning when the Bill comes up for discussion."

* Mr. T. S. RAMASWAMI AYYAR:—"Mr. President, Sir, I move the following amendment to the resolution proposed by the hon. Dr. Natesa Mudaliyar:—

For the words "that at least a lakh of rupees be set apart from the Provincial revenues to relieve the unemployed in the city and in the mufassal," substitute the words: "that they do take necessary steps to relieve unemployment in the Presidency."

"Sir, my amendment is an amendment both to the original proposition as well as to the amendment proposed by my hon. Friend, Mr. Shetty. The reason why I want to amend the hon. Mr. Shetty's motion is, though we do feel that unemployment is more acute among the educated middle classes than even among the labouring classes, as has been pointed out by Mr. Basu Dev, it is the duty of the Government to relieve unemployment in the case of the uneducated also. I do not want Government to lose sight of the problem when it arises in the case of the uneducated, but as has been pointed out by Mr. Shetty the problem has taken an acute shape in the case of the educated unemployed.

"As regards the original proposition which has been moved by my hon. Friend from the City, Dr. Natesa Mudaliyar, though I sympathise with the whole object of the motion, I feel that it is the duty of this House to bring to the notice of the Government the manner in which they should deal with the problem, rather than merely ask them for a grant of a lakh of rupees. The grant of a lakh of rupees is nothing, when such a huge and colossal problem as the question of unemployment is to be tackled. Unemployment, Sir, it is common knowledge, is a condition that is brought about in industrial countries, and living as we do in an agricultural country like India, and especially in a Presidency which can almost be described as a non-industrial Presidency, it is surprising to note that unemployment should stare us in the face as it does to-day.

"Now, as regards the way in which this question has to be dealt with we can profit by the experience of other countries. In the West, it is only during the last century or so that attempts have been made to solve the problem. In England, the question of unemployment was at first considered a local problem. It was also considered that it was a matter of giving relief to the unemployed. When I say it was a local problem, I mean, it was first considered that this problem arose in the

25th January 1935] [Mr. T. S. Ramaswami Ayyar]

industrial city of London itself and when the question was considered with regard to other places outside London, it was said that a similar solution to the one that was obtaining in London should also be applied there. So, it was first considered a local problem and the way in which the public tried to meet it was to give relief to the unemployed; and the way in which this question was first to be solved was to give relief to the unemployed rather than to find employment for the unemployed. Thus, the result was treated more than even the cause. That was why first voluntary subscriptions and help from local authorities were utilized to give relief to those who did not get employment. The question of unemployment again was at first considered with regard to people who were unemployed, not because they were unable to find any employment suited to their capacities, but also because they were unemployed due to old age or illness or other physical defects. Later on, when this question was taken up on a more rational basis, the Government organized for purposes of administration, the Local Government Board, which was intended to work the Poor Law and to co-ordinate the local authorities in the matter of relief. The co-ordination of charity and the organization of relief found its culmination in the Unemployment Workmen's Act of 1905. It was then considered that it was a question of charity, and that people who suffered for want of employment must be relieved either by the State or by the public. But later on it was found that the unemployed felt humiliation; and as relief was considered to be given as a matter of charity, it was felt that the unemployed were to be given work, as work was considered a more honorable term than charity. But those who gave work considered that the work must be of a deterrent character so that those who did not merit relief should not get relief, so as to say, the unemployed were considered more in the category of criminals. Again, later on, public opinion was concentrated on this question and the whole situation was changed by the 1909 Act establishing Labour Exchanges under the Board of Trade; and by the 1911 National Insurance Act. These two Acts have changed the whole aspect of the question and Government have begun to feel that they owe a duty to the unemployed who are suffering for want of employment due to no fault of theirs, but to charity beyond their control, for example, dislocation in trade or by the character which come about either in cycles or in seasons. These are no domestic matters which are beyond the workman himself. He is not to suffer because though he is willing to work he does not get work. There Government owe a duty to the unemployed. Now they have got the National Insurance scheme and also the establishment of the Labour Exchange. Should we not deal with the unemployment question on our industrial centres on the lines now adopted in England. I am afraid Dr. C. Natesa Mudaliyar's proposition does not indicate that we should gain by the experience of the West.

"Now, Sir, in the Madras Presidency, as I stated at the outset, the question of unemployment is not as acute as in the West because we are not an industrial Presidency, yet for various causes, unemployment obtains here also. As I have already stated, one of the causes

[Mr. T. S. Ramaswami Ayyar] [25th January 1935]

contribute to unemployment here is the seasonal change that comes about in trade or business. We get it also in the main industry, I would call it of this Presidency, Agriculture. During the past few years, owing to depression and fall in prices, agriculture has ceased to pay. That is why we have been complaining again and again to the Government that they should help the agriculturists by the reduction of the hard tax. When agriculture ceases to pay, when the only industry of this Presidency ceases to pay, it is difficult for people to get employment for fewer labourers will be employed by the landholder. The first step in the matter of relieving unemployment is to make agriculture pay.

"As regards the Government's duty towards the educated unemployed, some part of it was done, when at the instance of this Council, they agreed to a reference of this question to a committee; and we have got the report of the Paddison Committee. We have not yet seen what effect has been given by the Government to the recommendations of that committee. The Paddison Committee's recommendations concentrated on the question of unemployment of the educated middle-classes; and taking into consideration that this Presidency was an agricultural Presidency, that committee recommended that the education imparted in schools should have an agricultural bias, that the educated people should be encouraged to take to agriculture and that agricultural colonies should be formed. I would like to know what Government have done to give effect to these recommendations. Will Government be pleased to state how far they have taken measures to remedy the state of affairs. In other provinces, we find that attempts have been made by Governments to encourage the educated unemployed by settling them in colonies. We have got in the Punjab such a system and in other provinces also attempts have been made to ask the educated people to settle on the land. But the Government of this Presidency have not taken any step in that direction. Even as regards the question of even giving an agricultural bias in education, I am afraid very little progress has been made. Government no doubt have got an agricultural college, but I would suggest to Government to make it possible for the curriculum in the various schools in the districts to be so changed as to give an agricultural bias in the educational system. There are various other methods also by which Government can tackle the question. I propose this amendment so as to make it possible for the Government to take measures for dealing with this question in all its bearings. The first and foremost thing that Government has to do in this matter is to collect statistics. Without statistics nothing can be done. I do not know if Government have attempted to collect statistics. Any money that is spent on taking the statistics of the unemployed will be money worth spending. I therefore have great pleasure in moving the amendment that I have proposed."

3-15
P.m.

Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED:—"Mr. President, Sir, I rise to second the amendment moved by the hon. Member for the University of Madras. I do not want to traverse the ground that has already

[25th January 1935] [Mr. Basheer Ahmed Sayeed]

been traversed by my predecessors. What I am concerned with on this occasion is only this. It cannot be denied that unemployment has been growing increasingly from year to year. Ever since the world depression, we have been expecting that there will be some steadying process which will reduce unemployment. Facts seem to be otherwise. Depression has now given the feeling in many quarters that apparently a conflict between scientific advance and economic progress has set in. In the 19th century it was believed that scientific advance always conduced to economic progress and social development. But to-day there are quarters wherein it is felt that scientific advance has been the cause of modern-day ruin and disease towards which people and nations are heading. I do not think that that opinion is really justified. If you begin to analyse the reasons, you can easily come to this conclusion, that the only fault lies in this that the economic progress has failed to keep pace with the scientific advance and advance of technical branch of science. What is to be done? A balance has to be struck in favour of economic progress as against scientific advance and advance of the technicalities of business, trade and profession. Could that be done by any single Government? I say it is impossible. The question has become international and from the international point of view, it has become well nigh impossible to solve these questions of unemployment. What can be done is really that all the nations could put their heads together and raise the purchasing power of the people all over the world. What could this provincial Government do is my question and could that be done by a lakh of rupees being set apart for a problem of this magnitude? The power of consumption has to be raised as against production. As long as there is going to be this uneven balance between production and the purchasing power of the people and the power of consumption, I do not think we can really solve the question. The exchange problem has much to do with this question of depression. As a provincial Government, they could do nothing possibly in this direction. The question is one that affects very many factors which are being brought to the front by several nations, either by way of preserving themselves as against other aggressive nations or by means of modest means to improve their own economic position all of which have to be taken into consideration. There is a high tariff wall which has in its own way contributed towards this depression. Then there is the competition between one country and another. These are all factors to be taken note of. Considering all these things, it will be highly impossible for any provincial Government to solve the problem with a lakh of rupees. You must go into the causes of these deeply and then consider what a provincial Government like this can do. One important suggestion struck me as I read the address of the Secretary to the Legislative Council, the able address which he delivered the other day at the Annamalai University. We have got here hundreds of graduates, educated men, intermediates and University men whom the university goes on producing and there is no provision which can compel the university to limit the production. On the other hand, they have been complaining that the progress of education has been so small and so

[Mr. Basheer Ahmed Sayeed] [25th January 1935]

little that not more than 10 per cent have been educated. I should like on this occasion to quote the very words as I may not express so succinctly:—

‘With hundreds of educated men on one side starving or unhappy for want of employment and a whole mass of the population on the other, not knowing even to read and write, it is surprising that we do nothing to utilize the former for the education and uplift of the latter. With granaries full of corn, we look with unconcern and callousness on our starving countrymen. The great thing in this world is not so much where we are, as whether we are moving and if so in what direction. Drifting or lying at anchor will never enable us to reach our port of heaven.’

“He then suggests, Sir, a committee of educational captains assisted by a small body of public men and philanthropists should be formed at once, either for the whole Presidency or a group of districts or for each district, for the collection of funds and for organizing a widespread scheme of mass education. I suggest here is one suggestion that the Hon. the Finance Member and the Hon. the Minister for Education can put their heads together and solve the unemployment problem. There is one other point. Nations, particularly capitalist nations, have been trying various experiments to pool their resources in order to solve the unemployment problem. They have tried by restrictions on production, but they have not succeeded. People are claiming, in some quarters, that there is a certain amount of success. In other quarters, opinion is held that in spite of these voluntary restrictions no success could be achieved in the direction of solving the unemployment problem. But one thing which has to be tried is this and I suggest it as seriously as I can. There is in this country, as in other countries, a large reserve which lies idle—a reserve of money I say, Sir. People are not now in the present condition willing to invest those funds for any venture. They are not willing to lend out those moneys for private enterprises. They are afraid on account of the depression to lend out that money and until and unless that reserve which lies idle in the hands of capitalists is brought out into the public and invested in private enterprises and unless the Government is going to collect it and turn it out in useful directions, then only there is hope for unemployment. Facts have proved that the moment the Government of India announce a loan, the whole of it is subscribed within an hour or a day or two. If, in this country, either the provincial Government or the Government of India as a whole is to announce a loan of a few crores of rupees—say five crores—money would be subscribed and that money can be utilized for public works. This is being done in Sweden, America, Germany and many other countries and millions and millions of dollars are set apart every year for public works. If the government in this country would also tap this resource and invest them in public works and works of public utility, then certainly, Sir, the question of unemployment would be solved to some extent. The whole problem is baffling and a lakh of rupees will do nothing. Therefore, as the Government should enter into very large schemes of public utility, which would give 4 to 6 per cent return to Government, they must get hold of the uninvested deposits which are in the hands of the capitalists to-day.”

[25th January 1935]

* Mr. V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—“Mr. President, Sir, to a student of labour and economics, there is no subject which is half so fascinating and at the same time baffling as the problem of unemployment and finding measures to combat unemployment. In a country like India which is two-thirds agricultural, no doubt, questions which have become arresting and which are mainly of industrial nature have not taken an acute phase. But even here, Sir, if we look at the large number of our countrymen who are, by force of circumstances, compelled to emigrate elsewhere and seek labour outside, it seems to me that the problem of unemployment is in a large measure unsuspectingly pressing even here. Unemployment, therefore, in this country must be dealt, Sir, from two points of view, viz., industrial unemployment and agricultural unemployment. With regard to agricultural unemployment, large number of our countrymen that have left our shores speaks eloquently to the fact that agricultural conditions are not alright. For instance, it may be of some surprise to the hon. Members of this House if they are told that as many as six lakhs of South Indians are settled in the province of Ceylon alone. Similarly thousands of people from this Presidency have to take up service in Malaya and other places because their home land does not afford them sufficient employment to eke out their livelihood. Sir, such large emigrations have presented peculiar problems to our country and all over countries like Ceylon and South Africa and Kenya where hundreds and thousands of our Presidency people have settled are planning to drive them back. Some of the Colonial labour questions, I dare say, have received some attention from the Government of India and is still waiting a final solution. We shall, for the present, confine ourselves to the question of unemployment both industrial and agricultural. Sir, at a modest estimate it seems to me that in this Presidency that out of 48 millions of people, leaving the female population apart, out of 24 millions of male population in this Presidency, at least 7 to 8 millions are unemployed. I think, Sir, it is a very modest estimate upon which we can act. As some other hon. Members have asked, one is tempted to ask what has been done to compile accurate statistics with regard to the unemployed people in this Presidency and what steps have been taken by the Madras Government for combating unemployment.

“Sir, various causes have been assigned for the problem of unemployment becoming greater and greater and more pressing every day. One main cause that has been suggested by my hon. Friend, the Member for South Arcot, Mr. Basheer Ahmed Sayeed, is that of mal-adjustment between production and distribution, and that the purchasing power of the people must be increased in order that all that is produced may be consumed. No doubt, that has been in a large measure responsible. But a far deeper cause of unemployment, so far as the industrial world is concerned, seems to be that society has not adjusted itself to the scheme of rationalisation in industry, to the greater introduction of machinery, which, instead of freeing man to enjoy leisure

[Mr. V. M. Ramaswami Mudaliyar] [25th January 1935]

and to use it to develop his art and culture, has only driven him out into the street and to starve. Sir, this maladjustment of the progress of science and benefits of machinery with the progress of society in general has been the root cause of this acute distress. Sir, it was only the other day that Mr. Lansbury forcibly reminded the House of Parliament that all the money that is spent on giving relief to the unemployed persons in England for an entire year would be much less than what was spent on a week's expenditure in the Great War. Sir, this is a problem which every civilised country thinks it fit to tackle and to solve. Therefore, I must congratulate the hon. Member for the City, Mr. Natesa Mudaliyar, for having brought this resolution before this Council in order to focus public attention on the urgent necessity of tackling the question of unemployment and finding out ways and means for the solution of the great problem. Sir, the pessimistic view taken by my hon. Friend, Mr. Basheer Ahmed, that the very character of the problem which is international is at once an obstacle in the way of getting out of it is not shared by me. The problem may be of international character and may be finally capable of only an international solution. But, Sir, a government like ours, just like the governments of various different countries of the world, can solve the problem in a large measure, and I will only content myself by placing a few constructive suggestions very humbly before the Government for them to act upon.

"In the first place, I would invite their attention to a very useful book on 'Planned Economy' by Sir M. Visweswarayya, a great economist and a statesman of the first order, that South India has produced. In his book which he published recently, he has given an idea of what is meant by planned industrial expansion, that no agricultural country by itself can ever have a front rank in the economy of nations, and that if a province like Madras or Mysore or Hyderabad is to expect development of agriculture to go hand in hand with a settled plan of industrial expansion, the Government must deem it their duty to help, to facilitate and to expedite industrial expansion by well thought-out programmes of new industries.

"Sir, there is another method which the Government may act upon easily, which will certainly at least be a palliative for the distress that is prevalent, and that is to embark upon big public works and to have plans and estimates for them. A few months ago, the Hon. the Chief Minister, in reply to an address that was presented to him, said that the Government contemplate embarking upon a scheme of public works, and I thought, Sir, that that will have taken some concrete shape during the last few weeks that have now elapsed. For one thing, I may suggest to the Hon. Member in charge of the Labour portfolio that communications in this Presidency from village roads to trunk roads and between one village and another which are so notoriously lacking that it has invited the attention of several persons who have had experience of local self-government may be improved. That is one proposal

25th January 1935] [Mr. V. M. Ramaswami Mudaliyar]

which the Government may immediately act upon, namely, the extension of communications between villages and villages and between one town and another, for the purpose of giving relief to the unemployed agriculturists and possibly also to industrialists. Sir, planting of forests, cutting of forests, big public works and irrigation schemes, these are certain things which the Government may take upon themselves the responsibility for ushering in. I think no Government can at this stage say that they have nothing to do with the problem and that they owe no duty to engage themselves with the solution of this question. More and more we see before our very eyes Governments taking measures and taking power for the relief of the unemployed.

"Now, in this country there are large extents of cultivable lands, and I would suggest that Government should take power to compel people who are unemployed to go and work in those labour camps to be opened by them, and bring those lands under cultivation. Again, I would suggest that a conference between the Government representatives, representatives of trade unions and the representatives of employers may be called to think over the idea of reducing the number of hours of work in the various factories in order to provide more persons with work. Sir, this is not a suggestion which can be scoffed at, because this is a proposal which is being acted upon before our very eyes and embodied as one of the rules of the Code in the National Recovery Act, namely, shorter hours, same pay and more men being employed. Sir, labour exchanges and unemployment bureaux may be opened at various centres at least in all the towns and municipalities of this Presidency, so that we may have accurate figures culled out and compiled out for the use of the Government when they want to tackle this question in right earnest.

"Sir, there is also one thing which has largely contributed to giving the unemployed persons an acute and distressing turn, and that is the breaking up of the joint family system among the Hindus. The joint family system was to a large extent acting as an insurance system against unemployment, because a number of persons were being fed and given shelter under the system whereby one person earned while a number of other persons lived at his expense. So, Sir, those are certain proposals which I wanted to place before this House as a method of solving unemployment."

* The Hon. Rao Bahadur A. T. PANNIRSELVAM:—"Mr. President, Sir, I might begin by saying that the object underlying the resolution moved by the hon. Member for the City appears to be altogether unexceptionable, and I may also state that no one would be happier than the Government themselves to do what little we can—as much as we can—to relieve unemployment and to see that there is absolutely no one unemployed in this province. I may further state that the question of unemployment and the relief that is to be afforded is one that is calculated to rouse the sympathy of every one, and it seems to me that it is entirely due to the characteristic large-heartedness of the hon.

[Mr. A. T. Pannirselvam] [25th January 1935]

Member for the City that it has fallen to his lot to sponsor this resolution. As we all know, his large-heartedness and his sympathies know no limitations, and every one of whatever community whether educated or uneducated, whether they be residents of the city or occupants of villages, come within his all embracing sympathy. I am glad to state that he alone among the speakers of to-day has taken into his sympathetic consideration the position of the Government as well, in that he has limited his demand to one lakh of rupees; for while his demand is limited to one lakh of rupees, the recommendations, if the other two amendments were to be accepted, would land us, we do not know, where. But while the resolution is one which has, as I said, our sympathy, we have also in considering the question in concrete to take account of realities. We have been talking of relieving unemployment. Have we, each one of us, in our own minds a clear idea of what we mean by the term 'unemployed?' It seems to me, Sir, that the unemployed can be classified under various heads. We have the educated unemployed and the uneducated unemployed; we have again what I might term urban unemployed and rural unemployed, or to put it differently industrial unemployment and agricultural unemployment. In taking account of these various unemployed, we in our country, which is proverbial for providing charity to every one that comes to our doors, cannot leave out of account that horde of people who, day in and day out, feed at the various choultries that we find scattered in our province, nor can we ignore the numberless beggars of whom it is impossible to have accurate figures.

"I come now to the question of the educated unemployed, of whom the hon. Member for South Kanara has been a stalwart champion and whose cause he ably pleaded to-day almost to the exclusion of others, who are more numerous namely the uneducated unemployed, who also stand in need of relief. The question of the educated unemployed has been engaging the attention of the Government for a considerable number of years, in fact, so far back as 1927, a special Committee was appointed to go into the matter. They considered it in detail and submitted proposals to the Government, in respect of which more than one hon. Member said that nothing had been done by the Government. All that I can say is that the Government has not slept over those recommendations. (Mr. U. C. Subrahmanya Bhatt: 'What has it done?') If the hon. Member from South Kanara will wait, I shall explain what has been done. One of the main recommendations of that Committee was—

'That small farms of land at the disposal of the Government should be made available for middle-class educated young men who possess no land at present on long lease with the option of purchasing them and loans and other facilities for agricultural purposes should be made to such agriculturists for the purpose of developing their holdings.'

"That was the main proposal submitted by the Committee to the Government, as far as I could see. There are also others to which I shall refer immediately but which are only subsidiary. The Committee which had been appointed to suggest ways and means of ameliorating

[25th January 1935] [Mr. A. T. Pannirselvam]

the conditions of the educated unemployed concerned itself with the educated alone, and in submitting that proposal, I should respectfully submit, ignored the claims of the uneducated unemployed. Because the moment you thought of alienating lands at the disposal of the Government to residents of the towns just because they happened to possess a Secondary School-leaving Certificate or for that matter even the degree from the University of Madras, we shall be immediately provoking the jealousies of the village people, and they would have said, 'We have got the first claim on that.'

"We are now concerned with the recommendations of the committee appointed to ameliorate the condition of the educated unemployed. (Interruption.) I am afraid Mr. President, I cannot be answering every interruption that crops up."

* The Hon. the PRESIDENT:—"The Hon. Member need not yield to those interruptions."

* The Hon. Mr. A. T. PANNIRSELVAM:—"That question was considered, the various difficulties that were likely to crop up were considered by Government from every point of view, and ultimately when they sought the advice of the Agricultural Advisory Committee, they were informed that there was hardly any land suitable for cultivation for such a scheme. That was the advice tendered by that expert body and so it was dropped. (A voice: 'Easiest solution'.)"

"Next, Sir, the other recommendations were on the lines suggested by the hon. Member for the University, that is, that education should be given an agricultural bias. Instructions were issued on that matter also and I believe my hon. Colleague the Minister for Education did not sleep over the matter. But all I can say, Sir, with the little experience I have had, in trying to give an agricultural bias to secondary education, I am only reminded of the saying that 'one can take a horse to the water, but one cannot make it drink'. In my own district, as President of the District Board, in one high school which I thought was most centrally situated for agricultural purposes, we created a section for agriculture and tried to induce the boys to take to it, but we found that hardly three a year would avail themselves of the opportunity. If that is the example of the interest evinced in agricultural education in a premier district, I believe the experience of the Hon. Minister for Education could not have been very much different. Further, Sir, I should submit that this is a matter which had better be tackled by the University of which my hon. Member is a worthy representative in this House than by the Government itself. The Government could at best issue instructions to the academic body such as the University and other bodies constituted for the purpose and it would be for them to give the agricultural bias or the industrial bias. Apart from that, it seems to me that this is really a question for the future. This proposition is concerned with the uneducated of the present day. Giving agricultural or industrial bias in our

[Mr. A. T. Pannirselvam] [25th January 1935]

schools and colleges might perhaps tend in future to divert the pupil to more useful sources of earning a livelihood than mere government service. But it seems to me that is hardly going to touch the problem of to-day. I do not know how we are to-day better situated than we were when this committee submitted its recommendations and whether we could very usefully go into the question of tackling unemployment among the educated. The hon. Member for the University was blaming the Government for having introduced its policy of retrenchment, and he also had a fling at the Railways for sending out people as a measure of economy. All I can say is that neither Government offices nor for that matter the railway workshops can afford to be charitable institutions employing more men than work in those offices does actually require.

“Turning now to unemployment among the uneducated, and dealing first with the agricultural unemployed, it seems to me that it is again a question which bristles with any amount of difficulties. I do admit that among the agriculturists there is seasonal unemployment, if you like. In certain places they have got work, intensive work, to do during a particular portion of the year, while there is what I might term the idle period during which perforce they have to remain unemployed. At the working period they are expected to put by a certain quantity to meet the needs of what I termed the idle period. As regards the unemployed among the industrial labourers who in a province like ours which is essentially agricultural, are made up to a large extent of people who are drawn during particular periods from the agricultural areas, there again the problem is considerably complicated by the difficulty of distinguishing the real unemployed from those who are able to find shelter in charitable choultries and other eating houses and from those who have made begging a profession. (Mr. V. M. Ramaswami Mudaliar: ‘Labourers!’) I do not for a moment question the statement of my hon. Friend from North Arcot, but the difficulty is how to distinguish the one from the other. I am mentioning all these things not by any means with a view to shirking the responsibility of Government but only to impress on the hon. Members of the House the tremendous difficulties which this problem bristles with and the colossal task which the Government are expected to undertake in trying to gather statistics and figures for the purpose of relieving unemployment. As regards the one lakh of rupees the hon. Member for the City wants to be put down towards this item, I am at a loss to know as to the manner in which that one lakh is to be spent. Does he intend it to be distributed as doles to people who may be classified as unemployed? And assuming that that is done what relief will we really be affording to the poor thereby? It seems to me that talking of one lakh and relief of unemployment at the same breath is very much like the Tamil proverb which speaks of a man attempting to season the water in the ocean with a pound of asafetida. It will hardly touch the fringe of this problem. (Mr. Koti

25th January 1935] [Mr. A. T. Pannirselvam]

Reddi: ‘At least one lakh.’) This interruption makes me think that the hon. Members are under the impression that the Government have so far done nothing at all towards relieving unemployment. It may be that we have not put down in the Budget any item as so much for the unemployed, but I shall just recount the amount of money that has been spent by Government in what may be termed the relief of unemployed, or rather putting it the other way, in affording work to people who otherwise might have to go on without work. Yesterday the hon. Member for the City was treating us to portions of a book in which it was stated that the State in Germany was providing medical aid to the poor people. Have we not in this province been providing medical aid to the people, rich or poor? You know in Western countries most of these hospitals and dispensaries are really run by private bodies out of public subscription. Here, barring a few missionary institutions and one or two hospitals run by a philanthropic society, has not the rest of all medical relief in the province been afforded by Government at the expense of the exchequer?

“Again, Sir, referring to slum clearance, have we not been doing that? For the last few years we have been endeavouring to acquire house-sites for the depressed classes and help them to put up houses so that they might live in decent dwellings of their own? Is it not clearing of slums? Is that not relief afforded to the poor and the needy?

“Then again, my hon. Friend the Chief Minister has been providing year after year in his Budget for sums to be distributed to the local bodies for the purpose of opening village roads and sinking village wells. Is that not money spent for the purpose of affording relief to the poor and the needy? Does he not thereby afford work to the unemployed in rural areas? Then again, are we not expending money on public works, repairing river banks, etc.? (A voice: ‘That is routine.’) If hon. Members want it, we shall put it down under the glorified title of—if not five-years plan—we can call it one year plan. The Chief Minister has been spending in the matter of village communications and water-supply. (A voice: ‘Very little.’) I am sure the Hon. the Chief Minister will thank the Muhammadan Member for South Arcot for saying it is very little, and if the House will only find the money to make larger contributions for the purpose of developing rural communications none would be more thankful than the Government, and to-day are we not endeavouring to conceive of one all-embracing plan for the purpose of developing road communications? Hon. Members are aware that one engineer has been specially deputed to draw up a scheme which will cover the whole province for the purpose of developing communications.

“Then, Sir, the hon. Member from North Arcot suggested shorter hours of work. There again I believe he is just a day after the fair. The new Factory Act which prescribes shorter hours has already come into force. (Interruption.) I believe the hon. Member should get into

[Mr. A. T. Pannirselvam] [25th January 1935]

the Assembly and move it there. Anyhow the number of hours have been reduced.

"As regards cultivable waste lands, as the hon. Member from South Arcot asserts I know there is very little of really useful cultivable land that is left which can be distributed to persons who have passed the B.Sc. This is to show that in the past the Government have not been ignoring the claims of poor people and have not altogether failed to take steps to provide work for really needy people, and to-day I believe the hon. the Leader of the House has fairly big schemes under his consideration, one of which is the question of silt clearance of the irrigation tanks, a task which if ultimately taken up would cost a considerable amount, every pie of which will return to the pockets of the poor unemployed or the poor labourer and thereby a certain amount of relief will be afforded to him.

4 p.m. "Sir, the coming in at this moment of the Hon. the Law Member reminds me how, just the other day, he launched a big scheme costing Rs. 21 lakhs. Is that not going to afford relief to the unemployed to a considerable extent? Will not the supply of electricity to Coimbatore stimulate industrial activities and afford relief to the unemployed? (Mr. Basheer Ahmed Sayeed: 'It will give relief only to the industrials abroad.') When once you generate electricity in Coimbatore or Pykara it will stimulate the industries of the place and if foreigners are going to take all the advantage of this industrial activity of Coimbatore we cannot congratulate ourselves on our capacity to rise to the occasion.

"Sir, if I have said all this, it is not by any means to shirk any responsibility on our part or that we are not in the fullest sympathy with the resolution moved by my hon. Friend for the City. (A voice: 'What is your solution?') Sir, I am afraid I am not a magician to throw out solutions at a moment's notice. I can, however, give this assurance to the House that the discussions of this day and the various arguments that have been advanced by various members would receive the fullest consideration of the Government. We shall certainly go into this matter with the assistance of our advisers and see if we can adopt any greater measures than hitherto to ameliorate the condition of or to relieve the unemployed."

Mr. V. P. NARAYANAN NAMBIYAR:—"I move that the question be now put."

Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED:—"I second it."

The closure motion was put and carried.

Rao Bahadur C. NATESA MUDALIYAR:—"Sir, I had no chance to reply."

* The Hon. the PRESIDENT:—"The closure motion has been carried. Is the hon. Member proposing to withdraw his motion?"

25th January 1935]

Rao Bahadur C. NATESA MUDALIYAR:—"No, Sir."

The amendment of Mr. T. S. Ramaswami Ayyar was put and carried and then the main resolution as amended was put and carried.

(2) REDUCTION OF TAX ON FRUIT-BEARING TREES.

Diwan Bahadur M. GOPALASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—"Mr. President, Sir, I move the resolution on the agenda standing in my name, viz., 'This council recommends to the Government that the 2-C tree-tax on the first-class fruit-bearing trees such as the coconut, the mango, the tamarind and the jack trees may be reduced from eight annas to its old rates.'

"Sir, I do not think many words are needed from me to commend this motion to the acceptance of the House. In view of the fact that there is a widespread feeling that there is good deal of economic depression and the fact that we have been able to pass yesterday a resolution recommending the grant of relief to the taxpayer, I do not propose to take up the time of the House by dwelling at length on this motion. I hope the hon. Member will accept my resolution which is a very modest one recommending going back to the old rates."

Mr. K. KOTI REDDI:—"I second the motion."

* The Hon. Mr. C. A. SOUTER:—"Mr. President, Sir, I have not heard any argument in support of this motion. (Laughter.) Perhaps the hon. Mover will be glad to be informed that the Government have recently asked the Board of Revenue to report on this matter and that the matter is under consideration. I cannot say anything further than that, because I have not had time to examine the subject connected with this motion. Until I get facts and figures I cannot say anything definite on the question. But, if the hon. Member wishes to press his resolution, I am afraid I must oppose it. It is interesting to note that the hon. Member did not say if this tax pressed heavily on either the Tanjore district which is probably at the back of this agitation or any other particular district. I am certain that the hon. Member could not have referred to the Ceded districts, for, I suppose there is not a single jack tree in the whole of the Ceded districts. (Loud laughter.) However, I would assure the hon. Mover that the matter will be examined. But if he presses it, I must oppose it." (Laughter.)

The resolution was by leave withdrawn.

(3) CANCELLATION OF G.O. NO. 1238, REVENUE, DATED 14TH JULY 1933.

* Mr. A. PL. N. V. NADIMUTHU PILLAI:—"Mr. President, I beg to move the following resolution:—

'This council recommends to the Government that G.O. No. 1238, Revenue, dated 14th July 1933, raising the classification of irrigation sources in the Tanjore district be cancelled.'

[Mr. A. Pl. N. V. Nadimuthu Pillai] [25th January 1935]

"In moving this resolution, Mr. President, I do not want to explain elaborately to the hon. Members of this House about the present plight of the mirasdars of my district who are groaning under the weight of taxation in these days of economic depression which has taken a firm grip. All over the world drastic remedial measures have been adopted to alleviate the sufferings of the people and especially the agriculturists. But this Government, deaf to all popular agitation and the wail of the Tanjore mirasdars in particular, are trying, I very much regret to say, to increase the burden of the mirasdars by increasing the water-rates and by ordering a reclassification of irrigation sources in this district. By such a reclassification, about 378,200 acres of the second class are to be raised to the first class and about 132,000 acres of third class are to be raised to second class. On account of this, the landholders of this district will be called upon to pay roughly six lakhs of rupees more by way of revenue including the land-cess payable to local bodies. In my speeches on 15th March 1933 and 13th March 1933 on the floor of this House I suggested to Government the desirability and the necessity of the formation of a committee of officials and non-officials to consider the question of reducing the percentage of return from irrigation schemes from 6 per cent to 3 per cent and for tapping other sources of revenue, namely, by developing 15,000 acres of cultivable waste lands irrigated by the Mettur project. Without seeking fresh avenues which are available for increasing the revenue and while substantial relief is given to the agriculturists by the other local Governments like Punjab and United Provinces, the Madras Government are pursuing a course of administration which ignores the fact that the agriculturists in this Province are passing through a crisis unparalleled in living memory. As far as the district of Tanjore is concerned the Government have substantially increased the water-rate by Rs. 7-8-0 per acre on second crop wet under new udu cultivation and they have ordered this reclassification of irrigation sources. The additional revenue the Government propose to take will be roughly ten lakhs including cesses. When the Government have accepted the policy of collecting the increased rates of assessment at a resettlement in three years of gradual increase it is fundamentally wrong that the said increase of ten lakhs which is roughly about 15 per cent increase on the existing assessment should be collected all on a sudden in one year.

"According to Government Order No. 2684 (Irrigation), dated 19th January 1932, the classification of sources could be altered or raised only after the improvements mentioned therein are carried out. Many of them still remain unexecuted: some were taken up only after the cultivation season began and the benefits are yet to be seen. The Government cannot but be aware of the fact that the ryot's rupee costs him now twice as much as it did before the depression. For the payment of the land revenue and interest charges he has to sell double the quantity of paddy or his produce and the outturn from his

25th January 1935] [Mr. A. Pl. N. V. Nadimuthu Pillai]

lands has in no way increased. When such is the state of things the further increase of his existing obligations at the present juncture by increasing the assessment through reclassification of irrigation sources is unjustifiable and illegal. Illegal because by the resettlement a contract is made between the Government and the ryot by the issue of a rough patta which is afterwards confirmed after inviting objections. The resettlement notification has not reserved the right to Government to change the taras and sources of irrigation as they please. ('Hear, hear.') This Government Order violates the terms of the contract without the concurrence of the pattadar. It has been stated by Government that on account of the Mettur Dam the additional levy of taxation by reclassification of sources is to be made and that provision was made for the same at the time of resettlement. But I may inform this House that the Mettur Dam was only the bare part-performance of long-neglected declarations of the Government and so it cannot be used as a scheme for imposing additional liabilities upon the old delta. ('Hear, hear.') This Mettur Project was launched in the interest of the Government as a mere Flood Moderator calculated to avoid recurring loss of revenue and abnormal drought and flood remissions as incurred by Government between 1921 and 1931 throughout Tanjore and Trichinopoly districts. In the deltaic systems of Kistna and Godavari where the Government receive much less by way of land revenue than what they do from this district, Government themselves clear the silt in the rivers. (Mr. P. V. Krishnayya Choudari: 'Question.') The rivers of the Tanjore district have silted up and the Government have not done anything to have the silt cleared. The late Revenue Member did not make any earnest attempt to attend to the burning question of the district, namely, the drainage question. Though the late lamented Diwan Bahadur Arokiaswami Mudaliyar pointed out in the year 1931-32 in this Council, the drainage difficulties of the Pamaniyar and the Korayar, no remedial measures have yet been taken by the Government. In this connexion one cannot ignore the articles written in the *Hindu*, dated 10th October 1934, by the retired Chief Engineer Diwan Bahadur N. Swaminatha Ayyar and I cannot but quote the following extracts from the same:—

"The Cauvery irrigation system is already highly remunerative and the accumulated surplus revenue will be not 445 lakhs of rupees as stated in the Government administration report but 25 crores, the system having been in operation for 64 years. If we now take into consideration the fact that the main functions of the Mettur Reservoir is to stabilize the already fluctuating river-flood supplies and in so doing the surplus waters are utilized for the irrigation of three lakhs of acres and treat it as part and parcel of the Cauvery Delta System. The figures representing the capital and the net revenue will work out to 809 lakhs and 42 lakhs respectively, that is, a return of over 5 per cent. Thus the entire cost of the Cauvery-Mettur Project will be justified by the revenue already derived from the existing revenue system. If the new Cauvery-Mettur Project is treated as part and parcel of the old delta system the revenues derived from the latter alone more than covers all working expenses and interest charges, leaving the whole of the revenue derived from the new project as surplus profits. It would then be possible and easy for Government to levy water-rates suited to the condition obtaining now and thus help the poor alarmed ryots also to bring about the rapid growth of irrigation in the new area."

[Mr. A. Pl. N. V. Nadimuthu Pillai] [25th January 1935]

"The Government have not realized that the agriculturist contributes the largest share of the revenue of the land and that the prosperity of the Government is intertwined with that of the ryot. By reluctantly suspending only 10 and 15/16 per cent of the land revenue the Government are really increasing the sum payable by more than 15 per cent by imposing a heavy water-rate and reclassification of sources. Thus the Tanjore ryot will have to pay about 5 per cent more than what he is now actually paying by way of land revenue. This policy is clearly blind to the economic condition of the ryot and unless the Government immediately redress the grievances of the ryots and improve their condition by cancelling all new taxation and substantially reducing the land revenue fixed by the last settlement by at least 33½ per cent the present ill-advised policy of the Government is sure to create disaffection among the ryots."

4-15
p.m.

MR. G. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR:—"Mr. President, Sir, it is needless for me to point out how in these hard times the ryots find it difficult to pay even the existing rate of assessment from out of the produce of the land. The Council has repeatedly pointed out the inequity of levying additional taxation under the present conditions when the existing rate of taxation itself is far too high and unbearable. The Government themselves have admitted that the existing rates were high and passed orders remitting a portion thereof last year and this year. It is therefore surprising that they should have chosen to enhance the assessments by means of these orders, which are the subject-matter of resolution standing in the name of my hon. Friend, Mr. Siva Subramania Ayyar. According to the last settlement report about 158,000 acres which were till then classified under second-class irrigation sources were proposed to be reclassified under third class. By the present reclassification about 365,000 acres of land under second-class irrigation and 125,000 under third class as settled in 1923 are proposed to be raised to the next higher class, the resulting additional burden being more than Rs. 5 lakhs. The enhancement is sought to be justified on the ground of certain powers having been reserved to Government at the time of the last settlement."

"Sir, so far as the lands in the old delta are concerned, the Mettur Project was only intended for the protection of existing irrigation. Several responsible officers have from time to time drawn attention to the defects in the irrigation and drainage systems of the deltaic lands; I do not propose to take up the time of the House by reading out extracts of the views of all the officers. I would only place before the Government the views expressed by some of the eminent officers such as Sir Henry Cotton in 1834, Mr. Thompson as Collector of Tanjore and later as acting Governor of Madras and Mr. Jackson as Settlement Officer in charge of settlement operations. Their reports clearly show that there have been grave defects in the irrigation and drainage system of the delta and notwithstanding such clearly-expressed views, the Government have not done anything to improve the drainage facilities in the old delta. Nor have they given effect to the recommendations

25th January 1935] [Mr. G. Ranganatha Mudaliyar]

of the Cauvery Committee regarding the rectification of the defects. If Mettur could be said to have improved irrigation facilities in the old delta, it is, I say, but a part performance of the obligations due to the Tanjore ryots. I wish to point out here that the Government cannot claim that by a more steady supply of water they have improved the sources of irrigation so as to justify a reclassification of the lands. In the Tanjore delta owing to utter lack of drainage facilities and the silted condition of the river channels which are not properly maintained by the Public Works Department, these defects still exist and it is here that people have been assured a steady supply of water from the Cauvery-Mettur Reservoir. This has not appreciably improved the situation. So far as the old delta is concerned, there has been improvement or rectification and none of the three conditions justifying a reclassification has been fulfilled. The Board's Standing Order No. 1, paragraph 2, lays down that the classification into tarams is based on the outturn irrespective of the source of irrigation. Any revision of the existing classification as to taram can only be made in case there is a change in the outturn. The Government should have therefore waited till the harvest of the fasli is over to satisfy themselves and the ryots that there has been an increase in the outturn such as to warrant the step. There is nothing to show that lands have improved in productive capacity. It is only a theoretical assumption on the part of the Government that irrigation sources have improved and consequently production is bound to increase. I may, in this connexion, point out that there is absolutely no likelihood of an increased outturn. It is notorious that as a result of the supply of stagnant water from the Mettur Dam, the silt which served as a fertilizer has considerably decreased in quantity. I may also point out that the existing rates based on the water-supply are against the recommendations of the Taxation Enquiry Committee which are to the effect that water-rates should vary according to the demand for water and the quality of water that is supplied. I should also like to point out that the action of the Government in raising the assessment during the currency of the 1923 settlement rates is unjust and is a negation of their avowed policy as laid down in their order No. 924, dated 18th June 1924. This order clearly lays down that the maximum enhancement on lands should not exceed 18½ per cent of the previous settlement rates. In Tanjore at the resettlement of 1923 there has been a uniform increase of 18½ per cent over the then existing rates. It will manifestly be unjust to circumvent the order by resorting to reclassification. Referring to the argument that the Mettur Project is intended to benefit solely the Tanjore ryots and that therefore they should pay for it and the ryots in other parts of the Presidency should not be made to pay for it, I submit that the revenue derived from the Tanjore ryots during the last one hundred years and more has gone to fill the general coffers of the State and any benefit that might now be got by Tanjore by the project is something which is legitimately due to it for taxes ungrudgingly paid all these years.

[Mr. G. Ranganatha Mudaliyar] [25th January 1935]

"The lot of the agriculturist in this Province is highly deplorable and that of the ryot is worse still. Circumstances are driving the ryot to ruin and despair. As has been repeatedly pointed out to the Government and as the statistics will show, there is absolutely nothing left to the ryots after meeting the cultivation expenses. With such a condition before them and with the prices of paddy at an abnormally low level and financial depression all round, the step taken by the Government in issuing the order in question and indirectly raising the assessment by about 20 per cent is, to say the least, highly unjust and totally inexpedient.

"With these few words, I second the resolution."

* Mr. K. S. SIVASUBRAHMANYA AYYAR:—"I beg to move the amendment that stands in my name which runs as follows:—

'In line 3 after the words "Tanjore district" add the words and figures "and G.O. No. 474, Revenue, dated 15th March 1935, levying additional water-rates in respect of udu, double crop, etc., and G.O. No. 1853, Revenue, dated 5th September 1932, prescribing rules and rates for the levy of water charge.'

"That the effects of the Government Orders are wide and far-reaching need not be much emphasized, and I need not waste the time of the House in treading over the same ground which the Mover and the Seconder have traversed. They have dealt with G.O. No. 1238 threadbare and I do not propose to take up the time of the House by advancing reasons in support of this motion. G.O. No. 474 aims at levying a uniform water-rate of Rs. 7-8-0 on udu and double-crop lands, etc. I want to bring to the notice of this House some of the irregularities involved in it. The owner of an acre of 8th taram land for which Rs. 5-15-0 is being paid as kist now, for a first crop and half of it for a second, will have to pay hereafter Rs. 7-8-0 for the second crop alone in addition to his assessment for the first. It has been clearly admitted by the Government that the second-crop yield will be much less than the first-crop yield.

"Then with regard to udu cultivation it has been specifically stated by the Settlement Officer at the time of resettlement and approved by the Government that udu is single crop and udu cannot be considered as a second-crop cultivation though harvested two times. The Government on the representation of the mirasidars of the district have passed orders that the lands in which udu has been cultivated hitherto will be exempted from being levied a water-rate of Rs. 7-8-0 for the udu crop; but that instruction has not been strictly followed by the subordinate officers of the Government and in the list published in the District Gazette several lands on which udu cultivation has been hitherto done, have been omitted. Even when this was brought to the notice of the officers concerned, they have not cared to rectify it the reasons being that the old records have been in some cases destroyed; and that the

[Mr. K. S. Sivasubrahmanya Ayyar] 25th January 1935]

Government officers did not carefully verify whether in the past a particular land had been cultivated with udu or not since the Government had not derived any additional taxation from udu cultivation.

"I would request the Hon. the Revenue Member to issue instructions to the officers concerned to ask the ryots again whether they have at any time had udu cultivation on their lands and take them into their confidence before a list of survey numbers of lands on which there had been udu cultivation is prepared. 4-30 P.m.

"With regard to G.O. No. 1853, this is what the Hon. Sir Archibald Campbell was pleased to say in reply to the debate on my adjournment motion on 8th November 1932:—

"If, as is likely, we come to the conclusion that it has not really acted as a flood moderator this year, then we shall amend the rules, so that the new rates will not be put on the old delta but only on that portion of the area which has been newly brought under irrigation under the Mettur Project through the Vadavār extension canal."

"Since then, there have been no floods in my district fortunately and the Government have not had an opportunity to test whether the Mettur Dam has acted as a flood moderator or not. But the economic conditions prevailing to-day are worse and not better than those which prevailed in 1932. Therefore the Government are not justified in levying this tax without verifying whether the Dam has acted as a flood moderator or not. I request the Government to reconsider the matter and see that the promise held out to us is fulfilled. In the course of the same debate, the Hon. Sir Archibald Campbell also said:

"The main canals are contour canals and irrigated land is practically all on one side of the Grand Anicut Canal; the result is that the drainage water will flow into existing streams and rivers and we do not have to use drainage channels as irrigation channels, as is done in present Tanjore delta."

"Therefore, Sir, instead of the Mettur Dam acting as a flood moderator, as has been admitted by the then Revenue Member it has added to the drainage problems of the old delta. The new channels are emptying themselves into the old rivers; so much so the drainage problem of the district which is already bad, has been made worse and the ryots are put to very great loss. The Hon. Member has also admitted in the course of the reply to the debate that no provision has been made for the drainage of the Mettur Project area. Therefore the Mettur Dam instead of acting as a flood moderator has added to the drainage problems of the old delta. There is no justification for raising the classification now.

"In the forecast of revenue under the Mettur Project which was placed before the Council, nowhere has it been said that the tax on dry lands in the old delta would be raised. If G.O. No. 1853 is given effect to, these lands will be taxed very heavily and the people will suffer very much. Besides, the inam lands upon whose income many charitable institutions like temples and mosques depend, would be put to very great loss. For instance, I have been informed that the Dharmapuram Adhinam which is in charge of the Vytheeswarankoil temple and which

[Mr. K. S. Sivasubrahmanya Ayyar] [25th January 1935]

has 3,000 acres now and pays Rs. 3,200 by way of land-cess, kaval fees, jodi and quit-rent will be asked to pay Rs. 25,000 if the Government Order is given effect to. The inam lands which were granted to these institutions by the old Rajas and confirmed later on by the Inam Commissioner would now be taxed contrary to law and the famous Urlam decision. It is doubtful whether the Government's position will stand in a Court of law. Besides, these religious institutions will have to be closed once for all and the intentions of the donors will be frustrated. I would appeal to the Hon. the Revenue Member to see that as the levy of these rates on inam lands is contrary to law, it is cancelled.

"As for G.O. No. 1238, what the Government aim at is to go back on the settlement policy long followed by them, that is to say, to effect a resettlement within ten years of a settlement and thus alter the contract unilaterally though ordinarily the settlement once made should run for thirty years before another resettlement is made. I do not think that the Government, however powerful they may be, can go back upon this contract which should run for thirty years. In passing their orders on the scheme report of the Settlement Officer in G.O. No. 1537, Revenue, dated 25th August 1922, the Government have reserved powers only so far as the upland sources are concerned. I refer in this connexion to paragraph 7 of the Government Order. There is no power reserved in that Government Order so far as the old delta is concerned. The power reserved under paragraph 9 (b) of G.O. No. 2219, dated 12th December 1922, relates only to those portions of land that have been transferred from second class to third class by the Settlement Officer. It is doubtful if the Government have got any power, but if they have got any power it is only with regard to lands which have been transferred to the third class at the time of the settlement by the Settlement Officer. With these words, Sir, I move my amendment and I hope the Government will take into consideration the economic condition of the people and their capacity to pay the enhanced tax now. I appeal to the Government to consider the case sympathetically."

* Mr. T. S. RAMASWAMI AYYAR:—"I desire to second the amendment moved by my hon. Friend, Mr. Sivasubrahmanya Ayyar. The Government have chosen an inopportune time to increase the tarams in the Tanjore district. As has been pointed out by hon. Members coming from other districts, such as South Kanara, this is not the time for increasing the rates at all. The Government claim that the new Mettur Dam has really given better irrigation and drainage facilities to the Tanjore district and therefore they are entitled to increase the rates. As has been pointed out by the hon. Member who moved the original resolution, have not the Government for some years past been collecting large sums of money as land-tax from the Tanjore district and has not this fact been brought to the notice of the public by no less a person than the late Chief Engineer to the Government of Madras? When he put off his official robes and became a non-official he was able to give out to the public the information that the Government had for a long time past been collecting larger sums of money than they were entitled

[Mr. T. S. Ramaswami Ayyar] 25th January 1935]

to from Tanjore and the same has accumulated so much that the Government can certainly get on with the Mettur Project without increasing the assessment. I also want to ask another question of the Government. When at a time of depression like this the people clamour for remission of even the normal land revenue, the answer of the Government is: 'It is a question of contract. Take the settlement as a whole for the whole period. In good years you enjoyed the fruits, therefore in bad years you cannot complain and ask us for remission.' When the last settlement took place in the Tanjore district the Government wanted to increase the rates by 25 per cent, but later on, on account of the assurance given by the Hon. Sir Arthur Knapp when he introduced the Irrigation Bill, the Government reduced the percentage of increase to 18½ in the case of all the districts. So in the case of Tanjore also, the percentage was reduced to 18½. After about nine years or so of that settlement in Tanjore, the Government are now raising the tarams and thereby increasing the tax by another 15 per cent. This increase is made at a time of depression when the people are asking for remission. I ask the Government whether this is fair either from the point of view of contract or from the administrative point of view. I would also ask them whether it is sound from a commercial point of view. The Mettur Project has cost the Government a large sum of money and therefore the Government think it is but right that the people for whose benefit the project is intended should pay more. But the answer of the Tanjore ryot to this argument of the Government is that he is not able to pay because he does not get enough return from his land. I do not say that the Mettur Project has not benefited the district. Of course some of the speakers have raised the question and suggested that it is too soon to say whether it has benefited the district or not. Even accepting for purposes of argument that the project has in fact benefited the district, is this the time when Government should raise the tarams? At a time when the ryots find it difficult to pay even the existing tax, is it proper for the Government to raise the tarams and thereby increase the rate of assessment?

"As regards the amendment that has now been moved, udu cultivation being the sowing of two crops at the same time, but reaping them at different seasons, the Government do not give very much more water to the agriculturists who cultivate udu crops than to those who raise a single crop. They may give a little more water but not as much water as the agriculturists would be entitled to if two crops were raised. Why should Government demand as much as Rs. 7-8-0 per acre over and above the tax payable for the first crop? Of course the Government have made a concession in the case of people who have been cultivating udu crops for a number of years by not increasing the rates in their case. In other cases they have increased the rates. I ask the Government whether from a commercial point of view it is sound finance to increase the rates in the case of udu crops. If the Government want more people to cultivate udu crops, they must give facilities for the same by not increasing the rates heavily. Again, it is usual to charge

[Mr. T. S. Ramaswami Ayyar] [25th January 1935]

an additional 50 per cent of the land-tax in cases where a second crop is raised. Why not adopt that principle in all cases in the old delta? By raising the tax on second crops and also by not giving facilities for udu cultivation, the Government are frustrating the attempts of the people to take advantage of the water-supply and raise more crops. Will not the Government get more money if they give facilities for people to grow a second crop? I think the present policy of Government is a short-sighted one and I hope the Government will not press their demand for increased taxation at this time of depression."

4-45
P.M.

* The Hon. Mr. C. A. SOUTER:—"Sir, I must oppose this motion as strongly as I possibly can. I am afraid I am not able to reply to the hon. Mover as I did not hear the speech of the hon. Mover of the first resolution; he read his speech and I am afraid his voice did not reach as far as this. But my hon. Friend, Mr. G. Ranganatha Mudaliyar, advanced certain arguments which I would like to criticize. In the first place he made the assertion that the drainage channels and other channels in the old Cauvery delta are in a very bad condition; this is literally untrue; they are in good condition and they have been improved recently *pari pasu* with the construction of the Mettur Dam. He then went on to say that there was no improvement in supply. Here again, I must join issue with him. This statement also is literally untrue. For instance, this year, had it not been for the Mettur Reservoir, most of the old area under the Cauvery delta would have suffered from severe drought, and want of water. Crops this year were actually saved by the Mettur Reservoir and if that fact does not indicate an improvement in supply, I do not know what fact can. Perhaps it may be said that this is an exceptional case. But the Mettur Reservoir does assure a steady and regular supply where the supply previously was irregular and unsteady; this is especially the case in the months of August, September and the beginning of October when, for many years, supply in the Cauvery was defective. Then the argument was advanced that they could not get the same output of the crop as they had, before the dam was constructed. The argument is that, since the dam was put up, much less silt comes down the river. Sir, this point was examined very carefully by the Engineers which showed to the Government conclusively that the amount of silt that comes down the river at present is very little less than it was before; one of the main reasons for this is that most of the silt which came down the river, came down from the Bhavani and Amaravathi rivers which are below the Mettur Dam and therefore silt has not been lessened by the construction of the dam.

"The next point which was raised was that Government have been penalizing udu cultivation. I think the figures which I will give to the House will be quite sufficient to show that this argument is entirely baseless. I think hon. Members are aware that udu cultivation which had been in existence previous to the construction of the Mettur Dam was not charged double rates. For this purpose the Government ordered that any field in which the cultivation by udu was 10 cents and over

25th January 1935] [Mr. C. A. Souter]

should be given water for the entire field only for one crop. Any field in which less than 10 per cent is cultivated by udu is charged only single rate on that portion of the field which was actually cultivated with udu. The result of this is that although only 63 thousand acres were cultivated with udu in previous years, the classification of the fields in accordance with the Government Order amounts to 167 thousand acres. That is to say, there has been an increase of one hundred thousand acres which have to be given the concession which, ordinarily, they would not have been entitled to.

"There was one point which was urged by Mr. Sivasubrahmanya Ayyar and that is with reference to certain inam lands; a representation has just been received by the Government—within the last day or two—on this subject and it seems to show that the matter does require consideration; I assure the hon. Member that it will receive very careful consideration.

"Apart from all this, Sir, I would like to point out to the House that the Mettur Reservoir was constructed with the full approval of this hon. House. The original estimates were placed before it and the House passed the following resolution:—

"This Council approves of the proposal to construct a reservoir on the river Cauvery at Mettur in the Coimbatore district, with the necessary channels and other works, to improve the supply to existing irrigation under the river and to provide for new irrigation over an area 301,000 acres, at an estimated cost of Rs. 612 lakhs."

"This reclassification of the sources is taken as one of the items of revenue. Again in 1928 when the estimates were revised, although the revenue forecast based on the revised estimates was not placed on the table of the House, each Member of the House was given a copy of it; no objection was ever raised to these estimates; the raising of the classification of sources formed part of the estimates. That is a very distinct promise of the House that it would accept the raising of the classification of sources as part of the estimates for the Mettur Dam. Now, hon. Members from Tanjore come forward and try to argue against what they themselves promised twice before this hon. House. I ask hon. Members whether this attitude on the part of the Tanjore rairasidars deserve any consideration whatever; in my own opinion it is a distinct breach of faith. Apart from that, in all the resettlement notifications the Government have reserved to themselves the right to raise the classification of any source if, during the course of the settlement, that source has been improved at the cost of the Government. I have already argued that the Mettur Project has materially benefited all these sources; the Government have spent a great deal of money not only on the new channels; they have spent a great deal of money on the old Cauvery delta also. Why should the rest of the ryots, the taxpayers of this Presidency, be told that owing to our commitments on behalf of the Tanjore ryots for whom a very large amount of money was

[Mr. C. A. Souter] [25th January 1935]

spent, they have to lose the benefits which, if this money had not been spent on the Mettur Dam, would certainly have been extended to other parts of the Presidency? In my own opinion, previous to the Mettur Dam the Tanjore ryots were quite well-off already; there are other parts of this Presidency which are crying out for water and were not able to get money for this, because our hands are tied, because a large amount of money had to be spent over a limited area of this Presidency. Therefore I must oppose this resolution and I trust that the House will not pass it."

* The Hon. the PRESIDENT:—"I put the amendment first to the House. The question is—

'In line 3 after the words "Tanjore district" add the words and figures "and G.O. No. 474, Revenue, dated 15th March 1933, levying additional water-rates in respect of udu, double crop, etc., and G.O. No. 1853, Revenue, dated 5th September 1932, prescribing rules and rates for the levy of water charge.'"

The amendment was put and declared lost.

A poll was demanded and the House divided thus:—

Ayes.

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1 Mr. V. M. Ramaswami Mudaliyar. | 17 Mr. A. Pl. N. V. Nadimuthu Pillai. |
| 2 " G. Ranganatha Mudaliyar. | 18 " U. C. Subrahmanya Bhatt. |
| 3 " I. C. Iswaran Pillai. | 19 " K. A. Nachiyappa Gounder. |
| 4 " Daniel Thomas. | 20 The Pattagar of Palayakottai. |
| 5 Rao Sahib D. V. Narasimhaswami. | 21 Mr. K. S. Sivasubrahmanya Ayyar. |
| 6 Mr. K. Kesavaramamurti Nayudu. | 22 " P. Peddi Raju. |
| 7 Yakub Hasan Sahib Bahadur. | 23 Ahmed Meeran Sahib Bahadur. |
| 8 Diwan Bahadur T. A. Ramalingam Chettiyar. | 24 Mr. K. P. Raman Menon. |
| 9 S. M. K. Beyabani Sahib Bahadur. | 25 " M. S. Sreshta. |
| 10 Mr. Abdul Hameed Khan. | 26 " P. V. Krishnayya Choudari. |
| 11 " Basheer Ahmed Sayeed. | 27 Sriman M. G. Patnaik Mahasayo. |
| 12 " T. S. Ramaswami Ayyar. | 28 Diwan Bahadur M. Gopalaswami Mudaliyar. |
| 13 " V. T. Arasu. | 29 Mr. C. Indrayya. |
| 14 Khan Bahadur P. Khalif-ul-lah Sahib Bahadur. | 30 Mahboob Ali Baig Sahib Bahadur. |
| 15 B. Pocker Sahib Bahadur. | 31 Rai Sahib C. Kolanda Reddi. |
| 16 Mr. M. A. Manikkavelu Nayakar. | 32 Rao Bahadur C. Natesa Mudaliyar. |
| | 33 Mr. M. B. Rangaswami Reddi. |

Noes.

- | | |
|--|--|
| 1 The Hon. Sir Hopetoun Stokes. | 12 Diwan Bahadur V. N. Viswanatha Rao. |
| 2 " Sir K. V. Reddi Nayudu. | 13 Mr. R. Madanagopal Nayudu. |
| 3 " Rao Bahadur A. T. Pannirselvam. | 14 " T. B. Russell. |
| 4 " Mr. C. A. Souter. | 15 Khan Sahib Syed Tajuddin Sahib Bahadur. |
| 5 " Diwan Bahadur S. Kumaraswami Reddiyar. | 16 Diwan Bahadur A. Appadurai Pillai. |
| 6 " Mr. P. T. Rajan. | 17 Rao Sahib N. Siva Raj. |
| 7 " The Raja of Bobbili. | 18 Subadar-Major S. A. Nanjappa Bahadur. |
| 8 Mrs. K. Alamelumangathayaramma. | 19 Rao Sahib V. I. Muniswami Pillai. |
| 9 Mr. W. Scott-Brown. | 20 Mr. G. Sriramulu. |
| 10 " H. R. Uzielli. | |
| 11 " C. E. Jones. | |

25th January 1935]

Noes—cont.

- | | |
|--------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| 21 Mr. P. C. Moses. | 26 Rao Sahib P. Subrahmanyam Chetti. |
| 22 " C. Basu Dev. | 27 Rao Sahib Pandit Ganala Ramamurti. |
| 23 Rao Sahib V. Dharmalingam Pillai. | |
| 24 Mr. H. M. Jagannatham. | |
| 25 Rao Bahadur D. Krishnamurti. | |

Neutral.

Mr. K. Koti Reddi.

Ayes 33. Noes 27. Neutral 1.

The amendment was carried.

* The Hon. the PRESIDENT:—"I shall put the main resolution as amended to the vote of the House. The question is—

'This Council recommends to the Government that G.O. No. 1238, Revenue, dated 14th July 1933, raising the classification of irrigation sources in the Tanjore district and G.O. No. 474, Revenue, dated 15th March 1933, levying additional water-rates in respect of udu, double crop, etc., and G.O. No. 1853, Revenue, dated 5th September 1932, prescribing rules and rates for the levy of water-charge, be cancelled.'"

The resolution was as amended carried.

The House then adjourned to meet again at 11 a.m. the next day.

R. V. KRISHNA AYYAR,

Secretary to the Legislative Council.

[25th January 1935]

APPENDIX I.

[Vide answer to question No. 527 asked by Mr. K. A. Nachiyappa Gounder at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on the 25th January 1935, page 457 supra.]

Extract from the report of the District Superintendent of Police, Salem.

In my last report recommending the continuance of the Additional Police for one year, I had dealt with the unsatisfactory situation in the village and the absence of any material change. The events in the village for the period from the last report up to this date shows that the situation in the village is such as to justify the continuance of the Additional Police Force for a further period of one year. The leaders of the two factions as well as their adherents have not yet completely realized their responsibilities nor shown any signs of reformation. Several instances of assault and intimidation have been reported by the adherents of both parties during the year showing thereby the continuance of the strained feelings. Cases of stone-throwing in more than half a dozen instances in the course of the last three months as well as cases of petty assaults and intimidation have been reported by both parties. In connexion with a dispute over a pathway among the Adi-Dravidas of the village, the leaders attempted to take sides but were warned off by the local police. There has been an instance of mischief of fire due to the faction and another instance where a villager was intimidated for his refusal to pay Rs. 170 to the leaders in connexion with a divorce affair. In June last a constable was assaulted by one Ponnuswami, an adherent of Chinna Kandan's party, as he had reported a case of nuisance against Ponnuswami. He was prosecuted under section 332, Indian Penal Code, and sentenced to eight months' rigorous imprisonment. The Mariamman festival in the village in August 1934 was not celebrated on account of the leaders of the two factions failing to come to an agreement. From all these instances, it would be clear that the feelings between the two factionists still continue to be strained and that it would not be advisable to abolish the Additional Police for the present. There has, no doubt, been a certain amount of improvement in the situation since my last report, in that the leaders are gradually losing their influence in and around the village, but the situation is such as to require the continuance of the Additional Police for a further period of at least one year.

Extract from the report of the District Magistrate, Salem.

I have discussed this matter with the District Superintendent of Police and the Subdivisional Magistrate. I have considered the representations presented to me by certain of the inhabitants requesting the

[25th January 1935]

removal of the punitive police on the grounds that the fall in the statistics of crimes for the village proved that the situation was improved and that a continuance of the punitive police was beyond the financial resources of the village.

It is true that there has been a decrease in the number of serious crimes during the past 12 months but this must in part be due to the presence of the punitive police. By itself, it is no indication that the situation has sufficiently improved to remove the necessity for the punitive police and that if they were removed crimes of violence would not be common again. The incidents referred to in the District Superintendent's report particularly the failure to agree on the Mariamman festival this year suggest that while the influence of the leaders of the faction is dwindling there still remains a strong party feeling in the village. It is recognized by the authorities that it is idle to expect to remove faction from Attaiyampatti by means of punitive police. Faction is almost of the essence of the village life in Southern India. The disquieting symptom about Attaiyampatti is the defiant spirit which is still found among the inhabitants towards the forces of law and order. A police constable has been assaulted in the course of his duty and frivolous complaints have been made about the police. Both the District Superintendent of Police and the Subdivisional Magistrate consider that the spirit of defiance is by no means cowed and that there is a real danger of further outbreaks of violence if the punitive forces are removed.

APPENDIX II.

[Vide answer to question No. 534 asked by Mr. K. A. Nachiyappa Gounder at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on the 25th January 1935, page 461 supra.]

(1)

G.O. No. 2403, P.H., dated 15th October 1934.

In exercise of the powers conferred by sub-section (3) of section 67 of the Madras Local Boards Act, 1920, as amended, the Local Government hereby fix the following designations and grades of, and the scales of salaries and allowances payable to the local board officers

[25th January 1935]

and servants in the medical institutions including leprosy clinics under the control of district boards and panchayats in the Presidency:—

Nature of the institution.	Designation and grades of officers and servants.	Scale of pay sanctioned.	Remarks.
RUPEES PER MENSEM.			
I. Institutions of Western Medicine.			
1	Local Fund Assistant Surgeons.	100—10 (biennial)—200.	....
2	Local Fund Sub-Assistant Surgeons.	60—5 (biennial)—120.	....
3	Lady Apothecaries ..	80—10/2—150 ..	When the existing incumbent vacates the office, the post should be filled by appointing a Woman Sub-Assistant Surgeon on Rs. 60—5 (biennial)—120.
4	Local Fund nurses—Fully qualified ..	35—5 (biennial)—45.	....
	Not fully qualified ..	25—2 (biennial)—31—1 (biennial)—35.	....
5	Local Fund compounders.	25—1 (biennial)—35.	....
II. Institutions of Indian and Homeopathic Medicine.			
1	Local Fund Ayurvedic.	Medical Officer. 40—3 (biennial)—70.	{ This scale is admissible only to persons registered under class A in the register of practitioners of Indian Medicine.
	Local Fund Siddha.		
	Local Fund Unani.		
2	* Local Fund Ayurvedic.	Do. 40	* For persons registered under class B in the register of practitioners of Indian Medicine.
	* Local Fund Siddha.		
	* Local Fund Unani.		
	Local Fund Homeopathic.	compoun- ders—	This scale is admissible to persons who hold the diploma of qualified compounder issued by the Government Board of Examiners in Indian Medicine.
3	Local Fund		
	First grade .. ..			20—1 (biennial)—30.	This scale is admissible for persons who do not hold the diploma mentioned in the case of the first-grade compounders and for Homeopathic compounders.
	Second grade	12—1 (biennial)—18.	
III. Institutions of Western, Homeopathic or Indian Medicine.			
1	Midwife	25—1 (biennial)—35.	....
2	Nursing orderlies—Qualified	12—1 (biennial)—18.	....
	Unqualified	8—1 (biennial)—15.	....
3	Peon	First 4 years 12 .. Next 4 " 13 .. " 5 " 14 .. " 6 " 15 .. " 6 " 16 ..	....
4	Totls	{ To be paid according to market rates subject to a maximum of Rs. 12 each per mensem.	....
5	Menials such as masalchis, watchmen, watermen, gardeners, cleaners, etc., paid from contingencies.		....

2. Municipal councils are requested to adopt the above designations and grades and scales of salaries for municipal medical officers and servants in their institutions.

3. The incumbents of the existing posts should be appointed to similar posts carrying new scales of pay sanctioned in paragraph 1 above. If the existing pay of the incumbents conform to any stage

[25th January 1935]

in the new scales of pay, it should be fixed at that stage. If the existing pay of a medical officer or servant exceeds any stage in the new scales of pay, his pay should be fixed at the next stage below that pay and he should be given personal allowance equal to the difference, the personal pay being absorbed in the next increment. If the existing pay exceeds the maximum of the new scales of pay, it should be fixed at the maximum.

4. The conditions of service of all officers and servants specified in paragraph 1 above in respect to special pay and allowances shall be regulated in accordance with the Madras Special Pay and Allowance Rules and the Madras Travelling Allowance Rules.

5. In the case of subsidized rural dispensaries a sum of Rs. 600 a year is paid to a medical graduate, Rs. 500 a year to a L.M.P., A.L.I.M. or L.I.Ms., Rs. 300 a year to first-class midwife and Rs. 200 for second-class midwife from the provincial funds. The Government have stated that they have no objection to local boards themselves sanctioning an additional subsidy from their own funds if in any particular case owing to the remoteness or unhealthiness of the locality or for any other special reason, the services of qualified medical practitioners or midwives cannot be secured for the subsidies specified above. District boards and panchayats are informed that in future the additional subsidy paid from their funds should in no case exceed 50 per cent of the Government subsidy. In the case of rural dispensaries not subsidized by Government, the amount of subsidy paid by local boards should not exceed the total amount which would have become payable both from the provincial and local funds if the rural dispensaries had been subsidized.

The scheme of subsidized rural dispensaries does not contemplate the employment of compounders or other staff in such institutions. District boards and panchayats are informed that compounders should be employed in rural dispensaries only after consulting District Medical Officers or the Principal, Indian Medical School, as the case may be and only if such appointment is absolutely necessary. The pay of the compounder should not exceed Rs. 25 per mensem.

The pay of the menials paid from contingencies in rural dispensaries should be regulated in accordance with the orders in paragraph 1 above subject, however, to a maximum of Rs. 10.

District boards and panchayats are also informed that scales of pay should not be sanctioned for any person employed in rural dispensaries whether subsidized by Government or not and that wherever such scales have been sanctioned they should be abolished.

6. These orders will come into force on the 1st November 1934.

7. Separate orders will issue fixing the number of posts and designations of officers and servants in local fund medical institutions.

[25th January 1935]

8. Presidents of district boards and panchayats and executive officers of municipal councils are advised to issue a month's notice to the existing incumbents who may be now drawing pay in excess of the maximum in the revised scales that if they are not willing to accept the revised pay they may quit the service.

(By order of the Government, Ministry of Local Self-Government)

R. SUBBAYYA,
Joint Secretary to Government.

To all Presidents of District Boards.
 „ all Panchayats (pre-unions).
 „ the Executive Authorities of all Municipal Councils.
 „ the Surgeon-General
 „ all Collectors.
 „ the Director of Public Health.
 „ the Inspector of Municipal Councils and Local Boards (with copies for panchayats other than pre-unions).
 „ the Principal, Indian Medical School.
 „ the Examiner of Local Fund Accounts.
 „ the Revenue Department.
 „ the Secretary, Rural Medical Practitioners' Association.

(2)

G.O. No. 2648, P.H., dated 14th November 1934.

The attention of all presidents of district boards and executive authorities of municipalities is invited to the orders in paragraph 3 of G.O. No. 2403, P.H., dated 15th October 1934, and they are informed that those orders do not preclude the Government from considering the question of granting personal pay to those incumbents whose pay prior to 1st November 1934 exceeded the maximum of the new scales of pay, provided that there is real hardship in such cases and that the local body concerned recommends the payments of personal pay. Presidents of district boards and executive authorities of municipalities are requested to submit statements in the appended form in respect of those cases in which the local bodies concerned consider that there is hardship in giving effect to the orders in paragraph 3 of G.O. No. 2403, P.H., dated 15th October 1934.

(By order of the Government, Ministry of Local Self-Government)

R. SUBBAYYA,
Joint Secretary to Government.

To all Presidents of District Boards.
 „ all Executive Authorities of Municipalities.
 „ all Presidents of Panchayats (pre-unions).
 „ all Collectors.
 „ the Surgeon-General.
 „ the Principal, Indian Medical School.
 „ the Director of Public Health.
 „ the Inspector of Municipal Councils and Local Boards.
 „ the Examiner of Local Fund Accounts.
 „ the Revenue Department.
 „ the Secretary, Rural Medical Practitioners' Association.

[25th January 1935]

APPENDIX.

Name of officer or subordinate and qualifications.	Designation.	Old scale of pay.	Pay on 31st October 1934 in the old scale.	Date from which the pay in column (4) is drawn.	Pay admissible on 1st November 1934 in the new scale.	Total period of local fund and municipal service.			Remarks.
						Broken periods.	Continuous period.	Total of columns (7) and (8).	
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)
		RS.		RS.	RS.				

NOTE.—Information should be furnished in the remarks column regarding the different scales of pay in which the officer or subordinate drew pay prior to 1st November 1934, the periods during which such pay was drawn and full details of advance increments drawn, if any, during the entire period of service.

APPENDIX III.

[Vide answer to question No. 535 asked by Mr. K. A. Nachiyappa Gounder at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on the 25th January 1935, page 464 supra.]

Statement showing the local bodies that draw water from Government sources.

Number and name.	Source from which water is taken.	Rate charged.
1 Berhampur municipality.	Ichchapuram channel	Rs. 975 (fixed charge per annum).
2 Cocanada municipality.	Samalkota channel	Rs. 1 per 1,000 cubic yards.
3 Masulipatam municipality.	Bandar canal	Do.
4 Ellore municipality	Kistna-Ellore canal	Do.
5 Madras Corporation	Red Hills tank	Do.
6 Kurnool municipality.	Kurnool-Cuddapah canal	Rs. 700 (fixed charge per annum).
7 Chidambaram municipality.	Raja vaikal, branch of North Rajan channel.	Rs. 1 for 1,000 cubic yards.
8 Tuticorin municipality.	Korampallam tank (old source).	Rs. 85-5-4 for 30 days.
	Tambraparni (under Valnad scheme)—new source.	Rs. 88-2-10 for 31 days.
9 Palni municipality	Palar	No charge levied.
10 Proddatur municipality.	Pennar	Rs. 1 for 1,000 cubic yards.
		Do.

[25th January 1935]

APPENDIX IV.

[Vide answer to question No. 537 asked by Mr. K. A. Nachiyappa Gounder at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on the 25th January 1935, page 465 supra.]

Statement showing the appointments of Assistant Directors of Agriculture in the Madras Agricultural Service from 1930 onwards.

Year.	Number.	Whether by direct recruitment or by promotion.	Community.
1930 ..		<i>Nil.</i>	
1931 ..	1	Promotion	Non-Brahman (Hindu).
1932 ..	3	Do.	Do.
1933 ..		<i>Nil.</i>	
1934 ..		<i>Nil.</i>	

THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL OF THE GOVERNOR OF MADRAS.

Saturday, the 26th January 1935.

The House met at eleven of the clock, Mr. President (the Hon. Mr. B. RAMACHANDRA REDDI) in the Chair.

PRESENT:

Stokes, K.C.I.E., C.S.I., I.C.S., The Hon. Sir Hopetoun.	Nachiyappa Gounder, Mr. K. A.
Reddi Nayudu, Kt., The Hon. Rai Bahadur Sir K. V.	Nanjappa, Subadar-Major S. A.
Pannirselvam, The Hon. Rao Bahadur A. T.	Narasa Reddi, Mr. T.
Souter, C.S.I., I.C.S., The Hon. Mr. C. A.	Narasimhaswami, Rao Sahib D. V.
Raja of Bobbili, The Hon. the.	Narayanan Nambiyar, Mr. V. P.
Rajan, the Hon. Mr. P. T.	Natesa Mudaliyar, Rao Bahadur C.
Kumaraswami Reddiyar, The Hon. Diwan Bahadur S.	Palat, Mr. R. M.
Abdul Hameed Khan Sahib Bahadur.	Patnaik Mahasayo, Sriman M. G.
Ahmed Meeran Sahib Bahadur.	Patro, Kt., Rao Bahadur Sir A. P.
Alamelumangathayaramma, Mrs. K.	Pattabhiramayya, Mr. K.
Annamalai Chettiyar, Mr. S. A. A.	Pattagar of Palayakottai, The.
Appadurai Pillai, Diwan Bahadur A.	Peddi Raju, Mr. P.
Arasu, Mr. V. T.	Pocker Sahib Bahadur, B.
Ari Gowder, Mr. H. B.	Premayya, Mr. G. R.
Basheer Ahmed Sayeed Sahib Bahadur.	Rajagopala Pillai, Mr. P. V.
Basu Dev, Mr. C.	Raja of Kallikote, The.
Bhanoji Rao, Mr. A. V.	Ramachandra Padayachi, Mr. P. K.
Birley, Mr. F.	Ramalingam Chettiyar, Diwan Bahadur T. A.
Boulton, I.C.S., Mr. D. H.	Ramamurti, Rao Sahib Pandit Ganala.
Champion, Mr. H.	Raman Menon, Mr. K. P.
Devadasan, Mr. M.	Ramaswami Ayyar, Mr. T. S.
Dharmalingam Pillai, Rao Sahib V.	Ramaswami Mudaliyar, Mr. V. M.
Duraiswami Reddiyar, Mr. K. M.	Rameswara Rao, Mr. G.
Ellappa Chettiyar, Diwan Bahadur S.	Ranganatha Mudaliyar, Mr. A.
Foulkes, Mr. R.	Rangaswami Reddi, Mr. M. B.
Gopalaswami Mudaliyar, Diwan Bahadur M.	Ratnasabhapaty Mudaliyar, Diwan Bahadur C. S.
Harischandrudu Nayudu, Mr. A.	Ratnavelu Thevar, Mr. P.
Iswaran Pillai, Mr. I. C.	Russell, I.C.S., Mr. T. B.
Jagannatham, Mr. H. M.	Sahajanandam, Swami A. S.
Jayaram Nayudu, Rao Sahib C.	Schamnad Sahib Bahadur, Khan Bahadur Muhammad.
Jones, C.I.E., I.C.S., Mr. C. E.	Scott-Brown, I.C.S., Mr. W.
Kesavaramamurti Nayudu, Mr. K.	Sesha Reddi, Rao Bahadur B. P.
Kolanda Reddi, Rai Sahib C.	Shetty, Mr. A. B.
Koti Reddi, Mr. K.	Siva Raj, Rao Sahib N.
Krishnayya Choudari, Mr. P. V.	Sivasubrahmanya Ayyar, Mr. K. S.
Krishnamurti, Rao Bahadur D.	Soundara Pandian, Mr. W. P. A.
Krishnaswami Ayyar, Kt., Diwan Bahadur Sir Alladi.	Sreshtha, Mr. M. S.
Kumararaja of Venkatagiri, The.	Srinivasa Ayyangar, Mr. T. C.
Madanagopal Nayudu, Mr. R.	Srinivasan, Rao Bahadur R.
Metherell, Mr. J. K.	Sriramulu, Mr. G.
Moidoo Sahib Bahadur, Khan Bahadur T. M.	Subbarayan, Dr. P.
Moses, Mr. P. C.	Subrahmanya Chetti, Rao Sahib P.
Muniswami Pillai, Rao Sahib V. I.	Subrahmanya Bhatt, Mr. U. C.
Murugappa Chettiyar, Diwan Bahadur A. M. M.	Sundara Rao Nayudu, Mr. T.
Muthiah Chettiyar, Mr. M. A.	Syed Tajuddin Sahib Bahadur, Khan Sahib.
Muthu Chettiyar, Rao Bahadur P. C.	Thangal, Mr. P. M.
	Thomas, Mr. Daniel.
	Uzielli, C.I.E., I.C.S., Mr. H. R.

[26th January 1935]

PRESENT—cont.

Vasudeva Pillai, Mr. V. G.
Vedachala Mudaliyar, Mr. M.
Venkatachala Reddiyar, Mr. K. C. M.
Venkatarama Ayyar, Mr. K. R.
Venugopal Nayudu, Rao Bahadur
R. K.

Yahya Ali Sahib Bahadur, Khan Baha-
dur.
Yakub Hasan Sahib Bahadur.
Zamindar of Bodinayakkanur, The.
Zamindar of Kirlampudi, The.

I.—QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

STARRED QUESTIONS

Co-operation

Alleged misappropriation of dividends in certain co-operative societies in the Ganjam district.

* 549 Q.—Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. PATRO: Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

(a) whether there was misappropriation of dividends due to members by several relations of Mr. Venkataratnam, who are managing co-operative societies in Palasapuram, Sompeta, and Hiramandalam in the Ganjam district; and

(b) whether Mr. Venkataratnam knew of the misappropriation and took no action as the parties concerned were his relations?

A.—(a) & (b) The Government have no information.

Qualifications of Mr. Venkataratnam Pantulu, Deputy Registrar of Co-operative Societies, Ganjam.

* 550 Q.—Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. PATRO: Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

(a) whether Mr. Venkataratnam Pantulu, the Deputy Registrar, Ganjam district, underwent any training in the Co-operative Branch before he was recruited to the department;

(b) whether it is the policy of Government in the Co-operative department to retain an officer in the district where he has lands in several parts of the district and has close relations all over in the district and was there for more than three years; and

(c) whether there are any special reasons for retaining Mr. Venkataratnam Pantulu, Deputy Registrar, in the district in which he started as an Assistant Registrar and Sub-Deputy Registrar?

A.—(a) Yes.

(b) & (c) The officer who had been Sub-Deputy Registrar, Ganjam, was appointed in November 1933 to act as Deputy Registrar, Ganjam, as he was the only officer in the department who knew Oriya and had knowledge of the district.

Diwan Bahadur C. S. RATNASABHAPATI MUDALIYAR:—“In view of the allegations contained in the question, may I know whether the Government will be pleased to terminate the probation of this Deputy Registrar?”

[26th January 1935]

The Hon. Mr. P. T. RAJAN:—“On mere allegations or statements, no officer's probation can be terminated.”

Diwan Bahadur C. S. RATNASABHAPATI MUDALIYAR:—“Will the Hon. Minister be pleased to cause an enquiry to be made into these allegations?”

The Hon. Mr. P. T. RAJAN:—“Government will make the necessary investigations into the matter.”

Public Works

Electrification of the Government buildings at Vellore.

* 551 Q.—Mr. V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR: Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government propose to take up the electrification of Government buildings, such as the court-houses, offices and Government officers' quarters at Vellore; and

(b) why there has been a delay in this matter?

A.—(a) The Government propose to provide electric installations in the following residential buildings at Vellore in the next official year, if funds are voted by the Legislative Council:—

- (1) Residence of the Collector.
- (2) Residence of the District Judge.
- (3) Residence of the District Superintendent of Police.
- (4) Residence of the Executive Engineer.
- (5) Residence of the Principal, Police Training School.
- (6) Residence of the Probationary Assistant Superintendent of Police.
- (7) Residence of the Staff Sergeants.
- (8) Residence of the Chief Law Instructor.
- (9) Residence of the Hospital Assistant.

Police
Depart-
ment.

No proposals have yet been received from the Heads of Departments concerned for electrifying office buildings.

(b) Want of funds.

Mr. V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—“May I ask whether the Government are aware that the electrification of offices is as much necessary and urgent as the electrification of the residences of officials, and if so, may I know whether there is any proposal to electrify the Government offices?”

The Hon. Mr. P. T. RAJAN:—“I suppose electrification of offices is equally necessary, and as soon as proposals are submitted to Government, they will be considered.”

Diwan Bahadur C. S. RATNASABHAPATI MUDALIYAR:—“May I know if, by the electrification of these officers' quarters, the capital cost of the buildings will be increased, and if so, whether the rent recoverable from the officers concerned will be correspondingly increased?”

[26th January 1935]

The Hon. Mr. P. T. RAJAN:—"I am afraid I cannot answer that question offhand."

Mr. V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—"May I point out to the Hon. Minister that the electrification of the courts are an urgent necessity; will the Government be pleased to call for proposals from the department concerned, if they have not already done so?"

The Hon. Mr. P. T. RAJAN:—"I will consider the suggestion of the hon. Member."

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—"Sir, it is stated in the reply that the residences of the staff sergeants are to have electric installations; may I know whether the Government are satisfied that the houses of the Inspectors of Police and Sub-Inspectors of Police need not have such electrification?"

The Hon. Mr. P. T. RAJAN:—"No proposals have been received, Sir."

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—"May I know whether the Government have made an investigation as to why it has been considered necessary to have electric installations only to the superior officers, before they can be thought of for the subordinate officers?"

The Hon. Mr. P. T. RAJAN:—"These are the proposals at present before the Government."

Mr. DANIEL THOMAS:—"May I know whether the electrification proposals pertain only to Vellore or to other districts also?"

The Hon. Mr. P. T. RAJAN:—"We are concerned here with Vellore alone, Sir."

Local Self-Government

Dissolution of and elections to the Chingleput District Board.

* 552 Q.—Mr. K. A. NACHIYAPPA GOUNDER: Will the Hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

- when the normal life of the Chingleput District Board expired;
- when the elections were conducted; and
- when were the elections completed for this district board?

A.—(a) On the 1st November 1934.

(b) & (c) Election proceedings were started on the 8th December 1934 and completed on the 12th January 1935 except in respect of one circle.

Municipalities to which appointment of Commissioners is still pending.

* 553 Q.—Mr. K. A. NACHIYAPPA GOUNDER: Will the Hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

- how many municipalities are yet to be provided with Commissioners;
- what are their names;
- on what principles and in which order the municipalities are taken up for appointment of Commissioners; and

[26th January 1935]

(d) when are the municipalities which have not got Commissioners so far, to be provided with such officers?

A.—(a) Fourteen.

(b) Anantapur, Walajapet, Chidambaram, Chingleput, Chica-cole, Parlakimedi, Palacole, Narasaraopet, Nellore, Karaikudi, Sivakasi, Srirangam, Bimlipatam and Vizagapatam.

(c) & (d) Government have already stated that all the remaining municipalities will be notified for the appointment of a Commissioner before the end of the current year (1934-35), if possible—vide answer to clause (c) of Question No. 20, answered on the 1st August 1934. It is not possible to find suitable men for appointment simultaneously to all these municipalities and the selection of personnel for appointment necessarily involves time. Government have therefore to proceed with the notification of municipalities for commissionership, as and when the personnel for each of them is settled.

Mr. V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—"May I ask, Sir, whether there is any dearth of applicants for the posts of Commissioners, and if so, what is meant by the statement, 'It is not possible to find suitable men for appointment simultaneously to all these municipalities and the selection of personnel for appointment necessarily involves time'?"

The Hon. the RAJA OF BOBBILI:—"There is no dearth of applicants; before the appointments can be made, the Government have to satisfy themselves that the candidates are suitable."

Mr. B. POCKER SAHIB:—"The answer says: 'Government have therefore to proceed with the notification of municipalities for commissionership as and when the personnel for each of them is settled.' Am I to understand that they fix up the person first and then notify the municipalities for the appointment of commissioner?"

The Hon. the RAJA OF BOBBILI:—"There is no point, Sir, in notifying a municipality until we have an officer ready to take charge; so both have to be done simultaneously."

Diwan Bahadur C. S. RATNASABHAPATI MUDALIYAR:—"Out of these fourteen municipalities given here, is there any to which commissioner was originally appointed but was subsequently withdrawn?"

The Hon. the RAJA OF BOBBILI:—"Once a municipality is notified, there is no power for Government to withdraw the notification. There have been cases where commissioners were withdrawn and replaced."

B. POCKER SAHIB Bahadur:—"May I know whether the Government apprehend that if a municipality is notified, they will find it difficult to appoint a suitable person to fill the post of commissioner?"

The Hon. the RAJA OF BOBBILI:—"I am afraid my hon. friend has not properly appreciated the position. Under the Act, if a municipality is notified, certain functions of the chairman have

[26th January 1935]

to be performed by the commissioner. So, it will be rather awkward to notify a municipality and leave it without a commissioner."

Diwan Bahadur C. S. RATNASABHAPATI MUDALIYAR:—"May I know whether Mayavaram and another municipality in the Tanjore district to which commissioners were appointed, are now left without commissioners?"

The Hon. the RAJA OF BOBBILI:—"There was a commissioner appointed to Mayavaram, but he was later withdrawn. Orders have already been issued posting another."

Mr. P. V. KRISHNAYYA CHOUDARI:—"May I know why persons could not be chosen from among Government servants, if local board servants are not available, for being appointed as commissioners?"

The Hon. the RAJA OF BOBBILI:—"It is not stated that local board servants are not available. We have to carefully consider the names of the applicants, their qualifications, etc., and then select them. In the case of some smaller municipalities, like Wallajapet, Parlakimedi, Chicacole and Sivakasi, the position is that we anticipate some difficulty, whether the municipality will be able to pay for a Commissioner. It is not proposed to have any commissioners on scales of pay below those now obtaining in the case of Deputy Tahsildars."

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—"May I know whether the Government do not think it advisable to consult the Public Services Commission in regard to the appointment of these commissioners?"

The Hon. the RAJA OF BOBBILI:—"No, Sir, this does not come within the purview of the Services Commission."

Diwan Bahadur C. S. RATNASABHAPATI MUDALIYAR:—"There was a proposal to form a provincial cadre for commissioners. May I know at what stage that proposal is?"

The Hon. the RAJA OF BOBBILI:—"If the appointment of commissioners to all the municipalities is completed, that question will be taken up."

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—"The Hon. Minister says these appointments do not come within the purview of the Services Commission; but will the Government consider the advisability of consulting the Commission in these matters?"

The Hon. the RAJA OF BOBBILI:—"Until the service is provincialized, it will not be possible to refer the matter to the Services Commission."

Scale of pay of the Public Health Establishment under Local Boards and Municipalities.

* 554 Q.—Mr. K. A. NACHIYAPPA GOUNDER: Will the Hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether orders have been issued fixing a uniform scale of pay for Public Health establishments under the local boards and municipalities;

th January 1935]

(b) if so, whether copies of the same will be placed on the table;
(c) whether the scales of pay obtaining for such posts in Government departments were taken into consideration in fixing the new scales of pay;

(d) if the Government scales were not adopted, what the reasons herefor are;

(e) whether representations have been received from the persons affected and how they have been disposed of; and

(f) whether there are any proposals to revise the new scales, and if so, what they are?

A.—(a) Yes.

(b) A copy ^a of G.O. No. 2884, P.H., dated the 17th December 1934, is placed on the table of the House.

(c) Yes.

(d) There was no uniformity in the scales of pay prevailing in several districts. Several local bodies had themselves already fixed scales of pay lower than those sanctioned for Government servants. Considering the various scales of pay prevailing and the general financial position of local bodies, fair and uniform scales of pay were fixed.

(e) & (f) No.

Orders regulating the leave, pension, etc., of the ex-taluk board clerks subsequently employed by district boards.

* 555 Q.—Mr. K. A. NACHIYAPPA GOUNDER: Will the Hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether orders have been passed regulating the leave, pension, etc., of the ex-taluk board clerks who are under the service of the district boards now; and

(b) if so, whether copies of the same will be placed on the table?

A.—(a) Yes.

(b) Copies ^b of G.Os. No. 3265, L. & M., dated the 12th July 1934, No. 4471, L. & M., dated the 6th October 1934, and No. 3941, L. & M., dated the 5th September 1934, bearing on the subject, are placed on the table of the House.

Alleged unjust enhancement of property-tax by the President of Mallur Panchayat Board, Salem district.

* 556 Q.—Mr. K. A. NACHIYAPPA GOUNDER: Will the Hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether representations have been received by the Government from one Kolanda Goundan and some others, residing in the Mallur Panchayat area in Salem district alleging unjust enhancement of the house-tax, etc., due by them; by the President of that Panchayat; and

(b) if so, what action has been taken or proposed to be taken to redress the grievances of the petitioners?

^a Printed as Appendix I on pages 577-579 infra.

^b Printed as Appendix II on pages 579-581 infra.

[26th January 1935]

A.—(a) Yes.

(b) The petitions received by the Government have been referred to the President, District Board, Salem, for early remarks.

Treatment as personal allowance the difference between the present pay and the maximum under the revised scale of pay of teachers employed in secondary schools under local boards.

* 557 Q.—Mr. P. V. KRISHNAYYA CHOUDARI: Will the Hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government propose to give as personal allowance to teachers of secondary schools under local boards the difference between their present pay and the maximum under the new scales;

(b) whether the personal allowance will be given to all who are affected or whether it is to be restricted to any particular class;

(c) what the policy of the Government is in allowing this personal allowance; and

(d) what will be the savings effected in each district or loss suffered after giving personal allowances to the present incumbents?

A.—(a) & (b) The question is under consideration. Proposals for the grant of personal pay have been called for from the Presidents of District Boards and are awaited.

(c) The Government propose to grant personal pay in respect of such cases whose pay prior to 1st November 1934 exceeded the maximum of the new scales of pay provided there is real hardship and the local board concerned recommends the payment of personal pay.

(d) This cannot be calculated at present.

Mr. P. V. KRISHNAYYA CHOUDARI:—“ May I know the reason why Government did not calculate the financial implications of the new scale of pay before its introduction? ”

The Hon. the RAJA OF BOBBILI:—“ For the purpose of having a general idea, we took the averages into account. With reference to the effect of the new scale of pay in each district board, it all depends on the number of persons who are to be granted personal allowance.”

Mr. P. V. KRISHNAYYA CHOUDARI:—“ I want to know whether the Government have calculated the figures about the actual effect of this scale of pay, in order to show whether it will be a loss or beneficial? ”

The Hon. the RAJA OF BOBBILI:—“ I have stated, Sir, that the loss or extra cost can only be calculated after we know the number of persons to whom personal allowance is to be granted.”

Mr. T. S. RAMASWAMI AYYAR:—“ May I know if the present incumbents who are on a higher scale of pay will be affected by the new scale? ”

26th January 1935]

The Hon. the RAJA OF BOBBILI:—“ The idea of Government is, just as they did in the case of their ministerial staff, that in all cases of genuine hardship, the difference in pay should be given as personal pay.”

Mr. T. S. RAMASWAMI AYYAR:—“ May I know whether in cases of retrenchment, it is not the policy of Government to effect a cut in the pay of present incumbents rather than reduce the scales? ”

The Hon. the RAJA OF BOBBILI:—“ If the hon. Member has understood the position aright, he will find there is no cut in pay here.”

Mr. T. S. RAMASWAMI AYYAR:—“ If a person has entered service on a fixed scale of pay, is it open to the Government to now say that that person should receive a smaller scale of pay? ”

The Hon. the RAJA OF BOBBILI:—“ I am afraid there is great difference between Government service and district board service. In Government service there is a system and a method and definite scales are fixed. In this case, the scales themselves vary much. There are also many cases where persons have been appointed on lower scales, who in three or four years not only got accelerated promotion, but also had higher scales sanctioned for them.”

Mr. U. C. SUBRAHMANYA BHATT:—“ May I know, Sir, what the Hon. Minister means by ‘cases of genuine hardship’? What is the criterion please? ”

The Hon. the RAJA OF BOBBILI:—“ It means in other words that people who have received accelerated promotion or have been given special treatment will be excluded.”

Mr. U. C. SUBRAHMANYA BHATT:—“ May I know whether sudden cut in pay is itself not a ‘genuine case of hardship’? ”

The Hon. the RAJA OF BOBBILI:—“ I am afraid I cannot make myself understood to the hon. Member. In all cases, there will be no ‘genuine hardship’.”

Mr. V. T. ARASU:—“ May I know whether the Hon. Minister has realized this difficulty, viz., that in the case of teachers who are already drawing the maximum provided for them by the new scales, they will not be entitled to any increment in salary for the rest of their service? ”

The Hon. the RAJA OF BOBBILI:—“ Yes, they will not be eligible.”

Mr. T. S. RAMASWAMI AYYAR:—“ May I know if it is not a matter of contract, just as in the case of Government servants, that when an officer enters on a grade pay, his pay cannot be reduced; that any retrenchment that is made can be only an emergency measure which should be removed when the emergency passes; and that no scale of pay can be revised to the detriment of an officer once he has entered service on a particular grade of pay? ”

[26th January 1935]

The Hon. the RAJA OF BOBBILI:—"In the case of some district boards, they have not reduced the pay; they have only imposed cuts to the extent of 5, 10 or 12½ per cent; but that amounts to the same thing."

Mr. V. T. ARASU:—"Arising from the answer given, viz., that in the case of teachers already drawing the maximum, they will not be eligible for further increments for the rest of their service, does the Hon. Minister realize that such a procedure would damp their enthusiasm and efficiency would suffer?"

The Hon. the RAJA OF BOBBILI:—"The persons concerned will have opportunities of promotion to other grades, I think."

Government Order granting to servants of certain district boards the privilege of retaining their existing rates of pay.

* 558 Q.—Mr. U. C. SUBRAHMANYA BHATT: Will the Hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that orders have been passed granting district board servants the privilege of retaining their existing rates of pay treating the difference in the scales of pay as personal allowance; if so, what the said orders are;

(b) whether it is a fact that only ten district boards have been notified as those whose servants are to get this benefit; if so, why;

(c) whether it is a fact that the servants of the South Kanara District Board have strongly protested against the application of new scales to existing incumbents; if so, whether the Government will be pleased to place a copy of the said protests on the table of the House; and

(d) what action the Government have taken or propose to take in the matter?

A.—(a) The Government have not passed any general order permitting district board servants to retain the old rates of pay sanctioned by district boards before the 1st June 1934.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The President of the South Kanara District Board has forwarded to Government a copy of the proceedings of the conference of the representatives of the Teachers' Associations of the Board Secondary Schools in South Kanara in the matter.

Government do not consider that it will serve any useful purpose to lay these proceedings on the table.

(d) Attention is drawn to the answer to question No. 557.

Mr. U. C. SUBRAHMANYA BHATT:—"With reference to the answer to clause (a) that 'Government have not passed any general order permitting district board servants to retain the old rates of pay' may I know whether Government have so permitted, in the case of any particular district?"

[26th January 1935]

The Hon. the RAJA OF BOBBILI:—"In the case of a majority of districts, as soon as statements were received from district board presidents, orders were passed treating the difference of pay as personal allowance."

Mr. U. C. SUBRAHMANYA BHATT:—"May I know, with reference to district boards which have adopted the Fundamental Rules, whether it is open to the Government or even to the district board itself, to go back upon the terms of appointment and reduce the pay of the teachers?"

The Hon. the RAJA OF BOBBILI:—"If the hon. Member will bring to my notice any such case of hardship, I will consider the matter."

Mr. T. S. RAMASWAMI AYYAR:—"In the case of pandits, may I know whether new qualifications have been recently fixed, i.e., that they should possess certain academic qualifications before appointment? And, if so, do the Government still think that there is a case for reducing their pay even after high qualifications have been fixed?"

The Hon. the RAJA OF BOBBILI:—"So far as pandits are concerned, my idea is that their scales are already low; and I do not think the new scales make any further reduction."

Mr. V. T. ARASU:—"May I know whether the Hon. Minister is aware of the fact that the scale of pay provided for the pandits is very much lower than the scale of pay now generally drawn by drill-masters and drawing-masters in schools?"

The Hon. the RAJA OF BOBBILI:—"I have not made any comparisons as between the two; but the pay of the pandits generally compares favourably with the regular scales existing at present."

Diwan Bahadur C. S. RATNASABHAPATI MUDALIYAR:—"May I know whether the scales of pay of teachers were fixed by the Education Department or by the Local Self-Government Department?"

The Hon. the RAJA OF BOBBILI:—"The proposals emanated from the Director of Public Instruction and were considered both by the Education Department and by the Local Self-Government Department."

Mr. K. A. NACHIYAPPA GOUNDER:—"May I know, Sir, whether the pay now fixed to pandits is much less than what was obtaining in almost all the local boards previously?"

The Hon. the RAJA OF BOBBILI:—"I have already stated that the new scale takes due consideration of the existing scales in the various boards."

Mr. A. B. SHETTY:—"May I ask the Hon. the Chief Minister whether the scales of pay laid down by Government for men in district board service in different departments, are lower than the scales of pay for men in similar positions in Government service; and if so, why a distinction is made?"

[26th January 1935]

The Hon. the RAJA OF BOBBILI:—"Certainly they are lower, but the standard of work done is different."

Mr. T. S. RAMASWAMI AYYAR:—"May I know whether in the case of the headmasters of high schools, their maximum pay has been reduced very much?"

The Hon. the RAJA OF BOBBILI:—"I think the headmaster's pay is Rs. 170, but I cannot say that it has been reduced. Probably hon. Members are not aware of it. In certain cases, the pay fixed by Government is much higher than the existing scales of pay, for example in Kurnool."

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—"Is it not the policy of Government to see that the employees of district boards and other local bodies are a contented lot and not to create discontent in the services?"

The Hon. the RAJA OF BOBBILI:—"I am in entire agreement with the hon. Member, but unfortunately Members of the Council are considering this question only from the case of secondary school teachers; but if they consider the entire scheme of the Government as a whole, both for elementary and secondary school staff, they will find that there is no decrease but an increase of five or six lakhs in the total salary bill."

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—"May I know, Sir, whether it is not a policy of the Government not to make any invidious distinction between the employees of Government and those of the local boards?"

The Hon. the RAJA OF BOBBILI:—"Both as regards qualification and efficiency, the position is quite different in local boards and the Government. Moreover, Government have taken into consideration the present financial position of the local boards and what they have been able to pay."

Representations from the teachers of the Board High School, South Kanara, regarding the recent Government Order with reference to the revision of the scales of pay.

* 559 Q.—Mr. U. C. SUBRAHMANYA BHATT: Will the Hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether he has received representations from the teachers of Board High School in South Kanara concerning the recent Government Order with reference to the new scales of pay; and

(b) what action the Government have taken or propose to take with reference to the applicability of the new scales to present incumbents?

A.—(a) Yes.

(b) The attention of the hon. Member is invited to the answer to question No. 557.

Mr. U. C. SUBRAHMANYA BHATT:—"May I know from the Hon. the Minister whether in view of the fact that the salary of pandits would be low under the new scale of pay, he will consider the advisability of revising the same and doing justice to them?"

[26th January 1935]

The Hon. the RAJA OF BOBBILI:—"If it is found that compared with the other scales of pay, it is much lower than it at present exists, the suggestion of the hon. Member will be considered."

Mr. T. S. RAMASWAMI AYYAR:—"Will I be in order, Mr. President, if under Standing Order No. 4, I move an adjournment motion?"

The Hon. the PRESIDENT:—"Just after questions are over."

B. POCKER SAHIB Bahadur:—"May I know, Sir, whether Government consider that the work done by the pandits and munshis is inferior to that done by the gymnastics instructor or the drill-master?"

The Hon. the RAJA OF BOBBILI:—"It is not a question of their being inferior or superior, but the position is that these pandits are at present being paid lower scales of pay than the drill master, and therefore the same is continued."

B. POCKER SAHIB Bahadur:—"Is it not a fact that under the proposed scales they have made it inferior?"

The Hon. the RAJA OF BOBBILI:—"Perhaps the scales are inferior because the present scales are also inferior."

General

Alleged refusal to grant privilege leave to Muslim subordinates for the observance of Ramzan.

* 560 Q.—Khan Bahadur MAHMUD SCHAMNAD SAHIB Bahadur: Will the Hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state whether representations have been received by Government that some heads of departments and superior officers have refused to grant or recommend privilege leave to their Muslim subordinates who applied for privilege leave on account of Ramzan on the ground that it is not a sufficient reason for granting leave?

A.—No such representation has been received.

B. POCKER SAHIB Bahadur:—"May I know whether it is a fact that though Ramzan has been declared a public holiday by Government, the Presidency College authorities did not declare it a public holiday for that college?"

The Hon. Mr. C. A. SOUTER:—"Government have no information, Sir."

B. POCKER SAHIB Bahadur:—"Are the Government aware that the Loyola College authorities who also get grant from the Government declined to declare Ramzan as a holiday for that college also?"

The Hon. Mr. C. A. SOUTER:—"Government have no information."

B. POCKER SAHIB Bahadur:—"Will Government take any steps to see that Ramzan is declared a public holiday in all these public institutions?"

The Hon. Mr. C. A. SOUTER:—"I will consider the matter, Sir."

[26th January 1935]

Irrigation

Receipts under the Toludur project.

* 561 Q.—Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYED: Will the Hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) the total area that was originally intended to be irrigated by the Toludur Project and the actual area that is now being irrigated under the project;

(b) the percentage of profit that was originally expected to be derived from the project after completion of the work and the actual percentage of return now secured;

(c) the water-rate originally proposed and the one now in force;

(d) The causes for the difference in the percentage of return;

(e) the causes for the full area as originally contemplated in the project not having been brought under cultivation; and

(f) the steps, if any, proposed by the Government to extend the area of cultivation under the project?

A.—(a).—

		First crop.	Second crop.
		ACS.	ACS.
Area intended to be irrigated ..	..	26,851	3,000
Area irrigated in 1933-34 ..	..	17,274	2,725
(b) Return anticipated in 1917 ..	..	4.57 per cent.	
Return derived in 1933-34 ..	..	2.52	..

(c) It was originally proposed to convert occupied dry lands commanded by the project into wet and to impose on them the rates of wet assessment noted in the margin, and until such conversion was effected,

to impose water-cess at the following rates in addition to dry assessment:—

	RS.	A.	P.
(1) For a first wet crop ..	6	4	0 per acre
(2) For second crop ..	3	2	0 ..
(3) For each dry crop, whether first or second ..	3	2	0 ..
(4) For a dufasal crop ..	9	6	0 ..

[26th January 1935]

The introduction of the wet rates of assessment has been postponed pending the completion of field channels and the development of irrigation. The rates of water-cess mentioned above therefore continue to be in force.

(d) The causes for the difference in the percentage of return are—

(i) The area irrigated is much below the area originally anticipated.

(ii) The maintenance charges have been very high owing to the expenditure on repairs to slips at certain places of the reservoir bund and the repairs to the floor of the Toludur regulator necessitated by the floods of May 1930.

(e) The causes which account for the retarded development of irrigation under the project are—

(i) The economic depression since the year 1929-30, which has prevented ryots finding money to spend on reclaiming their lands to make them suitable for wet cultivation.

(ii) The unwillingness of the ryots to excavate field channels at their cost and want of co-operation in the matter of permitting landowners lower down to take field channels through lands higher up.

(iii) Alleged salinity of the water in the two odais which lie in the catchment area of the reservoir.

(iv) Want of adequate means of communication within the area for carting manure and marketing the produce.

(f) The following steps have been taken by Government:—

(1) The Irrigation Development Board has been requested to expedite the estimates for excavating field channels.

(2) The Director of Agriculture has been requested to depute an officer of the Agricultural department to examine the question of the alleged salinity of the water and to report the effect which irrigation has had on lands already irrigated and the remedies possible apart from the use of organic manures.

(3) The Board of Revenue has asked the Collector to submit concrete proposals as regards communications, to inform the President, District Board, what new lines of communications are urgently necessary, to ascertain what the District Board will do, and to report the result with a rough estimate of the cost involved.

[26th January 1935]

Irrigable limit for the first crop under the existing 2 feet shutters for the Godavari Western delta.

* 562 Q.—Mr. C. INDRAIYA: Will the Hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) what the ultimate irrigable limit fixed for the first crop under the existing 2 feet shutters for the Godavari Western delta is;

(b) what the actual extent of the area under first-crop irrigation in the Godavari Western delta is;

(c) what the surplus area in the same is; and

(d) what the extent of the area for first-crop irrigation for which commitments have already been made by the Government till now is?

A.—(a) The ultimate irrigable ayacut as fixed in October 1924 is 414,500 acres.

(b) The extent irrigated during fasli 1342 was 416,074 acres.

(c) & (d) In September 1932, the Chief Engineer (Irrigation) submitted a comprehensive programme of works for the extension of irrigation in the three sections of the Godavari delta. This programme provided for extension of irrigation to 40,500 acres in the western section. The Government after considering it in consultation with the Board of Revenue and the Irrigation Development Board, recently directed that certain special works included in it should be carried out in the first instance, and the result watched for a few years before the other proposals for extension are investigated. The special works, so far as the western delta is concerned, are—

- (1) Replacing 2 feet shutters over the Godavari anicut by 3 feet shutters.
- (2) Kalipatnam scheme (3,500 acres).
- (3) Vemuladevi scheme (2,000 acres).
- (4) Circars Agricultural Development Corporation, Limited, Scheme (1,500 acres).
- (5) Extension of irrigation to scattered dry fields from existing channels (1,176 acres).

Land Revenue Administration

Representations made to His Excellency the Governor by the South Kanara Landholders' Association.

* 563 Q.—Mr. A. B. SHETTY: Will the Hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government have considered the representations made by the deputation of the South Kanara Landholders' Association which waited on His Excellency the Governor last month; and

(b) whether they have passed any and, if so, what orders in the matter?

[26th January 1935]

A.—(a) Yes.

(b) The attention of the hon. Member is invited to G.O. No. 42, Revenue, dated 5th January 1935, which has been laid on the table of the Legislative Council.

Mr. A. B. SHETTY:—“ May I know what Government propose to do in view of the adjournment motion passed in the Council the other day?”

The Hon. Mr. C. A. SOUTER:—“ Nothing, Sir.”

Mr. U. C. SUBRAHMANYA BHATT:—“ May I know, Sir, what is the value that Government attach to votes of this House on a question like this?”

The Hon. Mr. C. A. SOUTER:—“ It depends upon the vote, Sir.”

B. POCKER SAHIB Bahadur:—“ Does Government look upon it as a wastepaper?”

The Hon. Mr. C. A. SOUTER:—“ Sometimes, Sir.”

Mr. U. C. SUBRAHMANYA BHATT:—“ May I know, Sir, whether that is the courtesy to be shown by the Government to a vote of this House?”

The Hon. Mr. C. A. SOUTER:—“ It is not a question of courtesy, but it depends upon the vote.”

Rate of jamabandi allowance payable to village officers and village menials.

* 564 Q.—Mr. K. A. NACHIYAPPA GOUNDER: Will the Hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) what the rates of jamabandi allowance now paid are to the village officers and village menials;

(b) how long they are generally made to halt at the taluk headquarters during the jamabandi period; and

(c) whether they are informed of the definite date of checking their accounts during the jamabandi?

A.—(a) The village officers are not paid any jamabandi allowance now. The village menials are paid Rs. 2 each.

(b) & (c) The hon. Member's attention is invited to Board's Standing Order No. 12 (3) and (4).

Diwan Bahadur M. GOPALASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—“ May I know, Sir, whether Government is prepared to pay the village officers some allowance as batta in view of the facts explained in the question, Sir?”

The Hon. Mr. C. A. SOUTER:—“ No, Sir.”

[26th January 1935]

Control of Vehicles

Timings regulating the arrival and departure of motor buses plying for hire.

* 565 Q.—Mr. K. A. NACHIYAPPA GOUNDER: Will the Hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether the system of fixing a definite time for starting and arrival of each of the motor buses for hire from one place to another is followed in all the districts;

(b) if not, in which districts such a system is observed and in which districts it is not observed;

(c) what the reasons are for not observing such a system in certain districts; and

(d) whether representations have been received for the adoption of such a system in the Salem district, and, if so, in what way they have been disposed of?

A.—(a), (b) & (c) The Government have no information.

(d) No.

Mr. K. A. NACHIYAPPA GOUNDER:—“ May I know, Sir, whether Government will be pleased to call for the information? ”

The Hon. Rao Bahadur A. T. PANNIRSELVAM:—“ I do not think any useful purpose will be served by calling for such information. ”

Mr. K. A. NACHIYAPPA GOUNDER:—“ May I know, Sir, whether such a system is being adopted in all the districts? ”

The Hon. Rao Bahadur A. T. PANNIRSELVAM:—“ I have already replied some days ago that this is a matter in which a uniform system all over the Presidency will not be useful at all and the local authorities will adopt the system that is best suited for each place. ”

Proposals, if any, for prescribing the educational and other qualifications of applicants for motor-driving licences.

* 566 Q.—Mr. K. A. NACHIYAPPA GOUNDER: Will the Hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(a) how many motor-driving licences have been issued (both newly issued and renewed) in each district during the year 1934;

(b) whether there is any proposal for fixing educational and other qualifications for the applicants for motor-driving licences in future; and

(c) if so, what they are and when they are likely to be introduced?

A.—(a) The Government have no information.

(b) & (c) There is no proposal before the Government for fixing any additional qualifications other than those required by rule 19 of the Motor Vehicles Rules.

Mr. A. B. SHETTY:—“ May I know whether in granting licences they try to find out whether the man has got defective eye-sight or defective hearing or whether he is addicted to drink? ”

[26th January 1935]

The Hon. Rao Bahadur A. T. PANNIRSELVAM:—“ Unless it is found out where a man is addicted to drink or a person is known to be a drunkard, no additional qualifications other than those required by the rules are insisted. But as far as eye-sight is concerned, in some places insistence is made on it. ”

Administration of Justice

Application of the communal Government Order for appointments in the Judicial service.

* 567 Q.—Mr. M. S. SRESHTA: Will the Hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government are considering the question of extending the communal Government Order for appointments in the Judicial services; and

(b) what the ratio is of appointments in the Judicial service held at present by the members of the different communities in the various districts.

A.—(a) The answer is in the affirmative so far as the Judicial Subordinate Service is concerned.

(b) The Government have no information.

Mr. M. S. SRESHTA:—“ Will the Government be pleased to call for information? ”

The Hon. Sir K. V. REDDI NAYUDU:—“ If the hon. Member will be pleased to let us know in what direction information is required, it may be possible for Government to consider the suggestion. But here, the hon. Member will notice that the judicial service consists of district judges, subordinate judges, district munsifs and their establishments in 26 districts. If the hon. Member would give us in what direction he wants information, that suggestion will be considered. ”

Mr. M. S. SRESHTA:—“ In regard to all the appointments? ”

The Hon. Sir K. V. REDDI NAYUDU:—“ It will be a task not commensurate with the results. ”

Mr. V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—“ May I know, Sir, whether Government will give information as to the cadre of district judges, subordinate judges and district munsifs community-war? ”

The Hon. Sir K. V. REDDI NAYUDU:—“ I have no objection, Sir. ”

Mr. M. S. SRESHTA:—“ May I know, Sir, whether this information cannot be got with regard to the judicial subordinate services, Sir? ”

The Hon. Sir K. V. REDDI NAYUDU:—“ The task is so great. It would be an almost impossible task to collect information for all the establishment in the 25 or 26 districts and for all the courts in each district and their establishments; and the result will not be commensurate with the time spent in preparing the figures. If the hon. Member wants statistics in any particular district or particular court, Government will be very glad to supply the information. ”

[26th January 1935]

Mr. M. DEVADASAN:—"With reference to clause (a) of the answer, may I know whether the subordinates in the judicial service include, munsifs, sub-judges and district judges?"

The Hon. Sir K. V. REDDI NAYUDU:—"No, Sir."

Mr. M. DEVADASAN:—"May I know, Sir, whether giving effect to such a principle will be useful to people in service as munsifs, sub-judges and district judges?"

The Hon. Sir K. V. REDDI NAYUDU:—"The hon. Member knows, I take it, that the appointment of district munsifs is entirely in the hands of the High Court."

Mr. V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—"May I know, Sir, whether Government will take power to appoint district munsifs and for that purpose whether they will suitably amend the Act?"

The Hon. Sir K. V. REDDI NAYUDU:—"I am sure the hon. Member is aware that to pass an Act it will take at least one year and the new Reforms will be coming into effect; and on a perusal of the Joint Parliamentary Committee Report he will find the answer there."

B. POCKER SAHIB Bahadur:—"Is the Government aware that it will be in the best interests of the efficiency of the service if the appointment is left to the High Court itself and Government does not take it upon itself?"

The Hon. Sir K. V. REDDI NAYUDU:—"It is a matter of opinion, Sir."

Memorials urging the location of a District Munsif's Court at Tadepalligudem, West Godavari district.

* 568 Q.—Mr. C. INDRAYYA: Will the Hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether any memorials were sent up to the Government and the High Court for the location of a District Munsif's Court at Tadepalligudem in the district of West Godavari; and

(b) if so, what steps were taken by the Government in the matter?

A.—(a) Yes.

(b) Under section 5 of the Madras Civil Courts Act, 1873, the location of a District Munsif's Court is determined by the High Court. Under section 11 of the same Act it is the High Court that fixes, and from time to time, modifies the local jurisdiction of District Munsifs. The memorialists were therefore informed that the question of location of a District Munsif's Court at Tadepalligudem with the necessary rearrangement of the territorial jurisdiction of the District Munsifs' Courts in the district was one for decision by the High Court.

[26th January 1935]

Provision of adequate number of motor garage in the District Court of West Godavari at Ellore.

* 569 Q.—Mr. C. INDRAYYA: Will the Hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(a) the number of garages provided in the District Court at Ellore in the district of West Godavari; and

(b) whether the Government are aware of the fact that some legal practitioners owning motor cars are being put to much inconvenience in the matter of keeping their cars as there is no accommodation for private cars?

A.—(a) & (b) The Government have no information.

Wireless Installations

Establishment of a broadcasting service in the province.

* 570 Q.—Mr. A. B. SHETTY: Will the Hon. the Member for Finance be pleased to state what Government have decided regarding the establishment of a broadcasting service in this Presidency?

A.—The Government have not yet come to any final decision in the matter. They have submitted a scheme, based on the recommendations of the Special Broadcasting Adviser, to the Government of India, the subject being—as the hon. Member is doubtless aware a "Central subject" under the existing rules. The matter is at present under correspondence with the Government of India.

Mr. A. B. SHETTY:—"May I know, Sir, whether the Hon. the Finance Member will try to expedite the consideration of the scheme and get a final decision in the matter before he lays down the reins of his office?"

The Hon. Sir HOPETOUN SROKES:—"I shall be very glad to do so, but I fear there is very little chance of my being able to do it."

UNSTARRED QUESTIONS

Irrigation.

The Papanasam Irrigation Project, Tinnevely district.

571 Q.—Mr. M. DEVADASAN: Will the Hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state with reference to his answer to question No. 118, dated 4th August 1934, with regard to the Papanasam Irrigation Project in the Tinnevely district—

(a) whether the report called for from the Chief Engineer for Irrigation has been received;

[26th January 1935]

(b) whether any, and, if so, what orders have been passed on the same; and

(c) whether the Government will be pleased to place the report on the table of the House?

A.—(a) to (c) The report has not yet been received. The scheme is under the consideration of the Chief Engineer for Irrigation.

The Mandaikulam Tank Irrigation Scheme.

572 Q.—Mr. M. DEVADASAN: Will the Hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state with reference to an Irrigation Scheme for Mandaikulam tank mentioned in his answer to question No. 475, dated 24th January 1933, under item No. 6 in the annexed statement thereto—

(a) whether any, and, if so, what progress has been made in the matter of the consideration of the scheme and whether the Government have received any report about it;

(b) whether any, and, if so, what orders have been passed by the Government on the same; and

(c) whether the Government will be pleased to place the report on the table of the House?

A.—(a) to (c) The estimates have been prepared. They are under scrutiny by the local officers.

[Note.—An asterisk (*) at the commencement of a speech indicates revision by the Member.]

II.—MOTION UNDER STANDING ORDER No. 4 *RE* ANSWER TO THE QUESTION ON SOUTH KANARA RESETTLEMENT.

Mr. P. V. KRISHNAYYA CHOUDARI:—“Mr. President, I just want to know whether I can move an adjournment motion arising out of the answer given by the Hon. the Revenue Member that the resolutions of this House will be considered as wastepaper. Is that the sort of courtesy that hon. Members of this House are to be shown?”

The Hon. the PRESIDENT:—“The hon. Member's attention is invited to Standing Order No. 19 which deals with an adjournment motion.”

III.—MOTION UNDER STANDING ORDER No. 4 *RE* REVISED SCALES OF PAY OF TEACHERS.

Mr. T. S. RAMASWAMI AYYAR:—“Mr. President, Sir, I desire to move under Standing Order No. 4, that half an hour be granted after the conclusion of the business of the day to discuss the question regarding the revised scales of pay of teachers in local boards as the answers given to questions, Nos. 557 and 558, by the Hon. the Chief Minister were not to the satisfaction of the House.”

* The Hon. the PRESIDENT:—“The hon. Member is quite in order and it will be taken up just after the business of the House for the day is over.”

[26th January 1935]

IV.—A BILL * TO AMEND THE MADRAS ELEMENTARY EDUCATION ACT (BILL No 17 OF 1934).

* The Hon. the PRESIDENT:—“The House will now consider the Elementary Education Act (Amendment) Bill and discussion on the amendment of Mr. Nachiyappa Gounder to clause 7, will continue.”

* Sriman M. G. PATNAIK Mahasayo:—“Mr. President, Sir, the particular clause under discussion relates to two things. The first is that admission to schools should be made compulsory and the second is that the retention of the children in the schools should also be made compulsory. The other day Dr. Natesa Mudaliyar said that he did not understand the section well. It provides for compulsion both as regards admission as well as retention of the children in schools. Those are the two things contemplated there. The Elementary Education Act was passed in 1920 and has been in operation for some time. This amendment is sought to be introduced on the ground that most of the children receiving education in the schools have not been benefited to the full extent. Therefore it is thought necessary that they should be kept in the schools for a longer period than at present. That is the reason why this provision is sought to be made. I consider that the provision is entirely misconceived. In the first instance, you can compel a child to attend a school, but unless he finds his education interesting or is useful to him, you cannot by mere compulsion keep a child in the school for any length of time.

“If people do not take to education, what can we do? It shows, that the syllabus is entirely unsuited to the actual life of the communities for whom the education is intended. This sort of consideration has never entered in the minds of Government. With due respect to the Hon. Minister as well as the Director of Public Instruction, I think they ought to have taken up the investigation as to whether the syllabus is useful to the people of the urban areas as well as the rural areas and as to whether it is useful to them in after-life. If it is not useful to them, and if they cannot take any interest in that sort of education, then the best way of keeping the boy in the school will be to make the syllabus instructive and useful. The Director of Public Instruction says that there are two classes of people. Firstly, there is a certain class who do send their children to school whether they find the education useful or not. There are other classes who are unwilling to send because they do not belong to the literary class. They would rather bring up their children in their own profession rather than at school, if they find that education is not useful to them. Therefore, we have to see, where the poorer classes do not send their children to school that the syllabus is made instructive and useful to them in their after-life. That is exactly the thing which the present day syllabuses do lack. They are altogether useless to these people in their after-life. To those who want to pursue the studies, it is a different matter. Even the secondary and collegiate education are not now popular and a time may come when people may abandon secondary and collegiate education

* Discussion resumed from 22nd January 1935.

11-30
a.m.

[Sriman M. G. Patnaik Mahasayo] [26th January 1935]

because there is no use at all in them and the only useful purpose it serves is you can earn some money. The compulsion sought to be made by the clause is something like this: a bull yoked to a cart lies down. The cartman tries to make the bull get up by twisting its tail and if it does not, he belabours the bull and if it fails to get up even then he builds up a fire and applies its flames to its body. That is exactly what the Hon. the Education Minister is advised by the department to do in this case. He tries to pile compulsion upon compulsion. The Hon. the Education Minister should see that the syllabus is made more profitable and useful. In a country like this, an agricultural bias to education is very necessary. Though that opinion was expressed by the Committee of 1926, nothing has been done by the department till now to see that the syllabus is suitably altered to make provision for giving an agricultural bias. The Hon. the Education Minister says 'when people don't take themselves to this education, what am I to do?' The Hon. the Home Member yesterday said that you can take the horse to the water but you cannot make it drink. That is not the way in which the question has to be tackled. What is the present position? You have appointed teachers and Inspectors who are not in sympathy with this sort of education. What you have to do is to try to teach the people in the villages in such a way so that they may take up education. You have not done that. The first thing the department has to do is to provide teaching in agriculture in the training schools. Teachers under training must learn something in agriculture in the training schools. Such instruction can be given by the demonstrators in several places by going to those schools at least two hours a week. In that way, without much expenditure something could be done. Nobody in the department seems to have studied the question. On the other hand, the department has proposed to reduce the number of elementary schools. By so doing, they are trying to retard rather than accelerate the progress of education. I think the whole policy is retrograde. I cannot say the department has knowingly adopted these measures. They have been doing this without knowing that they are retarding the education. Therefore this provision should not be accepted."

Mr. DANIEL THOMAS:—"Mr. President, Sir, the provision now under consideration raises the most fundamental point in the Bill. I take it that the main object or purpose of the Hon. the Education Minister in introducing this Bill for the acceptance of this House is this: for some years past an optional system has been introduced by the original Elementary Education Act giving the option to the local authorities to introduce in special areas the system of compulsory education. That system has been worked for the last 10 or 15 years. Considering the results that were expected by the introduction of this optional compulsory education and assessing the actual results that have been achieved, one could not but be struck with the lack of adequate results. It is admitted, Sir, on all hands that elementary education is a very essential frame-work on which any system of adequate and enlightened citizenship can be based and built upon. On the one hand,

[26th January 1935] [Mr. Daniel Thomas]

Sir, while we are anxious that greater and greater provision should be made for the cause of elementary education, it is also equally necessary that such increasing provision is legitimately expended by the Government for the cause of elementary education in order that illiteracy in this country may be diminished. My hon. Friends, Mr. Nachiyappa Gounder and Mr. Krishnayya Choudari have already referred to the position as it now prevails. Taking the total number of students in any particular province or district attending elementary educational institutions, we find that the number of students in the first standard is nearly three times or four times as much as the total number of students attending in all the other standards. The result is that a good proportion of the students who are supposed to attend the elementary educational institutions do not, as a matter of fact, derive any lasting or permanent benefit by undergoing training in these schools. You take it, Sir, that the Government is spending a certain amount for each student who attends elementary school and you will find on calculation that nearly 50 per cent of the money which is spent by Government on elementary educational institutions goes to waste because the students don't make use of their education in later life. It is therefore, I submit, Sir, an absolute necessity that some provision should be devised to prevent this waste of public funds and at the same time ensure that all monies spent by Government in the cause of elementary education are really spent to diminish illiteracy and ensure literacy. My hon. Friend the Director of Public Instruction referred to the two systems that are under consideration, the system of compulsory education provided under the present Act and also the partial compulsion which is proposed in the proposed Act. He also pointed out that the one does not in any way come into conflict or supersede the other scheme, i.e., that the second scheme, the scheme of partial compulsion, is only an alternative to the other scheme. I submit, Sir, we have up to now the system of universal compulsory education and that has not been more widely taken up by the local authorities. If, as a matter of fact, this has not been more and more largely used by the local and district boards and municipalities, it is due to the absence of the necessary provision for funds. I submit as practical people who know that finance is the life-blood of any proposal or institution which may try to remedy existing defects, you must face the position. The introduction of universal compulsory education on a larger scale than at the present moment would mean the opening of new institutions, employment of additional teachers and the furnishing of the school with the necessary materials and so forth and the amount of expenditure will be something which will be enormous and which the present financial position of the Government would not be able to cope with. In these circumstances, I would submit, Sir, that the present proposal of a partial compulsory scheme comes in as a very satisfactory provision for securing the object we have in view and at the same time not going too long for universal compulsory education. Certain members who have spoken on the floor of the House previous to me have referred to the scheme as a retrograde step

[Mr. Daniel Thomas] [26th January 1935]

as if the scheme of partial compulsory education is intended to be a substitute for or is in conflict with the previous Act.

11-45 a.m. "I do not understand, Sir, in what way that position can be justified or defended. As my hon. Friend the Director of Public Instruction pointed out, it is still open to any district board to introduce compulsory education in any areas that they consider will be best served and whenever and wherever necessary funds can be provided for such a scheme. But, it only provides an alternative scheme, or I may call it a supplementary scheme, for the purpose of enlarging the number of literate students turned out in the educational institutions. How far you can avoid a conflict between the two systems is a doubtful matter. I would submit that if the present system of compulsion is to be an actual link with the proposed system, you must have a universal system of elementary education. No one in this House will say that universal compulsory elementary education is not a desirable thing. I believe the Hon. the Minister for Education would be the first to recognize that if and when the times are suitable, universal compulsory education should be provided for. But, Sir, without waiting for that distant date, it is up to him as a wise and prudent statesman to introduce measures for the present which will enable a much larger percentage of students to be turned out of our elementary schools than at present. It may be by reason of this provision parents who might otherwise have sent their children to the schools will be scared away, and lesser and lesser number of parents will be willing to send their children to the school when they find themselves unable to continue their children's education for long. But, I believe, Sir, that as a matter of fact there is a general feeling on the part of parents to see their children educated, and the thirst for education is spreading more and more. That shows that the provision of compulsory education prescribed by the Government will be such as not to interfere with the grown-up children. The period for permanent literacy will be such as to enable children to complete the period before they attain the age of ten or twelve years, so that I believe parents will not really be at a disadvantage from the economic point of view, by reason of the compulsory period. I will only submit, Sir, one other thing for the consideration of the Government in this matter. When this provision of partial compulsion is to be introduced in larger and larger areas, I believe a certain amount of provision will have to be made by the Government for giving text-books, slates and other necessities to students of the poorer classes. It will be rather hard, Sir, that parents who are in a very poor state should be compelled not only to send their children to school but also to undertake the expense of providing books, slates, etc. I would also commend an observation that has been made by Mr. Natesa Mudaliyar before the House that in the case of poor children, especially children belonging to the depressed classes, it may be necessary to make some arrangement by which some sort of meal is provided for them in the school. I submit, Sir, these are matters of detail which could be worked out after

26th January 1935] [Mr. Daniel Thomas]

the provision comes into effect. However, I should also submit that there should be a general provision which is fundamentally necessary for the proper achievement of our object. I think, Sir, this is a very satisfactory provision which will substantially help the cause of spreading elementary education in this province."

* Mr. A. B. SHETTY:—"Sir, I wish to know whether this modified form of compulsion has been tried in any other province or country, and if so with what result, or whether it is merely an experiment based on the recommendation of the Royal Commission on Agriculture. It has been mentioned by more than one hon. Member of this House how this proposal for a modified form of compulsion has not been viewed with favour by the public. The fear has been expressed that it will retard elementary education rather than promote it. It will frighten poor parents who now send their children to school at least for some time, and it may have the effect of keeping away some of these poor children from school rather than of securing better attendance. It has also been remarked that it will mean penalization of the partially good parent, and leaving untouched the bad parent who does not care to send his children to school at all. Now, teachers in many places go from house to house and canvass and try to get more children to attend the school. This sort of propaganda on the part of the teacher will become difficult, if not impossible when one proposed measure is given effect to. Now, Sir, compulsion is not the only step required for improving attendance in schools. As observed by Mr. Champion the other day, it is true that the main cause for non-attendance of children in schools is poverty. This difficulty can be best met by the abolition of school fees and by provision of a mid-day meal in the school. It is a question of funds. Some of the mission schools have adopted this means and some others have been giving a grant to the earning capacity of the child. Another suggestion that has been made in this connexion is that our schools must adapt their hours of work to the demands for child labour in an agricultural community. If a child when he becomes able to do work in the field is faced with the alternative of a whole day in the school or a whole day in the field, the result is that often he gives up school altogether. Sir, apart from poverty, which as I said is the root difficulty—the main obstacle which stands in the way of many people sending their children to school or keeping them there for a sufficiently long time—there are other factors to be taken into consideration. One great factor in securing a better state of primary education is the teacher himself. The teacher makes the school. He must be able to spread a desire for education in the village. He must overcome the apathy of the people and try to make the school attractive and get more children to attend the school. It is a regrettable fact that teachers in many cases do not attend to their work properly. Many teachers absent themselves for days and days together without obtaining leave because they know they can do so without being found out. The Deputy Inspector or the Junior Deputy Inspector who is in charge of more than a hundred elementary schools is not able to inspect a school

[Mr. A. B. Shetty] [26th January 1935]

more than once a year. He goes out for inspection after giving due intimation to the teachers and they keep everything ready and prepare themselves for the inspection. It is not possible, under the present circumstances, to pay surprise visits to schools. It is necessary that we must have a more adequate and efficient system of supervision if we want to make the teachers attend schools regularly and do their duties properly. It is hardly necessary for me to add that our schools must be well equipped and well staffed so that people might feel that it is worth while sending their children to school. Villagers, illiterate as they are, are shrewd enough to observe how far the education given in schools benefits their children. They do not seem to attach much value to the education imparted in our elementary schools at present. Elementary education must take a more practical form. It must help children to earn their livelihood in a better way in their after-life. Unless this is done, elementary education will not get the widespread support it deserves. The success and popularity of our elementary schools will necessarily depend upon the efficiency of the staff and the character of the teaching given. The teaching must be adapted to the needs of the child, and it must help him, as I said, to earn a better living in after-life. It will be hardly justifiable to compel children to attend ill-equipped and badly staffed schools. Compulsion must not come in advance of improvement in primary education. It must come after improvement. It is no doubt true that the wastefulness of the present voluntary system of elementary education can be stopped only by introducing gradually some form of compulsion. But, as I said, we must not only improve the character of primary education, we must also try to solve the difficulties due to poverty, in the way of parents sending their children to school, by making education free, by providing for some kind of mid-day meal in the school and by part-time schools which adapt their hours of work to the demands of child labour. No substantial advance is possible unless funds on a large scale have definitely been made available. I hope that the Hon. Minister for Education will see that sufficient funds are provided so that we may make steady and determined progress towards the goal of free and compulsory education for all children."

* The Hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR:—" Mr. President, Sir, the clause which is under discussion has been criticised from different points of view. We heard in this House itself the view that the clause did not go far enough, and we heard at the same time the view from another hon. Member that it went too far. Perhaps in these two conflicting statements, we find the best evidence to prove that we have been attempting to evolve a measure characterized by moderation. On the merits of this clause itself, I am sure you will agree with me, Sir, when I say that the expert member, Mr. Champion, has explained in a very clear manner the scope of this new provision and the effect of it and how it is really an improvement on the existing position. It is needless for me to add anything to what has fallen from him. I was glad to notice that the House when

26th January 1935] [Mr. S. Kumaraswami Reddiyar]

they listened to his speech received it with that amount of respect and consideration which is due to a statement which proceeds from an educationist of such unique experience and knowledge. With those critics of the extreme type who say that all steps to introduce compulsion must wait till schools have become so improved and so perfect that they will attract students of their own accord without any measures of coercion, with such critics we have nothing in common. We certainly cannot accept or sympathize with a position of that kind. But I can certainly understand the school of thought represented by my hon. Friends, Mr. Shetty, Mr. Patnaik and others, who, while recognizing that compulsion is the proper method of stopping wastage, say that we cannot rest contented with introducing compulsion alone without taking other measures for making the elementary schools more attractive. I certainly endorse what my hon. Friend, Mr. Shetty, said that improvements in the system of education are necessary and that poor children should be given greater facilities and ill-fed pupils should also be given wherever possible some additional nourishment while in school. All these measures do not require any statutory enactment; but what we are trying to provide for now requires a legislative enactment. These two efforts must go side by side, and I am sure the suggestions of my hon. friends which have been listened to with interest by the Director of Public Instruction will receive from him the most careful attention.

" My hon. Friend, Mr. Shetty, asked me a question whether this new form of compulsion which was recommended by the Royal Commission on Agriculture has been introduced anywhere. I am rather surprised that an administrator of such experience as my Friend, Mr. Shetty, should have thought fit to put a question like that. If there is a recommendation from such an authoritative body as the Royal Commission on Agriculture, why should we the people of this Province wait till somebody else has tried it and put the scheme to test? Let us be the pioneers in introducing this system which has such an authoritative support and have the credit of setting an example for others to follow. I have, however, information to the effect that this system has been tried in one of the Indian States, though I am not in a position to say with what results. But I do not think we need in the least be influenced by the fact that other people have not tried it; and if we are going to be the first to put the scheme to test and if we are going to succeed it will be still more creditable to us than if we were copying the example of somebody else who undertook the scheme before us. The fear has been expressed that this scheme will keep away children from schools altogether. That scare should have been removed by the reassuring statements made by the hon. Member Mr. Champion. It was admitted on all hands that there is a large amount of wastage and that measures are necessary and very urgently necessary to check that wastage, and it is admitted (though not by all) by a very large body of people that compulsion is the only method to prevent that wastage and that the form of compulsion which has

[Mr. S. Kumaraswami Reddiyar] [26th January 1935]

been in existence under the present Act for a number of years has not succeeded in producing any results worth mentioning. Will you not therefore give the Government and their advisers an opportunity of making an honest and earnest endeavour to devise some other measures to counteract this evil of wastage? Under this Bill we are endeavouring to devise some such measures. I do not claim for this Bill anything more. We do not say that this is the last word in the perfection of our system of elementary education. Other methods may probably be devised later on, but this is the only method in the field at present. No hon. Member has suggested to us any alternative method by which the object which this amendment has in view could be achieved. I submit, Sir, that the new provision which has been made in the Bill is not open to any objection, on the other hand, it has a great deal to welcome it. It is after all an enabling provision; and the local bodies, if they share with some of the hon. Members here the fear that it would scare away children from the schools, let them not introduce it. If on the other hand there are local bodies who think that the educational interests of the area under their care require the introduction of this new method of compulsion, are you going to stand in their way and prevent them from trying this new method? That is the point of view from which I request the hon. Members of the House to examine this question. I hope therefore that this amendment of my Friend, Mr. Nachiyappa Gounder, which cuts at the root of the whole Bill, will not be accepted by the House."

* Mr. K. A. NACHIYAPPA GOUNDER:—"I am very glad to hear that the Government are very anxious to try some other alternative form of compulsion, but that alternative should be one which does not mar the present state of things in the least. I heard the hon. the expert Member, Mr. Champion, and I am much thankful for his clear exposition. But I am not able to understand, from what he said, how the new method of compulsion if put to work will not injure the present state of affairs. At present, I know, in the village parts the schools are being run mainly on the efforts taken by the elementary school teachers in going round and bringing in the children to school every day. I am not in a position to speak much about the urban area, but this is what is actually taking place in rural parts. If this new form of compulsion is introduced what I fear is that parents who are already unwilling to send their children to school will not come forward at all to send their children for fear that they will be visited with heavy fines if they were to stop away their children in the middle for some reason or other. Thus the remedy may prove worse than the disease. In rural parts people often want their children to be away from schools to assist them in their domestic work. It is all due to their poverty. In trying to check wastage, this sort of compulsion is brought in but I may submit that this is sure to scare away many of the children who are now attending the schools. Instead of improving the present state of things it will make matters worse. As has been suggested by Mr. Shetty, if the Government could make

26th January 1935] [Mr. K. A. Nachiyappa Gounder]

up their mind to provide for effective supervision and devise some amenities to attract the children to school, such as providing books, supplying midday meal and such things, it would improve matters very much than all these ingenuous methods. Just when the Bill had been considered by the Select Committee, I remember the premier dailies of Madras, *The Madras Mail* and *The Hindu* wrote leading articles on this question and sufficiently dealt with the position. I too honestly believe that this provision instead of giving an impetus would bring down the attendance at schools. These things make me stand in the way of this clause being put into the Statute. The Hon. Minister argued that the local bodies who are anxious may adopt this form of compulsion if they choose to do so. But considering the present state of things, I do not think any local body would come forward to adopt this scheme, and there is no use of having an enactment if it is not going to be operative. For these reasons, I am constrained to say that I am not in a position to withdraw my motion."

The amendment was put and lost.
Clause 7 was put and carried.

V.—PERSONAL STATEMENT BY THE HON. THE REVENUE MEMBER.

* The Hon. Mr. C. A. SOUTER:—"Sir, I understand this morning 12-15 p.m. some remarks of mine have given a certain amount of offence to some hon. Friends in this House. When a question was put to me whether the Government viewed a resolution of this House as a scrap of paper or waste paper, I answered 'sometimes.' Well, Sir, in the first place, may I point out that resolutions are not necessarily to be accepted by Government? And surely my hon. Friends recognize that a resolution of the importance to which they allude could not possibly, in my conception of it, be classed as waste paper. I had no intention at any time to view a resolution in such terms, but, if I had, surely I would not have taken up half an hour or three quarters of an hour of the time of this House to make a reply to it.

"Sir, I must also point out that this expression 'waste paper' was not put forward by me at all, but by two or three hon. Members on that side of the House and, all I said was 'sometimes.' But, Sir, if I have given offence to any Members of this Hon. Assembly by any remarks of mine, I most unreservedly apologize and I trust that the hon. Members who have known me personally know that I would never intentionally insult them in any way."

Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"Sir, in view of the statement made by the Hon. Gentleman the Revenue Member, I am sure hon. Friends on this side of the House will not press any motion which they want to move because I am sure they realize, as he does, that he used the expression in the heat of the moment the meaning of which he did not wish to convey at the time. However, as my hon. Friend on the left observes, it is best especially in Parliamentary institutions, to steer clear of expressions of this kind. I know, opponents always wish to put the

[Dr. P. Subbarayan] [26th January 1935]

other side in the wrong. It is for that side to see that they do not take the bait offered to them."

IV.—A BILL TO AMEND THE MADRAS ELEMENTARY EDUCATION ACT
(BILL No. 17 OF 1934)—cont.

Clauses 8, 9 and 10.

Clauses 8, 9 and 10 were put and carried.

Clause 11.

* Mr. K. A. NACHİYAPPA GOUNDER:—" Mr. President, I move—

'In section 52 (1), lines 5 to 9, for the words "the Commissioner in . . . non-municipal areas," substitute the words "the president of the district educational council having jurisdiction over that area";

'In sub-section 2 of section 51, in lines 1 to 3, for the words "chairman of a . . . district board," substitute the words "president of a district educational council";

'In line 4, omit the figure and brackets "(1)";

'In lines 6 to 8, omit the words "to the Revenue Divisional Officer . . . chairman and";

'In lines 8 to 10, omit the words "in the case of . . . president";

'In lines 10 and 11, omit the words "Revenue Divisional Officer or";

'In the proviso to sub-section 2 of section 51, lines 3 and 4, omit the words "by the Revenue Divisional Officer . . . municipality or," and in line 5; omit the words "district board," and substitute in their place the words "district educational council";

"My object in moving this amendment is to see that the powers for carrying out the scheme of compulsory elementary education and the penalising powers are entrusted to any authority who has got sufficient leisure to exercise them properly. Under the existing Act, these are in the hands of the attendance committees constituted in the respective areas. Since the Government themselves say that they have tested the present system and found it not satisfactory and hence these sincere attempts to change the system, I may suggest that these powers might be given to the district educational councils and their presidents. My reasons are these: As observed on many occasions, there is a lot of confusion and party spirit in the local bodies and so, if penalising powers are given to them, I am afraid that the people who are opposed to the party in power will be made victims even unnecessarily sometimes. Another reason why my suggestion should be adopted is that the local board presidents have a lot of work to do and so it would not be possible for them to devote proper and sufficient attention to this important work. I cannot admit that the persons holding the office of the presidents of district education councils are in any way inferior to the presidents

[26th January 1935] [Mr. K. A. Nachiyappa Gounder]

of district boards. Moreover they are to be considered to be experts in this work as they are intimately connected with the problem of elementary education in their districts. That being the case, I fail to see any difficulty in allowing the presidents of district educational councils who have ample time at their disposal to look after these special works which require personal attention. The district educational councils consist of the Collector of the district, the District Educational Officer, the other inspecting officers as well as the president and a few members of the district board besides some nominated members. I must ask whether the president of such a body is not a fit person to be entrusted with these powers and functions. Sir, I believe he is. For these reasons, I trust that the House and the Government will consider my amendment favourably."

Mr. V. T. ARASU:—"I second it."

* The Hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR:—"I am sorry, Sir, that I must oppose this amendment. I am not going to compare the relative merits of the presidents of district educational councils and the heads of the district boards and municipal councils for the purpose of being given these additional functions. But the Select Committee did carefully consider this point and came to the conclusion that the presidents of district boards and municipal chairmen would be more suitable persons for being given these additional functions. At present the district educational councils have unfortunately no other duties than disbursing the grants put into their hands by the Government. Though statutorily they can undertake other work also they are at present exercising no powers other than this. Being a body with such limited functions, I do not think the heads of those bodies would be suitable persons for enforcing compulsion. At present the improvement and expansion of elementary education is one of the duties assigned to municipal councils and local bodies and it is they that should have this power. I am sorry I cannot accept the amendment."

* Mr. K. A. NACHİYAPPA GOUNDER:—"I am sorry, Sir, the Hon. the Minister has not stated sufficient reasons for not permitting the presidents of district educational councils to take up this work. But since he is not agreeable to this amendment, I do not think any useful purpose will be served by my pressing it. I therefore withdraw my amendment."

The amendment was by leave withdrawn.

Clause 11 was then put and carried.

Clause 12.

Mr. G. RAMESWARA RAO:—"Sir, I beg to move the amendment standing in my name, namely:—

'Add the following proviso at the end of clause 12:—

"Provided that the rules framed under the Act shall be subject to the approval of the Legislative Council."

[Mr. G. Rameswara Rao] [26th January 1935]

Sir, my object in moving this amendment is only to give the Legislative Council an opportunity of understanding these rules as they are framed by the Government. This will give the Council an opportunity to suggest proper alterations in them so that the machinery may be kept in good and proper working order to the satisfaction of all concerned."

* The Hon. the PRESIDENT:—" (After a pause) the amendment falls through for want of a seconder. Clause 12 is . . . "

B. POCKER SAHIB Bahadur:—" I second it."

The Hon. the PRESIDENT:—" Clause 12 is for the vote of the House."

B. POCKER SAHIB Bahadur:—" It was seconded, Sir."

* The Hon. the PRESIDENT:—" I gave sufficient time for the motion to be seconded. When I declared that it had not been seconded, there is no meaning in the hon. Member getting up and saying that it was seconded."

Clause 12 was put and carried.

Clauses 13 and 14 were then put and carried.

The preamble was then put and carried.

12-30 p.m. * The Hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR:—" Before moving that the Bill be passed into law, I shall, with your leave, re-open some of the previous clauses and move some amendments consequential on the amendments which have been accepted by the House."

Clause 2.

Section 5.

* The Hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR:—" I move—

' In line 4 omit the figure and brackets " (i)." ' "

Mr. D. H. BOULTON:—" I second it."

The amendment was put and carried.

The Hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR:—" I beg to move—

' Omit sub-clause (ii) and the figures and brackets " (iii)." ' "

Mr. D. H. BOULTON:—" I second it."

* Mr. K. A. NACHIYAPPA GOUNDER:—" With regard to this amendment I want to know whether they have given up the idea of distributing the seats in a uniform manner throughout the area of the district. Originally it was thought so and I have also given notice of an amendment that the Revenue divisions must be fixed as the basis and the Minister wanted that a taluk should be taken as the basis. By omitting sub-clause (ii), which proposes distributing the seats throughout the area of the district I find, Sir, that the Government have given up that idea.

26th January 1935] [Mr. K. A. Nachiyappa Gounder]

altogether. Therefore I wish to ask whether this was deliberately left out or left out unintentionally."

* The Hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR:—" The Bill as it stood originally provided that election by the local authorities to the District Educational Council must be made from amongst the members of the local authority. That clause has been omitted and it is open to the local authority to elect even outsiders, i.e., people who are not members of the local authority itself. That being so, I do not see any purpose in having any distribution of seats for the local areas. If the local authority so chooses it can elect even outsiders. In view of the House having accepted my original position, we thought that clause should be omitted and hence this amendment."

The amendment was put and carried.

Clause 2 as amended was put and carried.

Clause 3.

Section 8 (1)—Proviso.

* The Hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR:—" I beg to move—

' For the first proviso, substitute the following:—

" Provided that a member elected by a local authority under sub-section (5) of section 5 who at the time of such election is a member of such authority shall cease to be a member of the council when he ceases to be a member of the local authority, unless he is re-elected as a member of such authority and such re-election takes effect immediately on the expiry of his previous term of office: " ' "

Sir, this also is consequential on the amendment that has been accepted by the House, viz., that people elected by the local authority need not be members of that local authority. This clause can only apply to people who are elected from amongst the members of the local authority. It has therefore been made clear that outsiders will not be affected by this proviso. It is for that purpose that I am proposing to add the words ' who at the time of such election ' in the second and third lines of the proviso."

Mr. D. H. BOULTON:—" I second it."

* Mr. K. A. NACHIYAPPA GOUNDER:—" I cannot find any reason as to why this amendment should be accepted. The original object was that the membership of the District Educational Councils should be restricted only to the members of the respective local authorities and that their membership in the District Educational Council should cease automatically along with their membership in the local authority and so this clause was brought in. But subsequently a concession for the sitting members to continue in the District Educational Council for a complete period of three years if they have not completed their period of three years already, in case they are again re-elected members of the same local authority, was introduced when the Bill was being considered

[Mr. K. A. Nachiyappa Gounder] [26th January 1935]

by the Select Committee. Sub-clauses (i) and (ii) having been omitted I do not find any reason as to why this clause should be retained. You are allowing the outsiders also to get into the District Educational Council and when outsiders have been allowed the chance of continuing for three years I ask where is the necessity for bringing in disqualification for the members of local authorities who are elected to the District Educational Council by their colleagues. When pure outsiders who have nothing to do with the local authority have been given the option of getting into District Educational Councils,—that is a good move and I am not discouraging it—and allowed to complete their full period of three years, I ask whether it is necessary to impose restrictions upon the members of the local authority who are not in any way inferior to outsiders. In fairness to the members of the local authority and also the idea that they should not be differentiated or be put on a different basis than outsiders I think it is better that this amendment also is dropped, so that they too may have a full life of three years as they are having at present. But if Government think that in the case of local authorities such a restriction is necessary they may extend the same restriction to outsiders who are elected as members of District Educational Councils. If that is done, both the outsiders and members of local authorities who are elected as members of District Educational Councils will have equal treatment. The amendment which I have given notice of in this connexion if approved will achieve this object. But I am sorry it was not given proper consideration. So, I am sorry, I will have to oppose the amendment."

* The Hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR:—"The principle is that members of a local authority when elected as members of a District Educational Council can continue to be members of that body so long as they are members of the local authority. That principle has been accepted by this Hon. House. What I seek to make clear by this amendment is that this proviso should not be made to apply to outsiders but only to that class of members who are on the local authority, but not at the time of their election. There is nothing in this amendment which violates the principle which has been accepted by the House."

The amendment was put and carried.

Clause 3 as amended was put and carried.

Clause 5.

Section 41.

* The Hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR:—"I beg to move that—

for lines 2 to 7 the following be substituted:—

"(i) sub-section (3) shall be lettered as clause (a) of sub-section (3) and to the clause as so lettered, the following words shall be added at the end, namely:—

'within sixty days from the date of the passing thereof.'

26th January 1935] [Mr. S. Kumaraswami Reddiyar]

"(ii) to the same sub-section, the following clause shall be added, namely:—"

Mr. D. H. BOULTON:—"I second it."

* Mr. K. A. NACHİYAPPA GOUNDER:—"While on this amendment, may I suggest, Sir, that the sixty days allowed should be counted from the date of receipt of the order and not from the date of passing of the particular order? In this connexion I want to refer hon. Members of this House to the limitation which is allowed in civil courts. There when there are appeals to be filed, the time allowed is from the date of the receipt of the particular records which the parties are not in possession of and on which they have to appeal. Here the wording is 'within sixty days from the date of the passing thereof.' Due to laxity or for some reason or other the authorities may fail to send the papers to the parties in time and they may not be able to file their appeals. Even 30 or 40 days are quite enough. But the point is that it should be from the date of receipt of the order. The authorities may retain their orders for a pretty long time in their office and such orders may reach the parties just on the eve of the completion of 60 days. If that is so is the party to lose his privilege of filing the appeal? I would point out to the Hon. Minister that the provision he has made is not proper and that the method which has been adopted with regard to limitation in judicial and other branches of administration may also be adopted here. In those cases they allow time from the date of receipt of order or the copy by the parties, the time from the date of application to the date of receipt of order or copy being deducted. That sort of concession is not shown here. It may work hardship in some cases. To avoid such a contingency I request the Hon. Minister to insert the words 'from the date of receipt of the order'."

* The Hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR:—"The point mentioned by my hon. Friend has been carefully considered. There may be many cases in which the order is not communicated at all to the party appealing. If the manager of a school applies for recognition and aid and if such recognition or aid is refused, the order will be communicated to him; and it might become the subject-matter of an appeal by him. If he is given the recognition and aid that is applied for, it may be that the manager of another school is aggrieved by that order, but the order is not communicated at all to such aggrieved manager. It is not possible therefore to provide that the starting point of the period is the date on which the order is communicated. In many cases, the order will not be communicated at all to the appellant. It is only to cover all such cases that the period of 30 days originally suggested by Mr. Krishnayya Choudari has been extended to 60 days at the instance of my hon. Friend Mr. Nachiyappa Gounder. I think 60 days is a long interval which will meet all kinds of cases and prevent any hardship from arising."

The amendment was put and carried.

[26th January 1935]

* The Hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR:—"Sir, in the same clause I move that—

'sub-clause (ii) may be renumbered as sub-clause (iii)'."

Mr. D. H. BOULTON:—"I second it."

The amendment was put and carried. Clause 5 as amended was put and carried.

Clause 6.

* The Hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR:—"I move that—

'for lines 2 to 7, the following be substituted:—

"(i) sub-section (3) shall be lettered as clause (a) of sub-section (3) and to the clause as so lettered, the following words shall be added at the end, namely:—
'within sixty days from the date of the passing thereof';

"(ii) to the same sub-section, the following clause shall be added, namely:—"

Mr. D. H. BOULTON:—"I second it."

The amendment was put and carried.

* The Hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR:—"Sir, in the same clause I move that—

'sub-clause (ii) be renumbered as sub-clause (iii)'."

Mr. D. H. BOULTON:—"I second it."

The amendment was put and carried.

* The Hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR:—"Mr. President, I move that—

'in sub-clause (iii) as so renumbered, in the last line of the proviso, before the words "made by the Council" the words "which may be" be inserted'."

Mr. D. H. BOULTON:—"I second it."

The amendment was put and carried.

Clause 6 as amended was put and carried.

* The Hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR:—"Mr. President, I now move that—

'the Bill be passed into law.'

"In doing so, I am not proposing to make any very lengthy observations, but I would be failing in my duty if I do not express my indebtedness to the hon. Members of this House who sat on the Select Committee and who took a very keen interest in its proceedings and who were very helpful in the expeditious passage of this Bill through the Select Committee; and again to the hon. Members of this House who have,

26th January 1935] [Mr. S. Kumaraswami Reddiyar]

in view of the importance of the subject with which this amending Bill dealt, shown an equally keen interest and helped me very much in the passage of this Bill through this Hon. House. I may also be permitted to mention a word about the valuable services which the two Special Members nominated to this House for the purpose of this Bill have rendered to me. I have already mentioned about Mr. Champion, the Director of Public Instruction, whose valuable contribution to the debate on this Bill, hon. Members of this House who have listened to his speech are aware of. But of the great help which I have received from Mr. Boulton, hon. Members of this House may not be aware of: I must acknowledge with thanks that from the very earliest stages of this Bill, he has collaborated with me with the greatest possible earnestness. And if to-day the Bill has been successfully steered through this House, not a little of the credit is due to the thought and labour that Mr. Boulton has brought to bear on the ideas and provisions of this Bill. I am glad to take this opportunity of expressing my gratitude to this House and to these hon. Members. As I have already said, I do not claim for this Bill anything more than that it is an earnest endeavour to devise further measures for the purpose of eliminating the wastage which we all deplore and which we want must be eliminated. If this Bill succeeds in achieving this object even in a small measure, I am sure the credit will go all to the Legislative Council. The hon. Member Mr. Shetty wanted us to wait till somebody else has tried and found out the real worth of the present scheme. But we have not done so; we have with courage started the experiment ourselves; and I hope it will prove a success. I do not wish to detain the House any further and I once again move that the Bill be passed into law."

Mr. R. MADANAGOPAL NAYUDU:—"I second it."

Rao Bahadur P. C. MUTHU CHETTIYAR spoke in Tamil as follows:—

"கனவான்களே!

"எலிமெண்டரி எஜுகேஷன் அமெண்டுமெண்டு பில் விஷயமாய் சிலவற்றை தெரிவிக்க எண்ணுகிறேன்.

"ஒரு பில் கொண்டு வந்து அதை சட்டமாக பாஸ் செய்வதற்கு தேட (third) ரீடிங்குக்கு வந்திருப்பது பிரயாச்சயான காரியம். அதற்காக ஹானரபிள் எஜுகேஷன் மினிஸ்டருக்கு வந்தனம் செய்கிறேன்.

"ஆரம்ப கல்வி அவசியமென்பதை ஆசைப்பிப்பது சரியல்லவென்பது தெரிந்த விஷயம். கல்வி விஷயத்தில் ராஜாங்கத்தார் போருமான கெவனிப்பு செலுத்தவில்லை யென்று சொல்வதற்குரிய சந்தர்ப்பத்தில் ஜனங்கள் மீது தவருதலை சுமத்த இது நல்ல யோஜனையாயிருக்கிறது.

"எலிமெண்டரி கல்விக்கு இந்த மாகாணத்துக்கு கோடி கணக்காக சிலவு செய்து வருவது வேஸ்டுமணியாக இருக்கிறது. அதாவது இந்த பணத்துக்கு தக்க பலனில்லை. போர்டு ஸ்கூல் வைத்து நடத்தும் முறை ஒருவகை. பிரைவேட் ஸ்கூலுக்கு கிராண்டு கொடுப்பது ஒரு வகை. இது பூராவும் சரியல்லாத விஷயமென்பதை முன்னமே மினிஸ்டரவர்கள் அறிவார்கள். முந்திய தாலுகா போர்டு கண்டிரோலிலே இது சரியல்லாத சிலவென்று சொல்லியிருக்கும்போது இப்போதய லாபகரம் செய்ய வேணுமென்று அடியோடு ஒழித்து ஜன் நன்மை

[Mr. P. C. Muthu Chettiyar] [26th January 1935]

மைகளை கொள்ளையாக்கிய டிஸ்திரிக்ட்டுபோர்டு கண்டிரோலிலிருக்கும்போது இதை அக்கிரமமான சிலவென்று சொல்வதில் சந்தேகமான யோசனையுண்டா ?

“பிரைவேட் ஸ்கூல்கள் நடத்துபவர்களுக்கு உதவி அவசியமில்லை. அது வாஸ்தவத்தில் வினியோகிப்பது சரியானபடி நம்ப தகுந்த மாதிரியுமல்ல.

“ஆரம்ப கல்வி அவசியந்தான். அப்போதுதான் மேல் வாசிப்புக்கு ஆதரவாகும்.

“இக்காலத்திய ஸ்திதியில் கைத்தொழில் கற்கவேண்டியது சுலபமாயும் அவஸ்யமாயுமிருக்கிறது. அம்மாதிரி லொக்கேஷன் டிரெயினிங்குக்கு வேண்டிய புதிய மாதிரி கற்றுக்கொடுக்கக்கூடிய ஸ்கூல்களாக டவுனிலும் கிராமாந்திரங்களிலும் ஏற்படுத்தவேண்டியது அவசியம். அதில் ஆரம்ப படிப்புக்கு வேண்டிய முறைகளும் ஒரு வகை பாடமாக வைக்கலாம். அதில் 5 வருஷத்திலே அக்குழந்தைகள் தொழிலையும் ஆரம்பப்படிப்பும் செவ்வையாய் தெரிந்து கொள்ள முடியும். நாம் சிலவு செய்கிற பணத்துக்கு தகுந்த பலன் சீக்கிரத்தில் கிடைக்கும். அதில் கம்பல்சரி (compulsory) வைத்தாலும் பிரயாசையில்லாமலே இந்த ஏற்பாடு மதிப்பாக நடைபெறும்.

“இந்த பில்லானது முந்தி குழந்தைகளை அனுப்புவதற்கு என்று இருந்த கம்பல்சரியை எடுத்து விட்டு ஸ்கூலுக்கு அனுப்பிவிட்ட பின் 5 வருஷத்துக்கு கட்டாயம் செய்ய ஏற்படுத்தியிருப்பது குழந்தைகளை அனுப்பாதிருக்க நல்ல யோஜனையாயிருக்கிறது. அவர்களுக்கு பிரைவேட் பள்ளிக்கூடத்தில் படித்துவரா அனுப்ப ஏதுவாயிருக்கிறது. கிராமாந்திரங்களின் நிலைமை உத்தேசித்தால் குழந்தைகளுக்கு பிரியாக புத்தகம் கொடுத்ததால் என்ன பலன். அதுகளுக்கு குடுத்துணி கட்டி வருவதற்கு ஒரு துணி. சொல்ப விலையில் கொடுக்கவேண்டும். கூழ் குடிக்க மாதம் ஒன்றுக்கு ஏதாவது ரூ. 2 வீதமாவது அவசியம் கொடுத்தால் கட்டாயம் செய்வதற்கு நியாயமாகும். அது கூட இல்லாமல் இந்த படிப்பு முக்கியமாக நினையார். இதில் எடுக்கும் பிரயாசை அந்த பிள்ளைகளை சொந்த விபசாய உபயோக வேலைக்கி உபயோகிப்பது அவர்களுக்கு படிப்பாக எண்ணுவார்கள். அன்னியில் இதை ஆளுபவர்களைப்பற்றி விலதாரமாய் சொல்லாமலே தாலுகா போர்டு அபாலிஷ் ஆனதிலிருந்து ஜனங்களுக்கு ஏதோ சுதந்திரம் கொடுத்தது போல இருந்ததின் பிரயோஜனம் பூராவும் அபகரித்தாய் விட்டது என்று சொல்ல இடமாயுள்ள டிஸ்திரிக்ட்டு போர்டு பிரெசிடெண்டு கள் முனிசிபல் சேர்மன்கள் குழந்தைகளின் பெற்றோர்களுக்கு பயின் (fine) போடும் அதிகாரத்தை இவர்களிடம் எப்படி ஒப்புவிக்கலாம். அவர்களிடம் சேர்ந்திருக்கும் பேர்களுக்கே அவர்கள் சரியில்லாதவர்களாய் இருக்கிறார்கள் என்றும் அவர்கள் மீது நம்பிக்கை இல்லாத தீர்மானம் எந்த நிமிஷமும் வருவதற்கு லாயக்காயுள்ள இத்தகைய தலைவர்களுக்கு இது வேரு அதிகாரம் கொடுத்தால் அவர்கள் அதை எப்படி நடத்தும் முறை தெரிவார்கள். ஜனங்கள் தலைமை வகிக்க நியாயமாய் கண்டுபிடித்து அனுப்பினவர்களாய் நினைக்க இதுவரை அனுபவத்தில் உலகம் சொல்லாதே. கற்றறிந்த மினிஸ்டரவர்களும் சொல்லமாட்டார்களே. இதையும் சேர்த்து பார்க்க அவர்கள் முடியாதவர்கள் என்பதை நன்கு அறிவார். உதாரணமாக மதுரை ஜில்லாவில் சுமார் 2,700 வாத்தியார்கள். அதை 2, 3, லோர்க்குகள் இருந்து நடத்துகிறார்கள். சதா உபாத்தியாயர்கள் வருகை கூட்டம். தனியாய் எஜுகேஷன் ஆபீசர்வேரு. அவருக்கு இன்னும் உபாத்தியாயர் பேர் பூரூ தெரியாது. சேர்மனை பற்றி பெரிய மனிதர் கெவுரமானவர். மதுரை டவுன் நடத்த அதற்கு வேருவகை தெரிந்திருக்கவேண்டும். அவைகளும் இல்லை. மதுரை கவுன்சிலராயுள்ள கனவான் கெ. ஆர். வெங்கிட்டராமய்யாவர்கள் இங்கு இருப்பது சாக்கியமாகும். ஆதலால் இத்தகைய இந்த அதிகாரத்தை இவர்களிடம் கொடுத்தால் சரியல்ல. இத்தகைய பிரெசிடெண்டு சேர்மன்கள் விதிக்கும் அபருத்தத்திற்கு அப்பீல் கிடை யாது. இதை வகுலிக்க லாண்டு ரிவினியூ ஆக்டுப்படி வகுலிக்க கலெக்டர் மூலமாக என்று சுலபமாக எதற்கும் உபயோகிக்க அடொன்றிருக்கிறது.

“அதின் வழி என்ன. அந்த சட்டம் எதற்கு ஏற்பட்டது. அத்தனை கொருரமும் செய்ய முதல் சார்ஜாக நிலம் அதற்குரியது. பொருப்பாக இருப்பதினால்

[26th January 1935] [Mr. P. C. Muthu Chettiyar]

லவா லாண்டு ரிவினியூ வென்று குறிப்பிடப்பட்டது. லெஜிஸ்லேச்சரில் எதை எடுத்தாலும் லாண்டு ரிவினியூ ஆக்டுப்படி வகுலிக்க அதிகாரம் என்று சட்டம் செய்வது கேல்மமான ல்ஷயம். கிராமாந்திரங்களில் சட்ட குத்தார்கள் இஷ்டப் படி விவாகம் பல தடவை செய்வார்கள். யார் பிதா என்பதில் உள்ள விவகாரம் இருக்கிறது. இந்த ஆக்டில் விவகரிக்கவில்லை.

“மொத்தமாக இது சரியான அபிப்பிராயத்தை கொடாததால் இந்த உத் திரவாதமான பெயரை நமது ஆப்த நண்பர் எஜுகேஷன் மினிஸ்டரவர்களுக்கு ஏற்றிவைக்க இஷ்டமில்லாது—அவர்களது அனுதாபத்தில் இதை ஆசேஷிப்பது உசிதமென எண்ணி சொல்லியுள்ளேன்.”

* Mr. C. BASU DEV:—“Sir, I am of opinion that this Bill should be delayed by at least six months. Hon. Members—especially my eloquent friend from Madura, Mr. Muthu Chettiyar, Mr. Patnaik from Berhampur and others have spoken about the hardship which compulsion will cause to the poor classes of people. After all compulsory education is intended for those, as the Director of Public Instruction himself admits, who are too poor to send their children to school and who are not in a position to pay adequate attention to the education of their children. Both these sets of people come under the category of wage-earners who have to earn their livelihood by the sweat of their brow under very difficult conditions of service. May I ask the Minister, therefore, if he is doing the right thing by putting these unfortunate people in a state of difficulty and anxiety?”

“On the last occasion when this Bill was referred to the Select Committee I raised the question of the cost of education to the parents. It is certainly not a correct thing to say that the Government is offering free education. Apart from the fact that no fees are demanded it has to be admitted that the education that is being now imparted is by no means free; nor is it attractive. Education which is intended for the children is in fact benefiting only the text-book writers and publishers—text-books are changed every year, sometimes twice and thrice a year for no other purpose than that of distributing patronage. The unhappy parent will have to buy year after year new books and even copy books which I submit wage-earners cannot afford. My hon. Friend, Mr. Patnaik, very eloquently pointed out the absence of purpose or policy in the education that is now being imparted. Yesterday I had occasion to refer to the report of the Unemployment Committee which was appointed in 1926 which drew the attention of the educational authorities to the need for making education more attractive and for giving it an agricultural bias. I ask the Hon. Minister what he has done to carry out those suggestions. I am sure the Director of Public Instruction will endorse my statement that education at present has absolutely no purpose and no object. If it is only to teach the three R's to the children, I submit with all the emphasis at my command that it is far better and more to the purpose to entrust the whole of elementary education to the village pial schools than spending such enormous sums on elementary education. My hon. Friend, Dr. Natesa Mudaliyar, who has every authority to speak on behalf of the people of this Presidency and who is considered to be the tribune of the people, drew pointed attention

[Mr. C. Basu Dev]

[26th January 1935]

to the need to afford facilities for poor children by giving them midday meals and I suggest by supplying them with text-books, copying books, slates, etc.

* The Hon. the PRESIDENT:—"I wish to ask the hon. Member how these points are relevant to the third reading of this Bill."

* Mr. C. BASU DEV:—"Sir, I shall presently submit how. I originally gave notice of a motion for the adjournment of the consideration of this Bill by six months. I am not moving it now. I am making these observations so that the Government might delay giving effect to this Bill and make certain necessary arrangements before compulsion is enforced. Before introducing compulsion and before putting this Bill into operation, it is highly necessary that the Hon. Minister should make arrangements for the free supply of text-books or for the abolition of the text-books altogether in the elementary classes. On the last occasion when he moved for the reference of this Bill to the Select Committee, the Hon. Minister promised me that the question of abolishing the text-books for the first two standards would receive his attention."

* The Hon. the PRESIDENT:—"I am afraid the hon. Member is not relevant."

Mr. C. BASU DEV:—"Sir, I am referring to the question of compulsion. Whether modified or absolute, no sort of compulsion will be of any use if arrangements are not made for the supply of text-books. That is my view. I respectfully urge on the attention of the Government that they should make necessary provision to see that compulsion does not sit heavily on the poor parent; though he may have to forego the economic value of his child at least he may have the satisfaction that his child is taught some useful things and that he is not called upon to spend from his all too meagre earnings."

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—"Sir, I must express on this occasion the view that the people of this Province will certainly not be satisfied with this legislation, in view of the fact that there has been a long-standing demand for wholesale revision of the Elementary Education Act. As it is, I must admit that the new and modified form of compulsion that has been incorporated in this Bill will not help to mitigate the wastage in education that is going on now for a certain number of years. There has been fear entertained in the minds of certain people that the modified form of compulsion that has been introduced as far as the education of the school-going children is concerned, will not go a long way unless similar compulsion is given effect to in regard to the free admission of children into the schools themselves. I hope, Sir, that when giving effect to this amending Bill when it becomes law, the authorities concerned will consider the necessity of seeing to it that the provision for compelling school-going children to attend the schools will not be relaxed in any respect. When you introduce compulsion in a modified form, you will come across many practical difficulties. As

[26th January 1935] [Mr. Abdul Hameed Khan]

has been pointed out by hon. Members who have spoken before me, many classes of people will not find it possible to send their children to school from the first year class to the fourth or fifth year class, unless certain facilities are afforded to them. Such facilities have been mentioned by my hon. Friends, Messrs. Shetty and Basu Dev; one is the hours of work during which the children of a particular area or locality will be called upon to attend the schools; the other is the nature of the education that is to be imparted to the children of the various localities, suitable to them, and suitable to the conditions pertaining to that locality. The third thing that was pointed out is with regard to the cost of education. There is no doubt that we have made elementary education free and compulsory. The fact that a child is not compelled to pay one anna or two annas per mensem should not be construed to mean that education is made free. The child has to bear much expenditure, because he has to buy a large number of costly books that are prescribed even for the lower standards. Sending children to schools is very costly and the poor people are not able to bear the cost. When you are compelling children to study in all the four or five classes, when they are not in a position to buy the text-books and to incur the cost of education, their parents are put to the double difficulty of not only incurring the cost of education but paying the penalty that will be imposed by local bodies. These are some of the difficulties which the authorities should bear in mind and I hope—against hope perhaps—that the Hon. Minister would come forward with a comprehensive Bill in the near future revising the whole Act. He must first of all do away with the district educational council."

Diwan Bahadur A. APPADURAI PILLAI:—"I move, Sir, that the question be put."

Diwan Bahadur A. M. MURUGAPPA CHETTIYAR:—"I second it."

The closure motion was put and carried.

The motion that the Bill be passed into law was put and carried and the Bill was passed into law.

VI.—THE MADRAS LOCAL BOARDS (AMENDMENT) BILL (BILL No. 1 OF 1935).

* The Hon. the RAJA OF BOBBILI:—"I understand, Sir, that notice of a motion to postpone the consideration of this Bill has been given. I do not know whether, in that case, within the time at the disposal of the Council to-day, this motion^a can be disposed of."

* The Hon. the PRESIDENT:—"There is an amendment given notice of by Messrs. Nachiyappa Gounder and Manikkavelu Nayakar; and if that amendment is moved, naturally the business cannot be finished for another two hours. That is what I feel."

* The Hon. the RAJA OF BOBBILI:—"In that case, I do not propose to make this motion, Sir."

^a To introduce the Bill and move that it be referred to Select Committee.

[26th January 1935]

III.—MOTION UNDER STANDING ORDER No. 4 *RE* REVISED SCALES OF PAY OF TEACHERS—*cont.*

* Mr. T. S. RAMASWAMI AYYAR:—"Sir, under Standing Order No. 4, I desire to raise a debate on a matter of urgent importance arising out of the answers given by the Hon. the Chief Minister this morning to questions Nos. 557 and 558 concerning the revised scales of pay of teachers, which were not to the satisfaction of the House.

"Sir, in answer to the interpellations made this morning, the Hon. the Chief Minister said that the scales of pay have been revised; I want to show that such revision of pay has affected the teachers, and especially the pandits, to their detriment. The new scale of pay for pandits has been reduced to Rs. 30—40 with biennial increments of Rs. 2. The scale for headmasters of high schools has been fixed at Rs. 110—170 with biennial increments of Rs. 10; and in the case of secondary school teachers, it has been fixed at Rs. 30—50 with biennial increments of Rs. 2. In their original G.O. No. 4619, the Government stated that the scale would apply to teachers in secondary schools and that no personal allowance would be granted to existing incumbents, in the case of those that were drawing pay in excess of the scales mentioned. They also stated that the order would come into force on the 1st November 1934; the municipal councils were also advised to adopt that scale of pay in regard to secondary schools under their control. Subsequently as a result of representations made by teachers who were affected by the Government Order, the Government were pleased to issue another Government Order No. 5025, dated 20th November 1934, wherein they said that the order would not preclude the Government from considering the question of granting personal pay to those incumbents whose pay prior to the 1st of November exceeded the maximum of the new scale of pay, 'provided there was real hardship in such cases' and the 'local body concerned recommended the payment of personal pay.' The new scales of pay are very low in certain cases and it compares very unfavourably with the scales of pay adopted by the Government themselves in regard to their employees. I do not know why the Government propose to have one scale of pay for their employees and suggest a lower scale for the local board employees. I am not prepared to accept the proposition that the Government servants are more efficient than the employees of local bodies. If you go into the question of qualifications, you find that in many cases the qualifications are almost the same. After all, the pay is fixed according to qualification, and the Government cannot say that the local board employees are less qualified and that therefore they should get less pay.

"Again, Sir, I cannot at all understand the Government trying to enforce this scale of pay in the case of the present incumbents. It is an accepted canon of finance—even in days of Government retrenchment it was so—that no incumbent of an office should be asked to

[26th January 1935] [Mr. T. S. Ramaswami Ayyar]

submit to a reduced scale of pay. Even in the days of depression through which we have just passed when Government appointed a Retrenchment Committee, they sought to enforce only a cut in salaries and did not resort to any revision of pay with regard to present incumbents. They imposed an emergency cut of 5 per cent or 10 per cent, and as soon as the emergency passed, the employees got back their original pay. Wherever the Government thought that the pay was a little too much in any scale, on the recommendation of the Retrenchment Committee or on the recommendation of a special officer appointed by the Government, new scales of pay were introduced; but they were to apply only to new entrants. I want to make this point clear. It is, I think, a breach of contract to say that a person who holds a certain office should be asked to take a smaller scale of pay—both legally and morally. The only justification that an employer can have for such a wholesale revision will be an emergency. When such a principle has been accepted by the Government, I am not able to understand this attitude of theirs in the case of local board employees. No doubt the Government are pleased to say that wherever there is hardship, relief would be given; but what is the relief given in the second Government Order which amended the first? The relief given is this: 'wherever there is real hardship and the local body concerned recommends, personal pay will be given to the employee.' But who is to decide whether there is hardship or not in any particular case? Is the person who pays there is hardship or not to the payee? That is also to be asked whether there is hardship or not to the payee? That is not, I think, the correct way of looking at things. It is the right of an employee to get his pay; it is not for the employer, when once a contract has been entered into, to reduce the pay. Wherever there is a deficit of funds, the chairman or president of a local body would naturally say that there is no real hardship to the employee. After all, it is the wearer that knows where the shoe pinches and it is he who must be able to say whether there is hardship or not. But why put it to this test? Is it not the privilege of the employee to have his old scale of pay? Another difficulty will be this: when the employee thinks that he must have some relief, and the employer begins to go into the question as to whether the employee merits relief or not, it will lead to bad feeling as between the two. I do sympathize, Sir, with the Hon. the Chief Minister in his attempt to husband the resources of the local bodies; but there is a way in which this can be done. As I said, the Government followed certain fixed rules in effecting retrenchment. Why not adopt these rules in the case of employees of local bodies? Considering all this, it is but right that the Government should not allow this Government Order to stand without making a further scrutiny. I understand that Government have addressed the local bodies in this respect; but we have not been told what replies have been received from the local bodies regarding the new scales of pay being introduced. I suggest to the Government, Sir, that they should not give effect to the new scales of pay."

[26th January 1935]

* Mr. T. C. SRINIVASA AYYANGAR:—"Sir, at this late hour, I do not desire to detain the House with any elaborate remarks. But I am bound to invite the attention of the House to the very very inadequate pay provided for some classes of teachers according to the new scales. I desire to draw pointed attention to the case of the pandits. I wonder why the pay of the pandits should be fixed at a lower figure than even that of the pay of the physical training inspectors, drawing masters and commercial instructors. It is an irony that the pandits are not placed in an equal status even with those classes of teachers. The Government have not paid any attention to the qualifications now required in the gentlemen who are appointed as pandits. The graduates on the oriental side of the University and persons possessing equal qualifications can now be appointed to the pandits' places. Training also is insisted on in the case of these pandits; and training is now provided by the Annamalai University. They are on the same academic level as the graduates and L.T.'s, and yet the pay fixed for the pandits is not even half the pay of the L.T. assistants, either in respect of the maximum or of the minimum.

1-30
p.m.

"Under the existing scales of pay adopted by many district boards, which are themselves not overgenerous, pandits' emoluments were better. The instruction will tend to suffer by the very poor pay that is proposed to be given to them. Again, when the medium of instruction in regard to many subjects is now the vernacular, the way in which these pandits are treated is not at all commendable. I hope the Hon. the Chief Minister who comes of an illustrious aristocratic family and who I believe along with the aristocratic families of southern India, is a hereditary patron of indigenous learning, will certainly pay his personal attention to this matter, of the pandits' pay which, as provided here, is certainly very inadequate."

* Mr. K. A. NACHYAPPA GOUNDER:—"Sir, I should also like to say a few words in this connexion. I request the Hon. the Chief Minister to see whether the treatment that is now accorded to local board employees is proper at all. They have been placed on a certain basis and have been hoping that they would be able to get better prospects as time passes. But if reduced scales of pay are thrust on them by a mere stroke of the pen, it is rather very hard indeed. I can understand the imposition of a uniform cut in their pay at the time of exceptional necessity, but not cutting down their pay miserably. I am glad the Hon. Minister has taken a bold step in this direction to save the local bodies. But if he could have applied these new scales only to new entrants it would have been proper and no one could find fault with him. Now, Sir, in the matter of introducing new scales of pay in Government service also, we find that Government have adopted the new scales only to new entrants. When such is the case, I fail to understand why that policy has not been adopted in the case of the local board employees too. Perhaps the Hon. the Chief Minister may say that the

26th January 1935] [Mr. K. A. Nachiyappa Gounder]

local bodies would not be able to cope up with the demand for expenditure if the old rates of pay are continued even in the case of existing men. I fail to understand how these local bodies have so long been continuing to pay those scales of pay to their subordinates and yet go on with their administration by keeping a well balanced budget. In an exceptional emergency, just as Government did it is fair for the local bodies to effect a uniform cut in the pay of their employees, but I cannot see any reason why their existing pay should be cut down once for all. Among the reductions of pay of various establishments I find that the reduction which has been brought about in the scales of pay of the secondary school staff is very deplorable indeed. . . ."

* The Hon. the PRESIDENT:—"May I tell the hon. Member that the discussion on this motion will close at 1-45 p.m.?"

* Mr. K. A. NACHYAPPA GOUNDER:—"The revised scale of pay that has been fixed is very meagre and there is a widespread discontent on account of this. It is an accepted principle, Sir, that the department of education which is doing a very useful work to improve the state of things should not be discouraged and as such the employees of this branch should be given some special consideration, so that they might be enthusiastic in their work. So, Sir, I request the Hon. the Chief Minister to consider all these aspects of the question once again, and redress the grievances of these people especially in the case of pandits who are doing the work of a pressing nature and more so in these days when there is a cry for vernacularization everywhere. Hence, I urge that they should be treated in a better manner. I once again request the Hon. Minister to reconsider his orders and see that the hardship of these poor people is removed."

* The Hon. the RAJA OF BOBBILI:—"Sir, as the time at my disposal is very short I shall just deal briefly with the points raised by various hon. Members. I think three objections have been taken against the orders revising the scales of pay. Firstly, that the scales of pay now proposed are lower than those of Government servants; secondly that those scales of pay have been applied to the existing incumbents; and thirdly that in fixing the scales of pay to pandits, they have been more unfavourably treated than the other classes of servants.

"Coming first to the question of the difference in the standard of scales of pay in Government service and those of local boards, I may state that this morning in answer to this question, I referred not only to the elementary school teachers, but to local board employees as a whole. Of course, in the case of secondary school teachers, I do realize that the academical qualifications are the same, but if we take the general standard of the local board employees as a whole, we find either in efficiency of work or in their qualifications, they do not come anywhere near the Government servants. If I may quote an example, I may state that among the 900 taluk board employees, we find there

[The Raja of Bobbili] [26th January 1935]

are only about 12 graduates. I therefore think, Sir, that it cannot be conceded that local board employees should be paid the same scale of pay as those in Government service. Apart from that, we have also taken into consideration the existing state of affairs, what the scales of pay now prevailing in the local boards are, what the total cost of their establishment is, and what the financial resources of the local boards are. Taking all these things into consideration, I believe that the scales now proposed by the Government, provide a decent living-wage and that there will be no complaint on that score. Apart from this, I would appeal to hon. Members of this House once again to consider the scheme in its entirety and not to refer only to the case of one class of servants.

"Taking education as a whole, both elementary and secondary, we find that under the scheme now proposed by Government, there will be an increase, as I have already stated on the floor of this House, of 5 or 6 lakhs in the total salary bills of local boards. I have heard special pleadings on behalf of pandits and secondary school teachers, but I find hon. Members have not appreciated the action of the Government in raising the level of remuneration of elementary school teachers. Much has been said of the fact that pandits are proposed to be paid a remuneration lower than that given, for example, to the physical training instructors. I have not got before me the scales of pay previously given in local boards, but I believe I am right in saying that even under the existing state of affairs that position exists. Not only in local board service but also in Government service, the scales of pay given to pandits are lower than those given to assistants in high schools. That is the existing system which has not been brought about for the first time by the recent orders of Government. If it can be shown to me that the remuneration paid to these two classes of employees have been reduced or altered by the recent orders of Government, then I am certainly prepared to reconsider and modify the scales of pay given to pandits."

Mr. T. C. SRINIVASA AYYANGAR:—"In five at least of the districts in the south the maximum that is now provided is the minimum."

* The Hon. the RAJA OF BOBBILI:—"The important point which I would put before the House is, how do the salaries now paid to pandits compare with those paid to physical training instructors? Have they, for the first time been made lower by the recent orders of Government than the remuneration given to the physical training instructors?"

"Sir, while so much has been said about the secondary school teachers and pandits, it is rather curious to find that nobody has brought to the notice of the House the present state of the elementary school teachers. Sir, on an examination of the present position of the various district boards, I find that these elementary school teachers are being paid a scale of pay much less than that of the peons and daffadars; and seeing the importance of elementary education and the large amount of public money that is being spent on elementary education

26th January 1935] [The Raja of Bobbili]

every year, Government have come to the conclusion that before we can raise the standard of elementary education, it is necessary to improve the conditions of service. I therefore think, if any impartial observer looks into the scheme as a whole, he will find that these scales of pay have been conceived in the best interests of education in the country. Taking the existing state of affairs and the financial resources of local boards, I do not think, subject to what I have already said, it will be possible for Government to increase the scales of pay now proposed. (Mr. Basheer Ahmed Sayeed: 'Why not pay the difference?')

"Sir, I have also another point to state. While restricting the standard scales of pay, the scheme will also indirectly have the effect of solving to some extent the existing unemployment among the educated classes. Out of the savings that will accrue to local boards in future, I am sure they will be able to open more secondary schools and thus they will be able to employ more teachers in future.

"Now, Sir, coming to the question of different treatment accorded to local board servants, as compared with Government servants in the application of the new scales of pay to existing incumbents, there again, I have to state that in the local boards there is no uniformity in the scales of pay, nor is the remuneration fixed in proportion to the responsibility of the posts. We find some clerks drawing Rs. 30 and some of them, selection grade clerks, drawing Rs. 120 or Rs. 150 doing the same kind of work, in some of the district board offices. It therefore cannot be said that the local board employees are in the same position as Government servants. Apart from that, you find numerous cases where an employee is taken to service on a particular scale of pay and within two or three years is given accelerated promotion. Of course, Government have issued rules to the effect that without the special sanction of Government there should be no accelerated promotion or advance increments granted. But, local boards have been able to get round these rules by sanctioning a higher scale of pay altogether whenever they want to favour a particular individual, and in other cases to get round the rules whereby large personal allowances were granted to some of their servants. To set right all these things, it is necessary to apply these scales to the existing incumbents also."

* The Hon. the PRESIDENT:—"The time allotted for the discussion of this motion is nearly over."

* The Hon. the RAJA OF BOBBILI:—"At the same time, I may say that it is not proposed to apply the scales of pay to the existing incumbents and to reduce the emoluments which they are at present drawing. As a matter of fact in the case of a majority of the district boards, personal pay has been granted in the case of the ministerial staff and various other employees and we are awaiting proposals from a few district boards. As regards the personal pay, as I have already stated more than once, those who have been hit by the orders, will be given personal pay."

[The Raja of Bobbili] [26th January 1935]

"Another criticism is that in the order, local boards have been asked to express their opinion. The reason for that was that the local boards are at present imposing a cut of 5, 10 or 12½ per cent on the salaries. Before they could recommend personal pay and prepare a statement, it will be necessary for them to decide what cut they should impose or whether they should impose any cut at all. One question was brought to my notice and that is whether the matter has been delayed. I shall impose a time-limit and see that the local boards come to a decision at an early date and bring it to the notice of the Government."

* The Hon. the PRESIDENT:—"There is no question to be put. The time allotted for the discussion is over."

"The House will now adjourn and meet again at 11 a.m. on Monday the 28th instant."

R. V. KRISHNA AYYAR,
Secretary to the Legislative Council.

26th January 1935]

APPENDIX I.

[Vide answer to question No. 554 asked by Mr. K. A. Nachiyappa Gounder at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on the 26th January 1935, page 533 supra.]

G.O. No. 2884, P.H., dated 17th December 1934.

In exercise of the power conferred by sub-section (3) of section 67 of the Madras Local Boards Act, 1920, as amended, the Local Government hereby fix the following designations, and grades of, and the scales of salaries and allowances payable to, officers and servants in the public health establishments under the control of district boards in this Presidency:—

Designation and grades of officers and servants.	Scale of pay and allowances fixed.	Remarks.
Woman Medical Officer (Maternity and Child Welfare).	Rs. 85—5 (biennial)—150	.....
Health Visitor (Maternity and Child Welfare).	Rs. 50—5 (biennial)—100 .. plus a fixed travelling allowance of Rs. 20 per mensem.	.....
Midwife (Maternity and Child Welfare).	Rs. 25—1 (biennial)—35 .. plus a fixed allowance of Rs. 5 per mensem.	.....
Sanitary Inspector	Rs. 55—5 (biennial)—110 ..	Sanitary Inspectors will be allowed to draw fixed travelling allowance of Rs. 22 per mensem each in cases where their jurisdiction corresponds to that of Health Inspector. In other cases they will be paid travelling allowance as per the Madras Travelling Allowance Rules or a conveyance allowance of Rs. 4 per mensem.
Vaccinators—		
First class	Rs. 40—2 (biennial)—50 ..	} The proportion of the first to second class vaccinators is fixed at 2:3. Men vaccinators (first and second class) will be allowed to draw a fixed travelling allowance of Rs. 13-4-0 per mensem each and women vaccinators (first and second class) a fixed travelling allowance of Rs. 20 per mensem when they work in rangas. For other journeys all vaccinators (men and women) will draw travelling allowance as per the Madras Travelling Allowance Rules.
Second class	Rs. 25—3 (biennial)—40 ..	
Mechanics, drivers, cinema operators and other skilled servants employed for public health purposes.	Pay to be fixed by each district board subject to the condition that in no case it should exceed Rs. 28 per mensem without the special sanction of Government.	.....
Peons	Rs. .. ..	.....
	First four years 12	
	Next four years 13	
	Next five years 14	
	Next six years 15	
	Next six years 16	
Menials paid from contingencies.	To be paid according to market rates subject to a maximum of Rs. 12 each per mensem.	.....

2. Municipal councils are requested to adopt the above designations and grades and scales of salaries for officers and servants in their public health establishments.

3. The incumbents of the existing posts should be appointed to similar posts carrying new scales of pay fixed in paragraph 1 above. If the existing pay of an incumbent conforms to any stage in the new scales of pay, it should be fixed at that stage. If the existing pay of any officer or servant exceeds any stage in the new scale of pay, his pay

[26th January 1935]

should be fixed at the next stage below that pay and he should be given personal pay equal to the difference, the personal pay being absorbed in the next increment. If the existing pay exceeds the maximum of the new scales of pay it should be fixed at the maximum. The pay of existing vaccinators on probation with less than two years' service should be fixed at Rs. 25, the minimum of the revised scale of pay of second-class vaccinators, and they should be given personal allowance equal to the difference, if any, between their existing pay and the revised pay, the personal pay being absorbed in the next increments. The presidents of district boards and executive authorities of municipalities are informed that the Government will be prepared to consider the question of granting personal pay to those incumbents whose pay prior to 1st December 1934 exceeded the maximum of the new scales of pay, provided that there is real hardship in such cases and that the local body concerned recommends the grant of personal pay. They are therefore requested to submit to Government as early as possible lists of such cases in each class of public health establishments under their control with full reasons for the grant of personal pay in each case and with the details relating to service in the form appended to G.O. No. 2648, P.H., dated 14th November 1934.

4. The Government direct that in districts where the existing vaccination staff including reserve vaccinators is in a different proportion from that fixed in paragraph 1 above for first and second class vaccinators, the existing proportion should be continued but presidents of district boards and executive authorities of municipalities should fill up vacancies as they arise in such a manner as to reach the proportion fixed by the Government. In districts where the number of first-class vaccinators under a local body exceeds 40 per cent of the strength of the entire vaccination staff, such of the first-class vaccinators as draw a pay less than Rs. 40 per mensem should be continued as second-class vaccinators.

5. The conditions of service of all officers and servants specified in paragraph 1 above in respect of special pay and allowances shall be regulated in accordance with the Madras Special Pay and Allowances Rules and the Madras Travelling Allowance Rules.

6. Besides the officers and servants mentioned in paragraph 1 above, a few district boards employ health propagandists and rural reconstruction supervisors. The Government consider that there is no necessity for their continuance. All presidents of district boards and executive authorities of municipalities are therefore directed to abolish these posts giving the incumbents notice of discharge in accordance with the rules in the matter.

7. These orders will come into force on the 1st January 1935.

8. Separate orders will issue fixing the number of posts and designations of officers and servants referred to in paragraph 1 above.

9. All presidents of district boards and executive authorities of municipal councils are informed that if any officer or servant other than those specified in these orders has to be employed for public health

26th January 1935]

purposes, the prior sanction of the Government should be obtained in each case.

(By order of the Government, Ministry of Local Self-Government)

R. SUBBAYYA,
Joint Secretary to Government.

To all Presidents of District Boards.
" all Executive Authorities of Municipal Councils.
" all Collectors.
" the Surgeon-General.
" the Director of Public Health.
" the Inspector of Municipal Councils and Local Boards.
" the Accountant-General.
" the Examiner of Local Fund Accounts.
" the Revenue Department.

APPENDIX II.

[Vide answer to question No. 555 asked by Mr. K. A. Nachiyappa Gounder at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on the 26th January 1935, page 533 supra.]

(1)

G.O. No. 3265, L. & M., dated 12th July 1934.

Read—the following paper:—

From the President of the Kurnool District Board, No. Rc. A-3-745, dated the 8th June 1934.

Order—No. 3265, L. & M., dated 12th July 1934.

The President, District Board, Kurnool, is informed, that such of the discharged taluk board servants as are re-employed under local bodies shall be entitled to continue under the leave rules to which they were subject on the date of their discharge from service. It is, however, open to them to elect to come under the Madras Leave Rules, 1933.

(By order of the Government, Ministry of Local Self-Government)

E. CONRAN SMITH,
Secretary to Government.

To the President of the Kurnool District Board.
Copy to all other Presidents of District Boards.
" all Presidents of Panchayat Boards (Pre-unions), through the Presidents of District Boards.
" all Chairmen of Municipal Councils.
" the Inspector of Municipal Councils and Local Boards.
" the Examiner of Local Fund Accounts.

[26th January 1935]

(2)

G.O. No. 4471, L. & M., dated 6th October 1934.

Certain questions have been raised in regard to the leave concessions, etc., of the re-employed taluk board servants and Government are pleased to issue the following instructions:—

- (i) Such of the ex-taluk board servants as were absorbed in district board establishments in *substantive* vacancies without any break of service before or after the expiry of the period of notice, will be eligible to count their past service for purposes of leave. The leave salary of these employees will be regulated under Fundamental Rule 87 or in accordance with the Madras Leave Rules, 1933, as the case may be.
- (ii) In the case of ex-taluk board servants who were re-employed without actual discharge but only in an officiating capacity, the service put in by them prior to the date of commencement of their officiating service will not count for leave. Such of the ex-taluk board servants as may be re-employed after an interval following their discharge, will be similarly ineligible to count their former service towards leave. They will be treated as having remained without employ during their break in service.
- (iii) The initial salary on which ex-taluk board servants who may be re-employed in officiating or substantive vacancies will be as specified by Government in the waiting lists of persons which have been or may be issued by them. Pending the issue of the lists, the minimum pay of the posts in the revised scales should be paid to such persons.

(By order of the Government, Ministry of Local Self-Government)

T. B. RUSSELL,
Secretary to Government.

To the Presidents of all District Boards [with copies to Presidents of Panchayat Boards (Pre-unions)].
 „ Executive Authorities of all Municipal Councils.
 „ Inspector of Municipal Councils and Local Boards.
 „ Examiner of Local Fund Accounts.

(3)

G.O. No. 3941, L. & M., dated 5th September 1934.

Read—the following paper:—

G.O. No. 3614, L. & M., dated 8th September 1932.

Order—No. 3941, L. & M., dated 5th September 1934.

Under the rule issued in G.O. No. 3614, L. & M., dated 8th September 1932, no officer or servant of a district board entertained in its service on or after the 1st day of April 1932, shall be eligible to be paid any pension from the fund of such board, nor shall any pensionary contribution be paid on his behalf from such fund. With reference to this

[26th January 1935]

order the sanction of Government is necessary for the payment of pensionary contribution in respect of the employees of the late taluk boards who originally held pensionable posts on the 1st April 1932 or immediately before that date and are now in the employment of the District Boards. District Boards are now applying for sanction for the payment of pensionary contribution in respect of such servants. To obviate the necessity of according individual sanction in each case, the Government are pleased to permit all District Boards to pay pensionary contribution in the case of the employees of the late taluk boards who were holding pensionable posts on 1st April 1932 or immediately before that date and who are subsequently employed under the District Boards. The amount of pensionary contribution payable in each case should be settled in consultation with the Accountant-General. It is, however, open to the employees, with the sanction of the District Board concerned, to exchange their pension for the provident fund maintained by the Boards.

(By order of the Government, Ministry of Local Self-Government)

R. SUBBAYYA,
Joint Secretary to Government.

To all Presidents of District Boards.
 „ all Collectors.
 „ the Examiner of Local Fund Accounts.
 „ the Inspector of Municipal Councils and Local Boards.
 „ the Accountant-General.
 „ the Finance Department.
 „ the Revenue Department.

THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL OF THE GOVERNOR OF MADRAS.

Monday, the 28th January 1935.

The House met at eleven of the clock, Mr. President (the Hon. Mr. B. RAMACHANDRA REDDI) in the Chair.

PRESENT:

Stokes, K.C.I.E., C.S.I., I.C.S., The Hon. Sir Hopetoun.	Narasa Reddi, Mr. T.
Reddi Nayudu, Kt., The Hon. Rai Bahadur Sir K. V.	Narasimhaswami, Rao Sahib D. V.
Pannirselvam, The Hon. Rao Bahadur A. T.	Narayanan Nambiyar, Mr. V. P.
Souter, C.S.I., I.C.S., The Hon. Mr. C. A.	Natesa Mudaliyar, Rao Bahadur O. Palat, Mr. R. M.
Raja of Bobbili, The Hon. the.	Parthasarathi Ayyangar, Mr. C. R.
Rajan, The Hon. Mr. P. T.	Patnaik Mahasayo, Sriman M. G.
Kumaraswami Reddiyar, The Hon. Diwan Bahadur S.	Patro, Kt., Rao Bahadur Sir A. P.
Abdul Hameed Khan Sahib Bahadur.	Pattagar of Palayakottai, The.
Alamelumangathayaramma, Mrs. K.	Pocker Sahib Bahadur, B.
Annamalai Chettiyar, Mr. S. A. A.	Premayya, Mr. G. R.
Appadurai Pillai, Diwan Bahadur A. Arasu, Mr. V. T.	Rajagopala Pillai, Mr. P. V.
Ari Gowder, Mr. H. B.	Raja of Kallikote, The.
Basheer Ahmed Sayeed Sahib Bahadur.	Ramachandra Padayachi, Mr. P. K.
Basu Dev, Mr. C.	Ramalingam Chettiyar, Diwan Bahadur T. A.
Bhanoji Rao, Sri A. V.	Ramamurti, Rao Sahib Pandit Ganala.
Birley, Mr. F.	Raman Menon, Mr. K. P.
Devadasan, Mr. M.	Ramaswami Ayyar, Mr. T. S.
Dharmalingam Pillai, Rao Sahib V.	Ramaswami Mudaliyar, Mr. V. M.
Duraiswami Reddiyar, Mr. K. M.	Rameswara Rao, Mr. G.
Foulkes, Mr. R.	Ranganatha Mudaliyar, Mr. A.
Gopalaswami Mudaliyar, Diwan Bahadur M.	Rangaswami Reddi, Mr. M. B.
Jagannatham, Mr. H. M.	Ratnasabhapatni Mudaliyar, Diwan Bahadur C. S.
Jayaram Nayudu, Rao Sahib C.	Ratnavelu Thevar, Mr. P.
Jones, I.C.S., Mr. C. E.	Russell, I.C.S., Mr. T. B.
Kesavaramamurti Nayudu, Mr. K.	Schamnad Sahib Bahadur, Khan Bahadur Mahmud.
Khalif-ul-lah Sahib Bahadur, Khan Bahadur P.	Scott-Brown, I.C.S., Mr. W.
Kolanda Reddi, Rai Sahib C.	Shetty, Mr. A. B.
Koti Reddi, Mr. K.	Simhachalam Pantulu, Mr. G.
Krishnayya Choudari, Mr. P. V.	Siva Raj, Rao Sahib N.
Krishnamurti, Rao Bahadur D.	Soundara Pandian, Mr. W. P. A.
Krishnaswami Avvar, Kt., Diwan Bahadur Sir Alladi.	Sreshta, Mr. M. S.
Kumara Raja of Venkatagiri, The.	Srinivasa Ayyangar, Mr. T. C.
Langley, Mr. W. K. M.	Srinivasan, Rao Bahadur R.
Madanagopal Nayudu, Mr. R.	Sriramulu, Mr. G.
Maharaja of Venkatagiri, The.	Subbarayan, Dr. P.
Mahhoob Ali Baig Sahib Bahadur.	Subrahmanya Chetti, Rao Sahib P.
Manikkavelu Navakar, Mr. M. A.	Subrahmanya Bhatt, Mr. U. C.
Metherell, Mr. J. K.	Sundara Rao Nayudu, Mr. T.
Moidoo Sahib Bahadur, Khan Bahadur T. M.	Syed Tajuddin Sahib Bahadur, Khan Sahib.
Muniswami Pillai, Rao Sahib V. I.	Thangal, Mr. P. M.
Murugesappa Chettiyar, Diwan Bahadur A. M. M.	Uzielli, C.I.E., I.C.S., Mr. H. R.
Muthiah Chettiyar, Mr. M. A.	Vasudeva Pillai, Mr. V. G.
Muthu Chettivar, Rao Bahadur P. C.	Venkatarama Ayyar, Mr. K. R.
Nachiyappa Gounder, Mr. K. A.	Venugopal Nayudu, Rao Bahadur R. K.
Nanjappa Bahadur, Subadar-Major S. A.	Viswanatha Rao, Diwan Bahadur V. N.
	Yahya Ali Sahib Bahadur, Khan Bahadur.
	Yakub Hasan Sahib Bahadur.
	Zamindar of Kirlampudi, The.
	Zamindar of Mirzapuram, The.

[28th January 1935]

I.—QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

STARRED QUESTIONS

Commerce

Japanese competition in the tile industry of the West Coast.

* 573 Q.—Mr. P. M. THANGAL: Will the Hon. the Member for Finance be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government have any information that Japanese tiles in large quantities are to be imported into Malabar soon; and

(b) if so, whether the Government contemplate taking any action in the matter?

A.—(a) No.

(b) If the hon. Member furnishes authoritative information on the point and explains how such imports will affect the tile industry on the West Coast, necessary action will be taken in the matter.

Mr. B. POCKER SAHIB:—“ May I know, Sir, whether the Government is aware that the Japanese tiles are being sold at prices 33 per cent less than the prices of tiles that are prevailing in Malabar? ”

The Hon. Sir HOPETOUN STOKES:—“ I have no information, Sir. If hon. Members can furnish definite information on the point, the Government will take necessary action.”

Mr. B. POCKER SAHIB:—“ Will the Government be pleased to gather information and take action? ”

The Hon. Sir HOPETOUN STOKES:—“ I shall make enquiries.”

Japanese competition in the tile industry of the West Coast.

* 574 Q.—Mr. M. S. SRESHTA: Will the Hon. the Member for Finance be pleased to state—

(a) whether he is aware that it is proposed to dump Japanese tiles in India, at a price much lower than that prevailing for the tiles manufactured on the West Coast;

(b) if so, whether he has taken any action in the matter;

(c) whether the Government of India have been addressed to take steps to prevent the dumping by increasing the import duties; and

(d) whether any representations have been made to the Government that some preventive action may be taken to protect the West Coast tile industry from heavy loss?

A.—(a) No.

(b) & (c) Do not arise.

(d) No.

[28th January 1935]

Mr. M. S. SRESHTA:—“ Will the Hon. the Finance Member be pleased to make some enquiry into the matter, in view of the fact that once dumping starts, it will be too late to interfere and the local industry will suffer? ”

The Hon. Sir HOPETOUN STOKES:—“ I have just promised to make enquiries.”

Civil Law

Memorial from the Muslims of Coimbatore for the removal from office of the present Khazi.

* 575 Q.—Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED: Will the Hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether a memorial signed by about 400 Muslims of Coimbatore, submitted to Government through the Collector under the Khazis Act for the removal of the present Khazi for the town of Coimbatore in January 1934, has been received by Government;

(b) if so, what orders have been passed on the memorial; and

(c) whether a copy of the memorial and the orders thereon will be placed on the table?

A.—(a) No.

(b) & (c) Do not arise.

Landlords and Tenants

Adoption of the fall in price of paddy in fixing rent under Chapter XI of the Madras Estates Land Act.

* 576 Q.—Sriman M. G. PATNAIK Mahasayo: Will the Hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state whether the officers appointed to settle rent in estates and the Board of Revenue either on appeal or in revision take into consideration the fall in price of paddy in settling rent under Chapter XI of the Madras Estates Land Act?

A.—The settlement of rents is governed by the provisions of the Estates Land Act and the Government have no reason to think that either the officers appointed to settle rents or the Board of Revenue do not follow the law.

Religious and Charitable Endowments

Publication of the report on the working of the Muslim Wakf Act, 1923, in the districts of Coimbatore, Salem and South Arcot.

* 577 Q.—Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED: Will the Hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Muslim Wakf Act of 1923 is in force in the district of Coimbatore;

[28th January 1935]

(b) if so, whether a report will be placed on the table as to the working of the Act for the period it has been in force in Coimbatore, South Arcot and Salem districts; and

(c) whether a copy of the rules framed by the Government under the Act will be placed on the table?

A.—(a) Yes, with effect from 1st January 1932.

(b) No report is received by the Government.

(c) A copy^a of the rules framed by the Government under the Act is placed on the table.

Mr. B. POCKER SAHIB:—" May I know, Sir, whether the Government is aware that no provision is made in the rules to prosecute the persons who do not furnish the statements of accounts to the Government as required by the Act? "

The Hon. the RAJA OF BOBBILI:—" I think in the past the reports were submitted only to the courts and they were not sent to the Government. The Government have not looked into this matter. I will examine this question when amending the rules."

Mr. MAHBOOB ALI BAIG:—" May I know whether the Government is satisfied with regard to the working of these rules? "

The Hon. the RAJA OF BOBBILI:—" The Government have not got definite information on the subject. But it is understood from various hon. Members that the administration is not quite satisfactory."

Mr. B. POCKER SAHIB:—" May I know whether Government are aware that so far as the wakfs in this Presidency are concerned, the Act is a dead letter, on account of the defect that there is no provision to punish the persons who do not furnish statement of accounts? "

The Hon. the RAJA OF BOBBILI:—" I cannot say it is a dead letter. I wish it is not working as satisfactorily as one would wish. As regards the rules, I have promised to look into the matter."

Mr. B. POCKER SAHIB:—" Has any statement been furnished to the courts under this Act after its promulgation in this Presidency? "

The Hon. the RAJA OF BOBBILI:—" I believe from the information collected in answer to a question last year, we have found some statements have been furnished to the courts."

Mr. MAHBOOB ALI BAIG:—" May I ask whether the Government is contemplating to bring forward legislation in regard to this matter? "

The Hon. the RAJA OF BOBBILI:—" The question of measures to be adopted for the proper registration of these properties, so that we will be in a position to know the extent of the properties and the income from them, is under consideration."

^a Printed as Appendix on pages 636-640 infra.

[28th January 1935]

Mr. MAHBOOB ALI BAIG:—" Is not the Government aware that the Members of this Council have been agitating for legislation? "

The Hon. the RAJA OF BOBBILI:—" I am aware that some non-official measures have been introduced."

[Note.—An asterisk (*) at the commencement of a speech indicates revision by the Member.]

OFFICIAL BUSINESS.

II.—MOTION *RE* REPORT OF THE JOINT PARLIAMENTARY COMMITTEE.

* The Hon. Mr. C. A. SOUTER:—" Mr. President, Sir, I rise to move the motion standing in my name, namely,

'that the Report of the Joint Committee on Indian Constitutional Reform be taken into consideration.'

" In making this motion, I should like to state the attitude which the Government have decided to adopt towards this debate. In the first place, the Secretary of State has requested that, as soon as possible after the debate is over, the entire proceedings of this Honourable Council shall be transmitted to him as early as possible by air mail. The Government do not propose to take part in any division which may occur during the course of the debate. But any official Member may, if he thinks fit as occasion arises, participate in the debate. I propose, being in charge of this resolution, to sum up briefly at the end of the debate. Sir, I move the resolution."

The Hon. Rao Bahadur A. T. PANNIRSELVAM:—" I second it."

* The Hon. the PRESIDENT:—" Before I proceed to allow hon. Members to move their amendments, I wish to give the Hon. House an idea with regard to the moving of these amendments and the order in which they have to be moved. I wish first to take up the amendment standing in the name of the Leader of the Opposition, Dr. Subbarayan, then the amendments that have been given notice of by the Justice Party, the Justice Democratic Party and subsequently those standing in the name of the Depressed Classes, the Christians and so on. The time that is allotted for the discussion of this motion is only two days as hon. Members are aware, and the discussion will have to come to a close to-morrow evening. There is no time-limit imposed by the Standing Orders, and so the hon. Members who are given an early opportunity must realize that there are several other Members that want to speak either on the main motion or upon the amendments moved, and they must try to take as little time as possible and leave as much time as possible to the other hon. Members who want to take part in the discussion subsequently. Further, I would like to inform hon. Members that no more amendments will be admitted."

[28th January. 1935]

* Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN:—" Mr. President, Sir, I beg to move the amendment standing in my name, i.e.,

'Add the following at the end:—

"and on such consideration, this Council is constrained, after full and earnest consideration of the whole situation, to record its opinion that the scheme of the Joint Select Committee for the future constitution of India does not satisfy the aspirations of the people of this country and is unacceptable and that it is better to remain and struggle under the existing constitution defective though it be, than to be saddled with the constitution proposed under the Report".'

"Mr. President, Sir, I am aware that I am undertaking a great responsibility in moving, as I do at the end of my resolution, that it is better to be saddled with the present Constitution with all its defects than to accept the Constitution recommended by the Report of the Joint Parliamentary Committee. I am sure, Mr. President, hon. Members will bear with me if I take a little longer time than usual in propounding the proposition that I wish to lay for the consideration of this Hon. House, and I am also sure that hon. Members will bear with me if I go back to past history for a few minutes before we really get to the resolution under consideration. I am sure all hon. Members are aware that the policy of His Majesty's Government with regard to India was announced as far back as the year 1917 by the famous statement Mr. Montague made in reply to a question of Lord Charles Roberts in the House of Commons that year. Hon. Members are aware also of the condition under which this announcement was made. His Majesty's Government were at that time in the grip of the greatest War the world has ever known, and it was announced by Members of His Majesty's Government, specially by the Right Honourable Gentleman who held the office of Prime Minister at the time that Great Britain went to the War in order to safeguard democratic institutions and in order to prevent German Imperialism taking root in the world. India agreeing with these views of His Majesty's Government agreed to co-operate in the waging of the War, and I am sure hon. Members of this House will admit that Indians—it does not matter to what political party they belonged—did help His Majesty's Government in every way that was possible in their power. The Imperial Legislative Council of the day voted a million pounds for the progress of the War, and in the carrying out of the Mesopotamian campaign and also the campaign in Soudan and Egypt; the Indian Government helped in every way that they could with the consent of the representatives of the people in the Imperial and Provincial Legislative Councils. I do not, for a moment, want the House to entertain the idea that Indians gave this help with any ulterior motive of getting Responsible Government, and if Mr. Montague made the declaration in the House of Commons, he did it, I may say, and hon.

28th January 1935] [Dr. P. Subbarayan]

Members will agree with me, because at that time His Majesty's Government felt that if democratic institutions were to be safeguarded, the help of the East, specially the help of India, would be immeasurably wanted in any future struggle which may take place with regard to the safeguarding of democratic institutions. I may also say that the statement was to a great extent influenced by the letter the present Viceroy wrote to the then Prime Minister in the year 1916, and that letter is reproduced in the Fourth Volume of Mr. Lloyd George's 'War Memories,' in which Lord Willingdon pleaded that a generous treatment of Indian aspirations towards Self-Government was absolutely necessary, if the relations between India and England are to go on in the lines in which they have gone on for a long time.

" In this connexion I should like to quote from the speech of Marquis of Zetland made in the House of Lords on the 13th December 1934 during the debate on the very report which we are discussing to-day. This is what the Marquis of Zetland said:—

'I would ask Your Lordships, if you are not prepared to pursue that path, to be prepared to face the consequences of not doing so. I do not doubt that Your Lordships can hold India by force if you consider that worth doing, but I hope Your Lordships will not misconceive either the nature or the extent of the task which would then be yours. In no part of the world have changes in the political and the social outlook of the people been so rapid or so far-reaching as they have been in India in recent years. Let me only give Your Lordships an illustration of that. Who, whether in India or this country, would have believed it if he had been told only a short decade before that in the year 1930 he would have seen Hindu and Muslim ladies sitting at the Council table at Westminster alongside of the Princes from the Native States, delegates from British India and representatives of the three parliamentary parties in this country? Who again would have believed it if he had been told it only a short decade before that a commission composed of the Members of these two Houses would have been declaring, as the Simon Report did declare, that 'the women's movement in India holds the key to progress?' or who again would have believed it if he had been told that in 1934 a committee composed of Members of the two Houses in this country would have been found expressing doubts as to whether the proposal to give the vote to 6 million Indian women was adequate to meet the circumstances of the case? These things indicate a great ferment in the mass psychology of the Indian people; they indicate a great stirring in the still depths of Indian life, which it would be madness for us to ignore. It may be that idealism is a little out of fashion in the affairs of men, yet I hold that politics devoid altogether of idealism are as dry a husk as statecraft uninspired by any spark of imagination. Let us not keep our eyes riveted exclusively on the foreground of the picture; let us lift our gaze and try and picture the consequences of what we are doing to-day. Twenty, fifty or hundred years hence, the historians of those days will be writing the history of these critical times. What is the story that Your Lordships would wish them to tell? Is it this? By a lack of courage, a lack of faith, the people of Great Britain in the year 1935 were responsible for one of the greatest calamities which could befall mankind, the permanent alienation of the peoples of the East from the peoples of the West.'

"I conclude with that as far as that quotation is concerned. Can anyone who has read the Joint Select Committee Report, with all his conscience say that the Constitution, as propounded by the Joint Select Committee, does satisfy the arguments put forward by the Marquis of Zetland in the House of Lords? I say no, for the simple reason that a Constitution if it is to be acceptable to the people of a country ought to satisfy the majority opinion in that country. (Hear, hear.) I know hon. Members of this House will say that the vote which would

[Dr. P. Subbarayan] [28th January 1935]

be cast on my motion will prove whether the majority accept this Constitution or not. I stand on firmer ground than that and that is this: the recent elections to the Legislative Assembly were fought entirely on the proposal of His Majesty's Government as laid down in the White Paper. And I am sure, Mr. President, hon. Members of this House have heard it said that the Constitution, as propounded by the Joint Select Committee, is in some matters even worse than the Constitution proposed by the White Paper. If the elections all over India were held on the question whether the White Paper was acceptable to the voters enfranchised by legislation passed by the Houses of Parliament, and if they deliberately said that this Constitution was not acceptable to them, which proposition, I am sure, no hon. Member in this House can deny, then, Mr. President, I can ask only this question: Is the Constitution that is being proposed for the future Government of India acceptable to the majority of the electors, not only of this province, but of the whole of India? I can emphatically say no to that. If that is so, if really the relation between the East and the West is to be one of friendliness, is to be one of co-operation, is to be one of helpfulness in all affairs of the world, then I am sure hon. Members of this House will realize that that can only be done on an agreed Constitution, acceptable not only to His Majesty's Government, but to the vast majority of the people of this country.

"I know that it has been said that the intelligentsia in this country do not represent the mass opinion. I would like to ask, Mr. President, whether the voters of the Legislative Assembly do represent the masses or the intelligentsia of this country. There can be only one answer to that, and that is, that they represent the masses and not the intelligentsia; and as has been often said by politicians in the House of Commons, what the intelligentsia think to-day the masses think to-morrow. And therefore even if you take the opinion of the intelligentsia as one that represents the opinion of this country, the answer has already been given that the Constitution as proposed by the Joint Select Committee is not acceptable.

"Therefore, we are left only with this question, whether it is necessary for this Constitution Act to be passed by the House of Commons in spite of the opposition that has arisen in this great land over this scheme. I know there are hon. Members of this House who think that by tinkering here and tinkering there the Constitution may be made acceptable to the general public. I am sure that in that contention they are talking without their book. As I said, I hope the Hon. House will bear with me if I go a little further back. Hon. Members will remember the appointment of the Simon Commission. There was a great outcry and outburst and even leaders of the party to which the present Ministers belong were vocal in support of the boycott of the Simon Commission, because they felt that His Majesty's Government had insulted the people of India by not appointing a single Indian as a Member of that Commission. At that time I felt that if the co-operation of at least the moderate groups in this country were given, we might

28th January 1935] [Dr. P. Subbarayan]

get a Constitution which would be acceptable to the people of India. I am afraid we were grossly mistaken in that conception. (Mr. A. Ranganatha Mudaliyar: 'Hear, hear.') For, the Simon Commission, instead of producing a reasonable constitution, produced a constitution which was not known to the world at any time; consequently, with one voice, public opinion in India condemned the Report. About that time, Lord Irwin went Home on leave and, while there, consulted His Majesty's Government which had then taken a different complexion from what it was when the Simon Commission was appointed; the Labour Government were in office, and the Labour Party had made so many declarations about self-determination for India that they could not possibly accept the Simon Commission Report without consultation with the Indian people. Therefore, they decided that there should be a Round Table Conference composed of the representatives of India and the representatives of Parliament comprising of the Members of the three great parties in Great Britain. When Lord Irwin returned, in putting forth this idea of the Round Table Conference before the country, he emphatically declared that the meaning of the Declaration of 1917 was really conferment of dominion status on this country. I know it has been asked by several hon. Members, specially those belonging to the European Group, 'Can anybody really say what dominion status means?' In that connexion I would like to quote a speech made by the Rt. Hon. Gentleman, Mr. Winston Churchill in the House of Commons on the India Debate in the year 1931. This occurs at the end of his speech on page 1312 in the Official Report of the House of Commons.

"Therefore, the House will vote upon the words of the amendment:

'Provided that nothing in the said policy shall commit this House to the establishment in India of a Dominion Constitution as defined by the Statute of Westminster, etc.'

"The House will vote upon that for or against the amendment, and hon. Members will consider the implication of voting against. It would mean a reversal of these proposals. If they put it in that way, hon. Members will be able to see what it is they are asked to vote against. If the amendment be defeated, it will still be open to any hon. Member who has voted for it to vote for a general vote of confidence in the Government. There is no inconsistency in that; because any hon. Member may say that he would rather have the Government motion with the amendment, but that if he cannot get it with the amendment, nevertheless he must go on. There is no reason why he should not have a free vote on the amendment, and afterwards a vote of confidence in the Government can be given. The amendment affords the one sure foundation upon which those who take their stand, who believe it is their duty not only to advance the cause of Indian self-government but to uphold the rights of Britain and tell the truth to India.

"There, I think, Mr. Churchill has shown that His Majesty's Government were really not prepared to recognize India as one of the partners in the British Commonwealth, and Mr. Churchill thought that a quotation from the Statute of Westminster would frighten any Member because dominion status, as it was understood at that time,

[Dr. P. Subbarayan] [28th January 1935]

included also the Statute of Westminster. But I do admit that at the present time, with the necessary safeguards which all Indians including the Congressmen have agreed to the Statute of Westminster cannot apply. But when India takes her rightful place among the Dominions of His Majesty, she also will come within the ambit of the Statute of Westminster. And why should Great Britain fight shy of including India within the ambit of that Statute? Do they think that if India is recognized as a Dominion she will assert her independence and will secede from the British Commonwealth? I do not think anybody need be afraid of that. I am sure hon. Members have heard of the Independence Movement in South Africa by which the South African Nationalist Party led by General Hertzog declared that their ambition was to be a South African Republic independent of British connexion. Now, however, it would be conceded that in spite of the passage of the Statute of Westminster they are willing to remain within the great Commonwealth, because remaining within the Commonwealth carries with it more advantages than disadvantages.

11-30
a.m.

"I, for one, hope that we, Indians, will always feel that it is better to remain within the British Commonwealth of Nations than go outside. I am sure, if Great Britain treats us in a generous way in the matter of the present Constitution, no time will come when talks of separation will arise. But, as the amendment given notice of by my hon. Friend, Mr. Ari Gowder, points out, if really India is not treated in a generous manner in the matter of the present Constitution, the movement for separation will grow only stronger. It has been said repeatedly that if the Irish situation is difficult to-day as every one will agree, it is due to the fact that the Government treated Ireland in a niggardly fashion and did not give the constitution the Irishmen wanted, at the time, for being a contended partner of the British Commonwealth. I am sure hon. Members who represent British interests in this House will realize that if they do not join us to-day in asking from Great Britain a more satisfactory Constitution than the one propounded in the Report of the Joint Select Committee, a time might come when they would have to forget the existence of this country altogether. I am sure again that they will agree with me when I say that, neither I nor they desire a time when the feelings between India and England would be such that it would be impossible for Indians and Europeans to live in this country as peaceful citizens.

"From that, Mr. President, I wish to go to the wording of the Gandhi-Irwin Pact of the year 1931. It is said in paragraph 2 of that agreement:—'As regards constitutional questions, the scope of future discussions is stated, with the assent of His Majesty's Government, to be with the object of considering further the scheme for the constitutional Government of India discussed at the Round Table Conference. Of the scheme there outlined, Federation is an essential part; so also are Indian Responsibility and Reservations or Safeguards in the interests of India on such matters as for instance, Defence, External Affairs, the Position of Minorities, the Financial Credit of India and the Discharge of Obligations.'

28th January 1935]. [Dr. P. Subbarayan]

"It will be seen, Mr. President, that by that Pact, Lord Irwin, the then Viceroy, did commit His Majesty's Government to a future constitution for India which would be based on the principles expressed therein. But do the proposals of the Joint Select Committee really carry out the pledge given under that Pact? If we examine the proposals, I am sure, we will realize that they do not.

"No doubt, we have Federation; but in that connexion we should remember what the present Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs said in the House of Commons during the India Debate. He said that unless 50 per cent of the States possessing the required population and voting power come into the new Federal Constitution, there is to be no Federation. The present Government of India, as it now exists, ought to go on in its irresponsible way, although His Majesty's Government and the Joint Select Committee in their Report point out that a strong Centre is necessary if the Government in India is to be carried on successfully and that that strong Centre will come only if Central Responsibility is conceded. I should like to ask for a moment hon. Members who represent His Majesty's Government in this House, whether the fact that sufficient number of States do not come in and a Federal Centre with responsibility does not come into being, would make the present Central Government a strong one to control the new autonomous self-governing provinces. If it is granted that you do want a strong Centre and if it is granted that a strong Centre would only be supplied by means of having a responsible Ministry at the Centre, how does it follow that if sufficient number of States do not come into the proposed Federation, the present Government, as it exists to-day, will be a strong enough Centre? That is a contradiction which I am not in a position to explain, because, I am not aware of the intentions of His Majesty's Government. Hon. Members on the other side of the House may be in a better position than I am to explain this dilemma. There are Indian gentlemen to-day occupying the responsible position of Members of His Excellency the Governor's Executive Council. I would like to ask them, Mr. President, what their own feelings are in the matter of the proposed Constitution. (Mr. U. C. Subrahmanya Bhatt: 'Hear, hear.') I know that by the statement made by the Hon. Gentleman, the Revenue Member, the Government are not going to take part in this division, but I do not think that that statement implies that the Hon. Gentlemen who occupy the exalted position of Members of His Excellency the Governor's Council are thereby restrained from saying what they feel on the matter. I would like to quote them an illustrious example . . ."

The Hon. Sir K. V. REDDI NAYUDU:—"On a point of order, Sir."

* Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"I do not think there is any point of order in that. I refuse to yield."

"Mr. President, in this connexion I would like to quote as an example to the Hon. Gentleman who just now got up in a hurry without any point of order, the example of Sir Sikhandar Hayat Khan who

[Dr. P. Subbarayan] [28th January 1935]

some time ago occupied as Member the same position as my Hon. Friend occupies here to-day, in the Council of the Governor of the Punjab. This is what he said:

'Great Britain does not know what she is doing, and if ever she is forced to do anything, she does it in such a niggardly fashion that she neither satisfies the one nor the other.'

"That is the position in which His Majesty's Government are placed to-day. They do not openly say that they want to carry their Conservative Wing with them and satisfy them to the extent that nothing is being done in India as to call India a lost Dominion. At the same time they say to the Indian public at large that they are doing something; they are making a Constitution for the future self-government of India which is going to make Indians responsible for their own Government. I am sure, His Majesty's Government would do better if they make up their minds whether they are going to placate the Conservative Opposition at Home or to placate the strong middle opinion which they talk of in this country. Have they to any extent satisfied the middle opinion in this country? I am sure the quotation that I am about to make will prove that they have not. This quotation is not from the proceedings of the Congress, Mr. President, nor is it from the proceedings of any body allied to the Congress. This quotation is from the proceedings of the National Liberal Federation from an article written by one of the leading Members of the National Liberal Federation—a gentleman on whom His Majesty's Government thought fit to confer the honour of being a Member of His Majesty's Privy Council, the Right Honourable Mr. V. S. Srinivasa Sastri. He compared the present Constitution to a fire or a flood and thereby explains what the feelings of this country would be if this Constitution is forced on this land in spite of all the opposition that is made to it. This is what he says:

'No one would claim authorship of a fire or a flood. We may pray against it; we may mitigate its evil; but we have to submit to it. The tyrannous use made by the Conservative Party of their power gives the comparison much point.'

"Sir, this is what the Liberals, who are supposed to represent middle opinion in this country, think of the present Constitution. They compare it to a flood or a fire and, of course, as they themselves point out, we must attempt to evade the flood or put out the fire. But in spite of it, if it does happen, we must suffer. As reasonable men, however, it is open to us to say what should be done if really the Constitution is to be worked. With that in view, Mr. President, I hope, in the short time that is available to me—I know I have taken longer than you said I ought to, but I am sure the occasion is such that my hon. Friends will bear with me if I take a little longer time—to make some criticism of the Report.

"Sir, we shall go now to the Report of the Committee itself. As I have said, there is no mention of Dominion Status either in the Report of the Committee or in the Bill which is said to have been published. As I said before, Mr. President, if really the outcome of the Indian Constitutional proposals ought to be the attainment of Dominion Status as

[28th January 1935] [Dr. P. Subbarayan]

explained by Lord Irwin, now Lord Halifax, in the year 1931, His Majesty's Government need not fight shy of introducing those two words in the Constitution as propounded to-day.

"Sir, it has been said that the Government of India Act of 1919 is repealed by the present Bill. It is also said that the Preamble to the Government of India Act still remains. How, Mr. President? It is said that the Preamble is not being repeated in the present Bill. I do not know if this is so. I have not seen the Bill. But if it is not being repeated, what is the meaning of it? All the same, the representatives of His Majesty's Government say that the Preamble remains. In what position? Just because it is found in one Act of Parliament and not repeated in the present Act, does it mean that the Preamble remains? If His Majesty's Government would realize all the fight that has been made during the past 18 years since the announcement of the intention of His Majesty's Government in the year 1917, it ought not to lie in the lips of the representatives of His Majesty's Government to say that Parliament alone should be the arbiter of the future destinies of India.

"In this connexion, Mr. President, I would like to remind hon. Members of this House how the Constitutions of the three great Dominions were brought about: that of Canada, of Australia and of South Africa. All these three Constitutions were made not by His Majesty's Government, except for the fact that those Constitution Acts were passed through His Majesty's Parliament, but by agreement between the representatives of the people of Canada, of the people of Australia and of the people of South Africa.

"I would like to ask, Mr. President, why we alone are treated in this way. I know it may be said 'we brought you to a Conference in London, and you could not agree among yourselves and therefore we have imposed this Constitution on you,' Mr. President, I would like to ask whom did you bring to London? (Mr. W. K. M. Langley: 'Mr. Gandhi') My hon. Friend Mr. Langley shouts 'Mr. Gandhi.' He has forgotten that Mr. Gandhi did not attend the First Round Table Conference. When Mr. Gandhi attended the Round Table Conference in 1931 he did so by the Irwin-Gandhi agreement which is now given the go-by. Mr. President, who are these people? Were they selected by any representatives of the people of this country? They were selected by His Majesty's Government. Was that the case in the case of Canada, Australia and South Africa? In those cases they were representatives of the people. If His Majesty's Government had taken the trouble to hold an election at the time to the various Councils and if they had said that representatives from those Councils would be elected for the framing of the future constitution of India, I am sure we would have had a different story than we are having to-day (Hear, hear). I know, and be it said to our discredit, that on the problem of representation of minority communities our own representatives, in spite of all the drawbacks of their not representing anybody on the Round Table Conference, were not able to come to an agreement, and even the personality of Mr. Gandhi in

[Dr. P. Subbarayan] [28th January 1935]

the year 1931 was not able to achieve it. My hon. Friend who occupies the exalted position of Membership of His Excellency the Governor's Council cries that we have made it worse. What I would like to ask him is what contribution he made towards the solution of the minority question (Hear, hear). Be it said to our shame that we were not able to come to an agreement (Hear, hear). The hon. Gentleman opposite cries 'hear, hear.' I wish him a welcome to that. I am sure no Member of this House is disputing His Majesty's Government's award on the communal problem though there are some outsiders who do so. I for one do not want to dispute for a moment the Communal Award. With this award, accepted by us, I wish His Majesty's Government would give us a Constitution which would be acceptable to the people and which would make us practically autonomous except in the case of safeguards mentioned in the Report of the Joint Parliamentary Committee and the White Paper because to me it appears that in the matter of defence and in the matter of foreign affairs we may not at present be in a position to undertake the responsibility. Why should not the Legislatures in India be allowed to carry on the Government of this country untrammelled by the great number of safeguards that have been proposed? I think it is the Right Hon. Gentleman the present Lord President of the Council, Mr. Baldwin, who said that no safeguards are going to get good feelings between England and India. It is merely goodwill which can bring about good relations between these two countries. If that is the opinion of a responsible Member of the British Government, as the Lord President of the Council—he is the leader of the largest party that forms the National Government to-day—I would like to ask through this House, His Majesty's Government, why not be generous, why not place confidence in the future representatives in this House and in the Central Assembly for governing in such a way as to make it possible for India to bring about Dominion Status which would be accepted by His Majesty's Government. It was said even in the Report of the Simon Commission that there should be no further enquiries and that any future Constitution which has to be adumbrated for India should contain within itself seeds of growth. Does the Constitution propounded in this report to-day contain within itself the seeds of growth? I certainly think it does not, for the simple reason that even the coming Federation in spite of its being included in a single Act cannot come except by a vote of both the Houses of Parliament. Then, Orders in Council are to be issued by which the Federation will become an accomplished fact. So the seeds of growth lie not in the opinion of the people of India but in the opinion of the Members of the House of Commons and the House of Lords. Therefore where are the seeds of growth? The seeds of growth do not lie in India, but in England. My proposition will prove that His Majesty's Government are treating India not as partners in the great Commonwealth, but as some one with a begging bowl and they are prepared to give him just whatever it pleases them to give and what they think he reserves. We are really placed in the position of those who are to go before His Majesty's House of Commons and House of Lords to get a little clarity. It is that position that Indians do not want. We want to be placed in a

28th January 1935] [Dr. P. Subbarayan]

position with these safeguards included by which in course of time we shall be able to control our own affairs as a partner in the British Commonwealth and as a partner who would be prepared, in the words of Mr. Isaac Foot as he broadcast them, to stand for democratic ideals, to stand for the world being brought up in the ideals of democracy and not in ideals of dictatorship or any single man's rule. If that is the opinion of the people of Great Britain, then I would like to ask them through this House whether they are not prepared to treat India in a generous way. Even though we may not agree with the sentiments of the Marquis of Salisbury, I think some of his views with regard to indirect election and the present position of the Legislatures really point out what constitution the proposed one is. He points out that a Legislature elected by communal compromise and by indirect election cannot really be a body which can control the important subjects that would come before the Minister in the Central Government. I agree to that proposition, but I do not agree with his conclusions. His conclusions are 'therefore do not give India central responsibility.' My conclusions on the other hand are 'Give Central Responsibility' but not on the basis you want to give India Central Responsibility. I think the question of indirect election has been sufficiently dealt with in the speech of His Excellency the Viceroy made the other day to the newly elected Legislative Assembly. Therein he says he himself and his Government are agreed that the method of indirect election proposed by the Joint Select Committee does not really carry out the intentions of the Government of India but at the same time he pleads that we should take the constitution as it stands and work it in such a way as to prove that we are prepared to get more. I cannot agree with that contention. We do not want it to be said that we are a group of school children and it is by our behaviour and conduct in the school that we are going to get more. It is that which has caused discontent during the last seventeen years and it is that which we do not want any more. If we say that the constitution is not acceptable, it is because the general mass of Indian people feel that the constitution acceptable to the people of India can only come if the people of India have any say in the framing of the constitution. If for instance His Majesty's Government or the Joint Select Committee, to-day, were prepared to accept the proposals of the British Indian Delegation, there would be a possibility of India accepting the present Constitution. It may be asked why do you state that the Constitution is unacceptable to you instead of demanding improvements in it. It is because we have pleaded and this very House passed a resolution on the White Paper saying that if the amendments suggested by the British Indian Delegation were accepted, this House would be prepared to work the Reforms. What has been the effect of this resolution? None. The Hon. Gentleman the Revenue Member said that the Secretary of State for India is very anxious to get the report of the present debate. What for I would like to ask His Majesty's Government through the Hon. Gentleman the Revenue Member? Is it to be treated in the same way as the debate on the White Paper was

[Dr. P. Subbarayan] [28th January 1935]

treated the other day? That debate was no doubt, I am sure, sent to the Secretary of State but with what effect? The effect of the present debate is going to be the same. You may communicate resolutions, you may communicate debates, you may communicate the fervent cry of the people of India to assert themselves, and you may communicate the idealism that exists in them, but with what results? The result would be the same. We can compare how the thing has gone on.

12 noon.

"In the year 1931, after the first Round Table Conference people did really feel that His Majesty's Government were going to confer a constitution on this country which would be acceptable to the people of this country and which would satisfy the aspirations of the people of this country. What happened? Nothing. The second Round Table Conference was held with Mr. Gandhi at it and what happened? No doubt the second Round Table Conference began with a blaze of trumpets and they said, 'Now that the Congress has co-operated, we are really going to get a constitution which would be acceptable to the people of India.' But something happened during that time which people did not realize. The National Government came into power and the whole policy of His Majesty's Government changed as day changes into night. The present Prime Minister was full of enthusiasm, was full of idealism and re-asserted that the policy of His Majesty's National Government was the same with regard to India as that of the Labour Government of which he was the head. But what has really happened? Since the National Government came into power, the idea of an agreed constitution has receded farther and farther. In fact, the coming into office of the National Government was really the cause of the breakdown of the second Round Table Conference. I know, that through the intervention of that great statesman of the Empire, General Smuts, the Conference was saved. Was saved in what way? From being a debacle. At the same time, His Majesty's Government had their way. They closed down the Conference. They made it impossible for any agreed settlement and went on with their own scheme. Their own scheme is really put forward in the Joint Select Committee Report. The Conservative opposition towards any responsible Government in India became greater and greater and I am sure hon. Members of this House would agree with me when I say that His Majesty's Government instead of keeping to the even path of their pledges and promises, have succumbed to the hostility of their conservative supporters and have given India not bread which she asked for but stone. (Cheers.)"

* Diwan Bahadur T. A. RAMALINGAM CHETTIYAR:—"Mr. President, Sir, in seconding the resolution which has just been moved, I wish to say at the outset that the main defect about the proposals that are made for constitutional reform at the present moment is that they have not been made with the consent of the people concerned. As has been pointed out by the hon. Mover himself, when constitutions were framed for the people of other countries, the representatives of the people were called together and on their agreement alone constitutions were framed. But in our case, the first enquiry was made by a Commission consisting

28th January 1935] [Mr. T. A. Ramalingam Chettiyar]

of representatives of the Houses of Parliament in England without a single Indian on it. Subsequently, to satisfy the Indian sentiment, a number of people were invited by the Governments of the day, but not one of these people was a representative sent as such by the people. They were only nominees of the Governments of the time and they were consulted in framing the constitution.

"Sir, it has been asked several times in England whether there is an alternative scheme to the one that has been proposed, and whether anybody can put it forward. But everyone who felt any responsibility in the matter felt handicapped, because certain proposals had been made and certain persons had made themselves responsible for those proposals. Suddenly this idea of Federation was sprung on the Round Table Conference and on the people of India at a time when nobody thought that the proposal was coming forward. When progress was made in the matter so expeditiously in the Round Table Conference, it was really very difficult for anybody either here in India or elsewhere to make a proposal for an alternative constitution. So many people were concerned. The idea itself progressed with the result that anybody who had any alternative proposal to make felt that he was in a difficult position. That was the reason why people like me who felt from the beginning that the proposals that were made were not going to be beneficial to the country could not come forward with alternative proposals. That was the difficulty. If a real assembly of elected men had been called to consider and frame a new constitution and make proposals of their own, things would have been quite different. The present proposals for Federation would not satisfy anybody. A number of autocratic States and a number of responsible provinces are to come together to form a Federation. Such a thing is impossible. Not only that, the representatives of the heads of the States who are responsible to nobody are to have the same voice in matters relating to British India as the representatives of British India themselves. Not only that, any legislation that will be passed will not bind the States while the representatives of these autocratic princes will take part in framing legislation for British India. Such a state of things is impracticable. It will not last very long. Sooner or later there will be a breakdown. I do not think any self-respecting Indian in British India would tolerate an arrangement under which the people who would not be affected by any legislation that may be passed will be given a voice in passing that legislation. The representatives of the Indian States will be responsible Ministers also, but for what will they be responsible? For the administration of British India and not for the administration of the Indian States. I ask, Sir, is a constitution like that workable? On the other hand, Sir, the proposal made by the Simon Commission was much better. If British India was treated as a separate unit with a constitution framed for it separately and if after that, for the purpose of common matters a Federation was proposed between British India and such of the Indian States as were prepared to join the Federation, that would have been a more satisfactory solution of the problem.

[Mr. T. A. Ramalingam Chettiyar] [28th January 1935]

Therefore on this matter, it would be better if we went back to the proposals of the Simon Commission instead of sticking to the arrangement which was sprung on us at the First Round Table Conference.

"Throughout the Report and throughout the discussions they have been always pinning their faith to what is obtaining in Britain, namely, the Party system of Government obtaining in the British Houses of Parliament. These are the things they have been swearing by. Everything has been tested by that standard. Here again, those of us who think differently are handicapped. Because of our up-bringing and of our education, we have always been taught to look to the British Constitution as the model and as the final work in constitution making. Not only that, everybody who makes any proposal bases it only on the British Constitution. Such a thing is foreign to the spirit of our country. I do not think the Party System was ever a permanent state of things here in India. We have been always thinking of going together and not of dividing. If we study our history with any benefit, we will find that we have been always thinking of appointing the best men as a panchayat. We have been always putting the best men at the head of affairs. That has been the idea, but now we are trying to create divisions, create parties where they may not be necessary. Then, Sir, as regards the formation of parties, what are the materials on which these have to be formed? So far as the past is concerned, it does not give us any clue as regards the reason for this formation of parties. Especially in the provincial sphere where several departments are administered by Ministers, there is very little chance of a Party System. In most matters, it will be a question of individuals rather than of parties. Such being the case, is it necessary to import into India the whole arrangement of the Party system, the principle of joint responsibility and so on? All these are matters which a Constituent Assembly of the representatives of the people should consider. That seems to be a matter which is worth considering. If any alternative scheme has not been placed before the Government, the reason is not that no such alternative scheme is possible, but that on account of the way in which things have been arranged by the Government, it was not possible to make alternative proposals which would receive as much attention as is necessary and be considered seriously. The Englishman believes in his constitution. He thinks he has done the best in the world. Here in India we have been taught to believe that the British Constitution is the last word in constitution-making. With that handicap and with the proposals that have been made already and considered from time to time; and with the progress that has been made, it was not possible to put forward an alternative scheme.

"Now let us take the scheme proposed and test it even in the light of the principles which we have gathered from the British Constitution. I am not a person who wants a mere form of Government; the form of Government may be this or that. I do not mind. But what is the real power that we have got? What is the position of the masses and people of the country under the new constitution? More than anything

[28th January 1935] [Mr. T. A. Ramalingam Chettiyar]

else it is the economic position that counts—whether the people will have enough bread to eat, whether they will have any profession to follow, whether there is any room for improving their standard of life. These things are more important than mere forms of Government. I am sorry to say that the safeguards with reference to commercial discrimination, reservation with reference to the power of the Indian Government to make trade treaties with other countries and similar things will certainly handicap the Indian ryot as well as the Indian manufacturer. In the result there will be very little scope for the development of Indian industries. Then there is the question which has been agitating the minds of many of us, namely, the undertaking by the Government of certain industries, even big industries and the initiation and helping of others. What will happen to such ventures hereafter? If it is said that British imports should not be affected and that British traders should be considered in the same light as Indian traders, what will happen to Indian industries? Will there be any chance of our succeeding against this British trader and the British manufacture? I will only remind hon. Members of what took place in this very Council two or three years ago. There was a protest from the European merchants that the Government was competing with them in their soap manufacture at Calicut and in their Jail manufactures. If they protested even against such small things, what would happen if the Government were to plan a huge industrial programme for the country? These are the handicaps and I do not think the country can make any progress so long as they are there. Under the constitution proposed, persons who have no concern with British India will be the legislators and administrators of British India. We will be handicapped in matters like the improvement of our trade and industries. We have very little voice in the spending of most of the money in the hands of the Imperial Government and the Provincial Governments, because most of it will be non-votable. For these reasons, I object to the constitution now proposed and I do not think it will be acceptable to the people.

"Coming to the Provinces, it is claimed that the proposals make a very large change. What is the position, Sir? Nominally it may be that the four Hon. Members on the front bench opposite will cease to exist and four elected Members of the Council will take their places. But what about their powers? In the first place, so far as finance is concerned, more items are going to be non-votable. Already many of us have felt at the time of the discussion of the budget, the difficulty of non-votable items coming in everywhere. Now more than before, such difficulties will come in because there will be a very large addition to the non-votable items. Not only that, Sir. One of the complaints we have been making from the beginning is that the pay that is given to the officers is very high, absolutely very high; taking into consideration the poverty of the country it is something very deplorable. What does the Joint Select Committee Report say? The pay should be fixed in such a manner that it will attract decent people from England,

[Mr. T. A. Ramalingam Chettiyar] [28th January 1935]

That means to say, you cannot reduce the present rates of pay; because, the complaint from the Europeans is that even the present salary is not sufficient and they are asking for more allowances, more privileges, etc. If that is the position now, what will be the position under the new constitution? You cannot reduce the salary below the standard required by the European. That is the direct statement made in the report. Not only that, Sir. Almost at every stage it is said that there will have to be a large element of British recruits in every service. It is contemplated that the Governor will be responsible to see that the percentage of European recruitment is not reduced. Even though the recruitment is going to be made in India, for most of the services, it is recommended that it is necessary to get sufficient number of recruits from England also for every service through the High Commissioner. This is going to be a matter of course and not an exceptional case as hitherto. Then what is to be our position later on? People are believing that the moment there is responsible Government, we will reduce the cost of running the Government—by reducing the pay of highly-paid officers—and save money for ameliorative purposes; that will not be the case; there is no room for that; even if we are going to have additional establishment, it should be on the same basis, on the same scales of pay, allowances, etc. That is the position. Not only that, Sir. At the present moment at least, the Members of the Government including the Ministers have got the right of posting either Provincial Officers or Imperial Officers, of making remarks about their work and even of censuring them. But the Select Committee Report says that even the posting is to be done with the concurrence of the Governor; nothing more derogatory to the position of the Ministers is needed. Suppose the Minister is thinking of a certain policy and of a certain person to carry it out; the Governor's Secretary, as he is to be called hereafter, thinks otherwise; he does not agree with the Minister and his policy; he does not want to help the Minister and he thrusts his man; that is possible under the constitution as proposed; he would not help the Minister but will set at naught the Minister's suggestions. With regard to the allowances, with regard to pay, with regard to everything else, it is only the Governor who has to decide. They will be of course called responsible Ministers hereafter, but they will have no responsibility at all with reference to such matters. With reference to the appropriation of revenue also, the arrangements that are proposed for the Provinces include, as I have already stated, a number of new items which are non-votable. That takes away the major portion of this revenue of the Province which can be used for ameliorative purposes which have been clamouring for attention so long, things like elementary education, development of agriculture, development of sanitation, etc. What is to happen to them?

"The ryotwari landholders have been groaning under the taxes. Even at a time like this when there is so much depression, the Government are thinking of raising the taxes on lands by way of resettlement; not only by resettlement but also by reclassification of sources, etc. Only yesterday, I came across an instance; a land was reclaimed at a

[28th January 1935] [Mr. T. A. Ramalingam Chettiyar]

cost of Rs. 600; there was lot of sand on the land on account of floods; it cost the man Rs. 600 to clear the land and it is being cultivated for the last one or two years with dry crop. The Government say, 'you take water for this land and had better pay Rs. 7-8-0 per acre.' Not only that, Sir. He has to pay in addition to Rs. 7-8-0, the dry rate; that comes to Rs. 9 for raising dry crop. That is the sort of thing that is going on. If it is proposed that such a man should be given some relief, the Hon. the Finance Member jumps up and says 'where is the money you are going to find for this.' A considerable portion of your money is spent on the services with the high salaries. Luckily for us, there is no 'Wild Game Preservation Act.' There are such Acts in other Provinces and they are spending money for that purpose also while the ryots are suffering untold miseries on account of the depredations of wild animals. But we have got unproductive expenditure, unwanted expenditure on some of the items I have already referred to. There is the Forest College which has been training one or two boys of our Province in some years and sometimes not even that; still we are incurring an expense of a lakh of rupees on that College. We find that such expenditure is being incurred and it will not be possible to reduce even such expenditure for the purpose of giving necessary relief to landholders who are groaning under the present taxes, under the depression and under the vicissitudes of the monsoon. That is the position in which we find ourselves.

"Then Sir, at the time of the last debate we had on the White Paper, there was no proposal to have a Second Chamber for this Province. But unfortunately the Joint Committee have thought it fit to impose a Second Chamber on this Province also. For what reason, Sir? They do not discuss it; they simply say that the conditions in the United Provinces and Madras are very similar. Since they have proposed a Second Chamber for United Provinces, they say you better have one for Madras also. Not only that, Sir. There was a proposal in the White Paper that at the end of ten years the Council might consider whether a Second Chamber is necessary or not. The Select Committee say, 'oh, no; no such thing.' You had better not consider that point; we in our wisdom think that Madras should have two Chambers for ever. What is the position of the Second Chamber and where is the need for it? It is going to be a small chamber elected with high property qualifications; what is the property qualification is not stated there; eight or ten people are going to be nominated. That also affects the position of the Ministers in another way; the Ministers are to be members of the legislatures, as it is put; if a person is nominated to the Upper Chamber, if he is also nominated as Minister, it will be perfectly valid; we can get round the provision requiring membership of the legislature for the appointment of the Minister. In England when the Prime Minister wants a man, he can raise him to the peerage and that will satisfy the condition; of course it is not said so here; I suppose one of the objects of this nomination and one of the reasons for bringing in the Upper Chamber is to nominate people and bring them as Ministers without violating the letter of the Constitution. Where will responsibility be in such a case? Even the nominal responsibility that is supposed to be given, goes away altogether. I am glad

[Mr. T. A. Ramalingam Chettiyar] [28th January 1935]

“Not only that, Sir. We know that ordinances can be promulgated by the Imperial Government. Therefore there is no necessity for provincial ordinances. If any emergency arises, it was thought that the Imperial Government, i.e., the Governor-General, will be approached to promulgate the ordinance. Now it is proposed that the Governor also may promulgate ordinances. There is going to be a new set of Acts known as the Governor's Acts. What is the need for them? The Governor is to be subordinate so far as the special responsibilities are concerned to the Governor-General; the Governor can ask the Governor-General to promulgate an ordinance. Where is the difficulty, Sir, to convince the Governor-General of the necessity for an ordinance? Where is the need for this new sort of autocratic action in the Province itself? If at least, in the Provinces, there is no interference like this, there will be at least a show of responsibility in the Provinces. Even in the Province itself, if you have some one who can autocratically pass ordinances and Governor's Acts quite independent of the ordinary administrative action, where is even the show of autonomy and responsibility? If there is really need for such action, I think it is open to the Governor to represent to the Governor-General the necessity for interference in special contingencies and ask for the promulgation of an ordinance. I think it can be done; the Governor is after all subordinate to the Governor-General and the former has only to satisfy the latter with regard to the necessity.

“There is only one other matter I should like to refer to now, namely, the provision that the rules of business are to be made by the Governor. There are rules of business already and it is hoped in the report that they will continue. Under the present rules of business, though the Ministers are supposed to have responsibility for their departments, every paper has to go to the Governor and to be approved by the Governor; therefore the Ministers can do nothing without the Governor's consent even now, even though they are supposed to be responsible under the Constitution. Of course if the Minister persists in his attitude, then the Governor would not press his view. How many Ministers can you find, who will persist and say that their views ought to be accepted, even when the Governor is not agreeable to that proposal? How many are there who will do so? It is said that there will be discussion in all matters and the Governor will try to influence the Minister to accept his point of view. What does it mean? It means you take away the responsibility you are giving. If the Minister feels his real responsibility and exercises it, it will of course be praiseworthy. But will a Minister be strong enough to go against the wishes of the Governor? It is difficult to say that. I do not know what is happening in the other Provinces. In this Province almost every paper goes to the Governor. Even in small matters the Finance Department has to give its approval and it carries the day as against responsible Ministers. If the Governor's Secretary, as the new officer is going to be called, has to look into every paper, and if his advice is going to have more value than that of the Finance Member or Department, what is going to happen?

[28th January 1935] [Mr. T. A. Ramalingam Chettiyar]

“Well, Sir, these are the points which I wanted to mention. Even though it is said in the report that there is going to be responsibility, really in actual working, there will be very little responsibility both as to what can be initiated and what can be done. In the first place, we will have very little finance left after meeting the items which are going to be non-votable. In the second place, there is this idea of putting the services altogether under the Governor without conferring the right of even posting and censure on the responsible Ministers. Thirdly, the second chamber is being imposed on this province, and no reason has been given therefor. For all these reasons I have mentioned, this report is not acceptable to us. After all, if the present constitution continues, we can at least agitate and say: ‘Well, we have been agitating for the last ten years; we want something more satisfactory.’ Once a scheme like this is imposed on us, we cannot ask for a change in the near future. That is a position to which we do not want to commit ourselves. Sir, I would rather be prepared to struggle on under the present constitution than accept the one that is proposed. It is in that spirit, Sir, that I second the motion that has been made.”

* Khan Bahadur YAHYA ALI SAHIB Bahadur:—“Mr. President, Sir, I beg to move the amendment that has been tabled by me and some other hon. Members belonging to the Ministerialist Party of this House, viz.—

Add the following at the end:—

and on such consideration the Council while accepting the conclusions of the Joint Parliamentary Committee that there should be Provincial Autonomy for British India and that an All-India Federation should be inaugurated as they will end the present system of diarchy in the provinces and irresponsible system of Government at the Centre, and urging that such inauguration should take place at a very early date, feels bound to express its regret that so far from improving on the White Paper proposals, the Report further restricts the scope of responsibility which would be transferred to Indian people both in the Provinces and at the Centre, the Council therefore further urges that to secure goodwill for the working of the new constitution in a peaceful atmosphere, the following changes at least must be made by the Parliament:—

- (1) *In view of the very wide apprehensions that have been raised in the country, almost amounting to a feeling of distrust that the pledges given by Royalty and by representatives of the King Emperor and prominent members of the British Cabinet regarding the political goal of India, are being indirectly withdrawn, it should be made clear in the preamble that the ultimate aim of the constitutional progress in this country must be the attainment by India of Dominion Status in the British Commonwealth;*

[Mr. Yahya Ali Sahib] [28th January 1935]

- (2) so far as provincial administration is concerned—
- (a) the Joint responsibility of Ministers should be recognized, as that is the only method of preventing disruptive tendencies and creating a sound party system of Government;
 - (b) while recognizing that the Joint Parliamentary Committee Report has accepted the principle that there can be no real 'Responsibility' unless 'Law and Order' are transferred to the control of the Ministers, it is unnecessary to add to the safeguards already enumerated in the White Paper, further restrictions as contained in the paragraphs 92 and 93 of the Report;
 - (c) the Rules of Business and Procedure should be made on the advice of the Ministers and not merely in consultation with them;
 - (d) the power of the Governor to make Ordinances should be limited to cases where he can do so on the advice of the Ministers; in other cases, this power should be vested in the Governor-General;
 - (e) the Governor's Acts should be only of temporary duration and not be permanently on the Statute Book;
 - (f) the very wide discretionary power given to the Governor in relation to the Services will make it impossible for Ministers to carry on the administration particularly as the phrase "legitimate interests" is incapable of any definite meaning;
- (3) with regard to the Federal Centre, the Council urges that at least those suggestions relating to Defence and Commercial safeguards which were put forward in the Memorandum of the British Indian delegates to the Joint Parliamentary Committee may be adopted. The system of Indirect Election to the Federal Assembly is also an alteration of the proposals of the White Paper Scheme for which there is no sufficient justification; and
- (4) the Council is strongly opposed to the proposal contained in paragraph 473 of the Joint Parliamentary Committee Report empowering the Burma Legislature to enact any discriminating legislation against Indian subjects.

Sir, I need hardly say at the very beginning that this represents the considered opinion of the party to which I have the honour to belong. Before however I deal in detail with the provisions contained in the amendment that I have moved, I would like to make a few observations, with reference to the amendment that has just now been moved by my Hon. Friend, the Leader of the Opposition.

Sir, that amendment deals first with an expression of opinion, and says, not that it disapproves the recommendations of the Joint Parliamentary Committee, but on the other hand that it 'does not

28th January 1935] [Mr. Yahya Ali Sahib]

satisfy the aspirations of the people of this country.' Then the amendment proceeds to say that the report is 'unacceptable' and lastly it says that 'it is better to remain and struggle under the existing constitution, defective though it be, than to be saddled with the constitution proposed under the Report.' So far as the first portion is concerned, Sir, the House will see that the Ministerialist party to which I belong, like any other politically-minded person in India to-day, agrees in that view. It is very clear that in so far as the main recommendations in the report are concerned, the politically-minded people in India have expressed general disapproval; at all events, they have not been very enthusiastic about the scheme. In saying this, I think I have said the maximum that could be said with reference to this aspect of the question.

"The next portion of the amendment moved by my hon. Friend refers to the report as being 'unacceptable.' Well, Sir, in the country this word has been used in what I would call a loose sense. Some elements have also used the word 'rejection'; and one is at a loss to understand what exactly is connoted by the statement that the report should be rejected or that it should not be accepted. If it involves a mere expression of the same sentiment as is contained in the earlier portion of the amendment, viz., that it does not satisfy the aspirations of the people, it is nothing worth cavilling at; but if it means more than that, and if it conveys the idea that the extremist section in the country will not be prepared to work the scheme when it is placed on the Statute Book, or to discharge the duties and responsibilities which will devolve on the statesmen of the country and the politically-minded people of the country, then I fail to see exactly whether that idea will be implemented by actions to that end. But, so far as I am able to understand, the extremist section has already expressed its intention to accept office and to work from within the legislatures. (Hear, hear.) I therefore feel that the sentiment expressed here of not 'accepting the report' or 'rejecting' it, amounts to nothing but an academic discussion.

"The really objectionable part of the amendment from my point of view and I believe from the point of view of my party is the last portion, where it is said that 'it is better to remain and struggle under the existing constitution, defective though it be, than to be saddled with the constitution proposed under the report.' I am at a total loss to understand the significance of that portion of the amendment. If it is suggested that the Joint Committee's scheme does not involve any advance whatsoever on the existing state of affairs, I beg leave to say that I do not agree. We have here the assurance of responsibility, perhaps to the fullest extent, being conceded to us in the provincial sphere; practically full self-government, subject to some necessary safeguards which I shall refer to later, is being granted. The franchise is being extended from somewhere about 3 per cent of the population to something like 14 per cent of the population, i.e., about 28 per cent of the adult population of the country. In other words, the number of persons who will exercise their franchise has been raised from three

[Mr. Yahya Ali Sahib] [28th January 1935]

millions to somewhere between 28 and 29 millions. In addition to this, six millions of females are to be enfranchised. So that, the scheme on the whole enfranchises 35 millions of people, and that cannot certainly be described as involving no progress at all. Then again, Sir, there is the wiping out altogether of the official blocks and the Executive Councils. It may be that according to the report, responsibility at the centre is not what one would wish it to be, having regard to the many appeals that have been made to the British people in that respect; but one must admit that there is a certain amount of responsibility granted at the centre over the whole range of Federal subjects, except in the departments of Defence, and External affairs and foreign relations, about which as the Leader of the Opposition Dr. Subbarayan pointed out just now, there must be some control exercised by an authority which is outside the Legislature. Therefore, Sir, it is not correct to say that in regard to all aspects, to some of which I have referred, the Joint Committee scheme is not an advance from the position in which we are now placed.

"Lastly, the amendment says that 'it is better to remain and struggle under the existing constitution' than to work a scheme of this kind. I submit, Sir, this part of the portion is particularly surprising. My hon. friend himself has worked the Diarchical scheme as Chief Minister, and the Madras Presidency has always been extolled for having worked the system in perhaps as efficient a way as that patchy system could be worked. I may also here refer to the appreciation recorded in the speech of His Excellency the Governor the other day to this Council, that Madras has always worked the Reforms in peace and efficiency. That opinion, I hope, is held elsewhere too, in respect of this province. Having regard to that, I think it is very unfair to say at all events from this province that 'it is better to work the diarchic system' which has been condemned on all hands. I am afraid therefore that we, on this side of the House, cannot accept the amendment moved by the Hon'ble Leader of the Opposition.

"Coming now to my own amendment, Sir, I must at the outset say that while we do recognize that this is a step forward and a good step forward in the direction of conferring certain political rights on the Indian community, we still feel that there are certain defects in the scheme which we on this side consider are such that their rectification will effect a considerable improvement. The very first point that arises in this connexion is the insertion in the constitution act itself of the objective of the political advancement of this country—the incorporation of the expression 'Dominion Status' in the constitution; we regret to note that it has been completely discarded. It is something like a red rag apparently to British statesmen at present. The reasons are perhaps obvious, and I need not dilate upon them. There is however one aspect of it to which I would like to draw pointed attention. It now seems clear that the India Bill is not going to contain a preamble of the kind we find in the Government of India Act of 1919; and the constitutional pandits appear to have stated that the repeal of the Act

28th January 1935] [Mr. Yahya Ali Sahib]

of 1919 will not amount to a repeal of the preamble and that even though not re-enacted, that preamble would still continue to be in force. But if the constitutional goal of India is to be shrouded in the preamble of a repealed Act, it will be like having it somewhere in the mid air.

"Now, Sir, I wish only to say that having regard to the assurances that we have received from various provincial Governors who have spoken on this question and from various statesmen who have made their pronouncements, one feels somewhat satisfied, but the state of affairs is that the question of Dominion Status as against Independence, has become a live issue in this country. There are certain elements in this country who persist in saying that even Dominion Status will not satisfy the political aspirations of the country and that they would like to have full and complete independence of the kind that has been described rather incoherently here and there, but the moderate elements, the conservative elements in the country, do feel that the insertion of an objective of this kind will at least enable those elements to satisfy themselves that their genuine aspirations are being granted and recognized by the British Government and by the British Parliament. Sir, I wish only to quote what Mr. Churchill said in the year 1921 in his speech that has been adverted to by my hon. Friend, Dr. Subbarayan. There he said 'We owed India that deep debt and we looked forward confidently to the days when the Indian Government and the people of India would have assumed fully and completely their "Dominion Status." When he was asked in the year 1931 whether he did not give that assurance, he said that when he used the expression 'Dominion Status,' he used it in a ceremonial sense; and when giving evidence before the Joint Parliamentary Committee, his attention was again drawn to it, he said that when he was using that expression he was merely talking as politicians often have to do, an agreeable speech upon a festive occasion.' Sir Wardlaw-Milne, the Chairman of the Conservative M.P.'s India Committee, said as follows in the House of Commons: 'No pledge given by any Secretary of State or any Viceroy has any real legal bearing on the matter at all. The only thing that Parliament is really bound by is the Act of 1919.'

"Again, Sir, the Joint Committee itself with reference to this particular point has stated in paragraph 11 of the Report, 'above all, in the Preamble to the Act of 1919, Parliament has set out, finally and definitely, the ultimate aims of British rule in India. Subsequent statements of policy have added nothing to the substance of this declaration, and we think it well to quote it here in full, as settling once and for all the attitude of the British Parliament and people towards the political aspirations of which we have spoken'; and then the Preamble is set out in extenso. Sir, these expressions to my mind are significant if not decisive, I mean the statements 'that it is finally and definitely settled in the Preamble to the Act of 1919 what the ultimate aim of British rule in India is to be, and that it is settling once and for all the attitude of British Parliament.' That being so, having regard to the

[Mr. Yahya Ali Sahib] [28th January 1935]

doubts that have been raised by the British politicians, and which have been referred to by speakers both in the House of Lords and in Commons when this Report was debated upon in the House, it is natural that Indians should have been perturbed. It may be after all, that some statesmen at some future date may rise and say that whatever statesmen may say orally, those statements do not bind them. I am quite aware that His Excellency in his speech the other day said that the British people do not break any pledges and he also referred to a speech made by the Right Hon'ble Mr. Baldwin in the course of the last month. It is no doubt true that such speeches also are being made and in ordinary circumstances I do not think they will be doubted; nor do we throw any doubt on the part of those statesmen that they would make an attempt to break them, but others who try to water it down may take it into their mind and say, these pledges will not be deemed to be binding individually or collectively on the Government. In this view therefore, I think, that some provision should be made in the Act itself declaring that Dominion Status is the objective. It was also suggested that some time-limit should be fixed within which that stage should be achieved. One agrees with the reasoning contained in the well considered, well reasoned and well balanced Report of the Joint Committee with regard to the inconvenience that would arise from the fixation of a regular time-table with reference to the constitutional evolution.

"Then, Sir, coming to the details with regard to provincial administration, the first observation that I wish to make is that the Report is defective, in that it does not seek to bring into existence a system of joint Ministerial Responsibility. Sir, the intention of the British Parliament as well as Joint Committee of both Houses of the British Parliament was to bring into existence a system of Federation with certain amount of Ministerial Responsibility and bring into existence Provincial Autonomous Legislatures with the executive completely and fully responsible to the Legislature. If that is so, and if that is to work effectively, efficiently and satisfactorily, it goes without saying that a system of collective responsibility on the part of the Ministers is absolutely essential. From the very start, such a system should be initiated so as to make it satisfactory. The only argument I find mentioned by the Joint Committee with regard to this aspect of the matter is that it would be confusing between cause and effect. Nobody can by a Statute create a thing which arises as a result of constitutional usage and practice. It will be for the Ministers and by the interaction of certain influences arising from their responsibility to the Legislatures and by the control of the Legislature in turn over their politics, such an institution should come into existence. I quite well realize the force of the contention but after an experiment has been made and the results achieved, we do not want to start over again with the various unsuccessful stages of that experiments, but should proceed from the point that has been reached and base further progress on the foundations of the achievements of the past. One need not go through all the travails of an invention each time when further research is made based on the results of that invention. I therefore think it will be possible

28th January 1935] [Mr. Yahya Ali Sahib]

for a constitutional genius to be able to devise some means by which a system of joint responsibility, or the collective responsibility of Ministers can come into existence. The disadvantages of the non-existence of such a feature, I submit are very great. Powers that are going to be given to the Governor in the matter of prerogative over the policy of Ministers and his interfering in the details of the administration, both Ministerial and otherwise, are so great that unless there is some sort of provision for cumulative responsibility on the part of the Ministry for their functioning and going out of office together the disadvantages arising out of the non-existence of cabinet solidarity will be very formidable. It will be possible for forces to work so as to set up a single Minister as against the other Ministers and it will be possible for the Legislature itself to be so influenced as to be able to hit against particular Ministers in preference to the other Ministers, and such a situation would be too demoralizing. I therefore think that in the interests of the healthy growth of constitutional usage and practice, it is absolutely essential that a system of joint responsibility should be started even from the very commencement.

"Now, on the question of the transfer of Law and Order, we are genuinely grateful for the Joint Committee for the very forceful argument that they have put forward, that no responsibility can be complete unless there is a devolution to Ministers of the department of Law and Order. That was the conclusion to which the Statutory Commission had come to and I am glad the Joint Committee has really placed the question beyond the pale of controversial politics. In doing so, however, we regret to notice that in paragraph 92 and the following paragraphs up to 96, some additional powers have been given, which were not contemplated in the White Paper. I feel, Sir, as one who has been in some way associated with the working of the department of Law and Order, that in practical working it will not be necessary in any way to implement the administration with the powers that are contemplated here. It is stated that police orders are to be a matter for the protection and sanction of the Governor-General and the Governors and that the Ministers should have no power whatsoever even to get information with regard to anything. The Joint Committee concedes that they trust that the Ministers will not interfere in such matters. But their apprehension is based on the fact that it is likely that the possibility of the Ministers knowing the names of the informants may deter the latter from giving out the information and as such valuable sources of information will dry up. I feel if an informant is otherwise prepared to come forward and give out the information, for fear that a Minister coming to know of it is likely to harm him in the end, he will not feel deterred from divulging that information.

"Then, Sir, there are other matters in regard to which advertance has been made in my motion, but as there are other hon. Members who would like to deal with them, I only wish before concluding to refer to the question of indirect election to the Federal Assembly. Sir,

[Mr. Yahya Ali Sahib] [28th January 1935]

I am aware that in his speech here the other day, His Excellency Lord Erskine was trying to support the proposal made by the Joint Committee. No doubt, the constituencies of the Federal Assembly will be formidable and the contact between the candidate and the constituency is essential and can hardly be established in such huge size constituencies. That perhaps is the only effective argument that has been put forward against direct election. But as against that there are very powerful and cogent arguments which are much more convincing. The establishment of a Federation is primarily calculated to promote and bring into existence a feeling of national solidarity and create a national outlook on the part of every member of that Legislature. That can hardly be secured for the Central Assembly by a system of indirect election. Under the proposed system, the Centre is really going to be nothing but a pale shadow of the Provincial Legislatures. There would be this further difficulty, that in the matter of running the elections, candidates themselves will be in a state of confusion as there will be an admixture of election issues, Central as well as Provincial; and you are aware of the difficulty in the matter of approaching the electorate with a much too complicated system of Provincial and federal problems. Again, with regard to the object that on account of the largeness and size of the electorate it will be difficult for the candidates to approach them, I recall the observation made by His Excellency the Viceroy's Government in a despatch that was sent by them with reference to this matter, where they say that in India with the existing system of caste organization, social activities; ties of professional obligations, the very structure of the village polity—all these organizations and institutions which are in existence themselves, provide the medium through which the elector can and has always come into contact with the electorate and vice versa and they form something like a good substitute for party organizations which are in existence in the West. That is a consideration which the British India Delegation stressed upon and put forward very powerfully. I believe, the Provincial Governments supported it and the Government of India also supported that suggestion; and His Majesty's Government also were in favour of it; and as a matter of fact the Joint Committee of 1919 whose report led to the framing of the Government of India Act, were in favour of the scheme, even though the Southborough Committee did not approve of it. That scheme has worked very well and there was no administrative difficulty whatsoever. In these circumstances, the mere argument that the size of the electorate would be very large, I submit, dwindles into comparative insignificance; and I feel that it will still be possible as the Viceroy himself has referred to it in his speech in the Assembly for the British Parliament to amend the Bill, and we also here, hope that our Government will voice the sentiments of the whole country, which is practically unanimous in this matter, that the system of indirect election to the Federal Assembly is not at all an improvement.

28th January 1935] [Mr. Yahya Ali Sahib]

"As I expect other hon. Members may be anxious to speak I wish to conclude and in so doing, I desire to draw the attention of the House to the concluding paragraph of the Joint Parliamentary Committee Report in the first chapter of the Report where they say:

'By general admission, the time has come for Parliament to share its power with those whom for generations it has sought to train in the arts of Government; and, whatever may be the measure of the power thus to be transferred, we are confident that Parliament, in consonance with its own dignity and with the traditions of the British people will make the transfer generously and in no grudging spirit.'

"It is in that spirit of generosity and encouragement I appeal to the Parliament to view the whole question and to grant us the status and the rights, the powers and the controls, the freedom and the emancipation to which the King has referred repeatedly in the proclamations that have been issued which the British statesmen have promised to us in unqualified terms. I hope they will be conceded in the generous and sympathetic spirit in which the Joint Committee has conceived and developed the whole scheme. His Excellency, Lord Erskine, in the course of his address here, said that 'so long as he is in charge of the administration, he will help this Province and it would be his earnest endeavour to assist as far as in him lies the development of the future of the constitution.' In the coming reforms, as they are foreshadowed, arduous responsibilities are placed upon the Governor and it is only with goodwill and generosity, that the Governor would be able to work the reforms to a success. It is therefore refreshing and heartening to see that our provincial Governor has foreshadowed this liberal and generous policy even before the inauguration of the constitution and I trust, Sir, the country will reciprocate those feelings and receive the offer in the same spirit and goodwill and work it in peace and efficiency."

* Diwan Bahadur A. APPADURAI PILLAI:—"Mr. President, Sir, I rise to second the amendment so ably moved by my hon. Friend, Mr. Yahya Ali. In the first place, I have got to submit to this House that the Joint Parliamentary Report is a remarkable document which will go down to history as one of the distinct landmarks in the history of Great Britain and India. The clearness of thought and lucidity of expression, the mastery over details discernable on every page of the Report demand nothing but praise from any one who goes through the Report. (A voice: 'Amen'.) The report discloses an ardent desire on the part of the Joint Committee to study first-hand every detail of administration now obtaining in India as also the details on which changes should be effected in order to safeguard the interests of the communities of all castes and creeds that come under the British rule. In fact, I should think that the Report is a very great document marking a distinct advance on the part of India on constitutional lines. There is no denying the fact that the Joint Parliamentary Committee proposes certain restrictions on the reforms that are to be granted to this country, but they are restrictions that ought to be imposed in any new constitution. They are by no means immutable like the laws of Medes and Persians. I hope, Sir, that if they are worked in the spirit

[Mr. A. Appadurai Pillai] [28th January 1935]

in which they are offered, they will adequately meet the legitimate aspirations of the people of this vast country. There is a passage, Sir, in the Report the correctness of which should be admitted by all right-thinking men concerned in the matter of reforms. 'Responsible Government is not an automatic device which can be manufactured to specification.' With the amount of antagonism racial and religious prevailing in this country composed as it is of several communities, it is not possible, Sir, to evolve a scheme that will at once commend itself to all the parties in the country and it will be nothing short of a miracle to bring about such a reform. It will be therefore very necessary for us to move slowly and to move steadily and surely, and these reforms granting provincial autonomy should really be considered as a first instalment to be improved upon as the country progresses in the matter of self-government. It is in that spirit, Sir, as a Member of the Ministerial Party and as a representative of the minor minority community in this House, that I heartily welcome the Joint Parliamentary Committee proposals and undertake to work it to the satisfaction of the people, looking forward for further reforms in the future. Within the framework of the scheme of reforms that has been put forward by the Joint Parliamentary Committee, it is just possible as has been indicated in the amendments that have been put forward by some of the members of my party to effect the necessary amendments in order to create a more peaceful atmosphere and a ready welcome for the reform proposals.

"The first point is the most vexed question of Dominion Status. It has been the subject of clamour both in the press and on the platform that the grant of Dominion Status should be the ultimate goal of India. Unfortunately, Sir, for some reason or other, the expression of Dominion Status has not been mentioned in the Reform proposals. May I refer you, Sir, to one or two occasions from the previous literature, in which this Dominion Status was promised to the people of this country? In 1921 the Duke of Connaught read the King-Emperor's message to the Indian Legislatures stating that they had the beginning of Swaraj within the Empire and the widest scope and ample opportunity for progress to the liberty which the other Dominions enjoyed. In fact, it was stated in the Instrument of Instructions issued shortly thereafter, that the end was 'that British India may attain its true place among our Dominions.' In his memorable closing speech at the First Round Table Conference, the Prime Minister stated 'I hope and I trust and I pray that by our labours together India will possess the only thing which she now lacks to give her the status of a Dominion amongst the British Commonwealth of Nations, what she now lacks for that—the responsibilities and the cares, the burdens and the difficulties, but the pride and honour of responsible Government.' In October 1929 Lord Irwin was authorized on behalf of His Majesty's Government to state clearly that in their judgment it was implicit in the Declaration of 1917, that the natural issue of India's constitutional progress as then contemplated was the attainment of Dominion Status.

[28th January 1935] [Mr. A. Appadurai Pillai]

By these assurances, naturally there is ample justification for one to expect Dominion Status as the ultimate goal of constitutional progress in this country. It is a legitimate claim, Sir, and I have no doubt that when His Majesty's Government become aware of the unanimous verdict in this country in favour of a demand for Dominion Status, they would certainly yield, and grant in the Preamble or by some other means a guarantee that in course of time if the present reforms work to the satisfaction of the people, Dominion Status will follow as a matter of course. That is the reason, Sir, on which this Party has given the amendment: 'In view of the very wide apprehensions that have been raised in the country, almost amounting to a feeling of distrust, it should be made clear in the Preamble that the ultimate aim of the constitutional progress in this country must be the attainment by India of Dominion Status in the British Commonwealth.'

"Mr. Yahya Ali who moved the amendment has already taken some time over this matter and I shall therefore pass on to the second amendment standing in my name: 'So far as provincial administration is concerned—the Joint Responsibility of the Ministers should be recognized as that is the only method of preventing disruptive tendencies and creating a sound party system of Government.' There has been, Sir, a considerable public opinion for the imposition of Joint Responsibility on the part of the Ministers. Under paragraph 92 of the Joint Parliamentary Committee's proposals, His Excellency the Governor, when he finds that the Minister is not in a position to discharge the duties entrusted to his care, can step in and dismiss the Minister. To quote a passage from this paragraph 'If the situation is one requiring immediate action, he can issue any executive order which he may consider necessary. If the situation is one which cannot be dealt with by an isolated executive order—if the Minister in charge of the department appears unable to administer his charge on lines which the Governor regards as consistent with the due discharge of his Special Responsibility—the Governor can dismiss and replace the Minister, or, if necessary, the Ministers as a body, with or without resort to a dissolution of the Legislature. It will be a bad day, Sir, when the Governor chooses to dismiss the Minister. It will, in the course of human conduct, not happen. If it ever does and if a Governor is put to the necessity of dismissing the Minister, it must be a condition precedent that that Minister should join hands with the other Ministers and walk out of the Cabinet. That Joint Responsibility is, I submit, absolutely necessary in order to foster any growth or any sense of constitutional Government. If one Minister is sent out of the Cabinet on account of any difference of opinion, the other Members of the Cabinet will remain unaffected. The proposed amendment has put the matter very clearly and I hope that its acceptance will obviate disruptive tendencies in the Cabinet. I would not like to dwell more on this point.

"The next amendment which I would like to support runs as follows: 'While recognizing that the Joint Parliamentary Committee's

[Mr. A. Appadurai Pillai] [28th January 1935]

Report has accepted the principle that there can be no real responsibility unless Law and Order are transferred to the control of the Ministers, it is unnecessary to add to the safeguards already enumerated in the White Paper, further restrictions as contained in the paragraphs 92 and 93 of the Report.' Safeguards are already prescribed in proposal 25 of the White Paper. These are the conditions:—

- (i) the prevention of grave menace to the peace or tranquility of India or of any part thereof;
- (ii) the safeguarding of the financial stability and credit of the Federation;
- (iii) the safeguarding of the legitimate interests of minorities;
- (iv) the securing to the members of the Public Services of any rights provided for them by the constitution and the safeguarding of their legitimate interests;
- (v) the protection of the rights of any Indian State;
- (vi) the prevention of commercial discrimination; and
- (vii) any matter which affects the administration of the Reserved Departments.

1-15 p.m. "These are the seven conditions which would call forth the exercise of special powers on the part of the Governor-General in respect of the Centre, and the same conditions are applicable with reference to the Governors in Provinces. Sir, these conditions seem to be exhaustive, and it seems therefore rather superfluous to have the further restrictions contained in paragraphs 92 and 93 of the Joint Parliamentary Committee's Report which are adverted to in the amendment proposed by this party. As I have just said, Sir, the additional safeguard is provided in the matter of dismissing a Minister and taking charge of the administration in case of a breakdown, and special powers are taken with reference to police rules. It is the opinion of this party that these additional powers are really superfluous considering the enormous powers already vested in the Governor-General and the Governor under the White Paper proposals.

"The fourth amendment proposed by some of the members of this party is with reference to the Rules of Business and Procedure laid down in paragraph 100 of the Report. It is said in the commencement of paragraph 100:

'The White Paper authorizes the Governor, after consultation with his Ministers, to make, at his discretion, any rules which he regards as requisite to regulate the disposal of Government business and the procedure to be observed in its conduct

"This seems to indicate that the Governor will be under no obligation to take the advice of the Ministers but only act on his own responsibility consulting them if he chooses to do so. It will be better to create a feeling of goodwill for the smooth working of the reforms and remove any possible apprehension on the part of the people by providing not merely for consultation with the Ministers but also for the Governor acting on the *advice* of the Ministers. There is no dispute with regard to the advisability or desirability of reserving powers in

[28th January 1935] [Mr. A. Appadurai Pillai]

the hands of the Governor to frame Rules to regulate Business or Procedure, but what is wanted is that these powers might be exercised on the advice of the Ministers instead of merely in consultation with them.

"The next point referred to in the amendment is the promulgation of Ordinances. It is stated in paragraphs 106 and 108 of the Joint Parliamentary Committee's Report that Governor should have power to pass Ordinances to meet emergencies. It is proposed that this power of passing Ordinances should be exercised on the advice of the Ministers and that in other cases this power should be vested in the Governor-General. Our amendments also state that Governor's Acts contemplated in paragraph 104 of the Report should be only of temporary duration and not be permanently on the Statute Book. It may be that when the existing legal enactments are not found sufficient to carry on the administration at any time or when the administration is in danger of a breakdown, the Governor should have power to enact Acts, but they should not be permanently placed on the Statute Book, as they will necessarily clash with the set of legal enactments passed by the Legislature. This is a legitimate request made by this Party which I am perfectly sure His Majesty's Government will view with consideration in framing the Constitution.

"The next point which I would particularly urge for the consideration of this House is the prohibition about the entry of Indians into Burma. It is stated in paragraph 473 of the Joint Parliamentary Committee's Report that—

'It should be competent for the Burma Legislature to enact legislation restricting or imposing conditions of entry into Burma in respect of all persons other than British subjects domiciled in the United Kingdom. We think this is right.'

"This has raised considerable apprehension in the minds of Indians who are now resident in Burma carrying on trade or employed in the various services. A considerable amount of money has been invested by Indians in Burma who have gone and settled there on the understanding that the present conditions will continue. It will be very hard, Sir, now to turn round and tell Indians that their future entry will be prohibited as soon as Burma is separated from India. It is therefore very necessary that His Majesty's Government should take steps to see that this proposal is not put into force. If entry of Indians into Burma is to be prohibited, that will provoke a corresponding disability on the part of Burmans for entering India, and the result will be very far-reaching. Sir, Burma and India have been having trade connexion for a very long time and that connexion was based on mutual good will. If this state of affairs is to be disturbed by the prohibition of the entry of Indians into Burma, a very difficult situation will be brought about which will probably not be to the best advantage of the people of both India and Burma. It is necessary herefore for His Majesty's Government to so modify the proposals as not to impose any such prohibition but to continue the present conditions of Indian entry into Burma undisturbed.

[Mr. A. Appadurai Pillai] [28th January 1935]

"Sir, I do not wish to take up the time of the House any longer by speaking on the remaining amendments and so with these remarks. I have great pleasure in seconding the amendment moved by my hon. Friend, Mr. Yahya Ali Sahib."

The House then rose for lunch.

After Lunch (2-30 p.m.)

* Mr. P. V. KRISHNAYYA CHOUDARI:—"Mr. President, I move—

Add the following at the end:—

"and on such consideration, the House is of opinion—

- (a) that the constitution of a Second Chamber for Madras is quite unnecessary;
- (b) that the safeguards mentioned in paragraphs 94 to 97 of the Joint Parliamentary Committee Report regarding the Police Rules and Special Branch of the Police are unnecessary;
- (c) that without a clear statement of the goal of India as being one of Responsible Government with Dominion Status to be achieved within a reasonable time, the Report is unacceptable;
- (d) that the House of Assembly in the Federal Legislature should be constituted on a popular basis even with regard to States' representation. The States' subjects should be given power to send their representatives to that House;
- (e) that in regard to British Provinces the system of indirect election proposed by the Committee should be given up and the people in the Provinces should be entitled to elect their representatives directly;
- (f) that the Defence and Foreign Relations should be transferred to the Indian Ministers automatically within a reasonable time without any further reference to the Imperial Parliament;
- (g) that the powers of the Council of State should not be co-equal with the Federal House of Assembly in respect of Taxation and Finance; their power should be limited to approximate to the powers of the House of Lords in England;
- (h) that the Federal Constitution should come into force immediately in regard to British Provinces with such States as are agreeable to join, leaving the other States to join if and when they like; and
- (i) that the safeguards in regard to Commercial discrimination are totally unacceptable. The right of India for full autonomy in her fiscal affairs should be recognized."

"Sir, in moving this amendment, I first want to point out our attitude towards the resolution moved by the Leader of the Opposition, Dr. Subbarayan. No doubt, Sir, in certain matters there is retrogression. For example, at present, the Governor-General has got the power of

[28th January 1935] [Mr. P. V. Krishnayya Choudari]

making ordinances. Under the Joint Parliamentary Committee's Report, Governors of provinces are to be given this power. In addition to this, Governors can make Acts called Governor's Acts. Again, conventionally the Governor has not got the power of certifying any transferred half subjects whenever we fail to carry out his wishes. But in the present Joint Parliamentary Committee Report, the Governor is given that power. That is another instance of the retrograde policy adopted in the Report. Again Ministers are proposed on the communal basis. Under the present scheme we have not got such communal representation in the Ministry by way of statute. Again, at present, under our provincial Legislative Council there is no excluded area within the province. But the Joint Parliamentary Committee Report excludes certain portions of the province called backward areas from the jurisdiction of the Legislative Council and entrusts them to the control of the Governor himself. Again, Sir, at present we can express our opinion by means of cut motions on the Governor's Bodyguard and such things. But under the Joint Parliamentary Committee Report that power is taken away. These are all things which we have had under the Montagu-Chelmsford Reforms but they are now attempted to be taken away under the Joint Parliamentary Committee Report. Again, under the present constitution, the Minister's salary can be voted upon, but the Joint Parliamentary Committee Report takes away that valuable power from the hands of the provincial legislature.

"Then, Sir, the Montagu-Chelmsford Report was against communal representation in various groups and they have stated in paragraph 229 as follows:—

'Division by creeds and classes means the creation of political camps organized against each other and teaches men to think as partisans and not as citizens, and it is difficult to see how the change from this system to national representation is ever to occur. The British Government is often accused of dividing men in order to govern them, but if it necessarily divides them at the very moment when it professes to start them on the road to governing themselves, it will find it difficult to meet the charge of being hypocritical or short-sighted.' In paragraph 230 they say 'The communal system stereotypes existing relations.'

"Even the Montagu-Chelmsford Report about 15 years back thought it fit to definitely express their opinion that communalism should not be encouraged. But under the Joint Parliamentary Committee Report as pointed out under the statutory provisions, the ministers are to be selected by way of communal representation.

"No doubt, though we are taken back in certain matters, still I feel that the Joint Parliamentary Committee Report with the proposed modifications may be a forward step. That is the reason why I feel I cannot be a party to accepting that portion of the resolution of Dr. Subbarayan stating 'that it is better to remain and struggle under the existing constitution, defective though it be, than to be saddled with the constitution proposed under the Report.' If the amendments which I am going to move are accepted, they will certainly constitute a forward step.

[Mr. P. V. Krishnayya Choudari] [28th January 1935]

"Then, as regards the second chamber mentioned in the Joint Parliamentary Committee Report, even the Simon Report has made no reference to it. That shows that Madras need not be saddled with a second chamber. I do not know what moved the authors of the Joint Parliamentary Committee Report to introduce this unnecessary and costly thing in Madras. Already our finances are unable to meet the several items of necessary expenditure, and what little we are going to get by way of taxation should not be frittered away on such a costly experiment. Another reason is, already the present Council consists of members representing various communities. I do not see any necessity for this additional safeguard having regard to the fact that there are already so many safeguards in the Governor's hands.

"Another argument against the second chamber is that the Central Government having to do with several provinces and Native States need to have two chambers, but not the provincial legislature where such subjects do not come within its scope. There is also one other argument against the second chamber. So far as the Council of State is concerned, the voters having the necessary high qualification number about 2,500 or 3,000, and they are given 35 seats. If that voting qualification is going to be adopted for the province it will be a very narrow electorate and will give rise to all sorts of corruption. It is not desirable in the interests of the country that we should have for 100 or 200 voters the privilege of having a member elected for the second chamber. It is most undesirable and undemocratic.

2-45
p.m.

"We have not got adult franchise now even for the lower chamber. Hereafter also there is not going to be adult franchise and that being the case those that are now coming to the lower house will be the same persons that will come to the upper house if there is to be one. Even for the present provincial councils the landed aristocracy find no difficulty in getting returned. Though we have some reserved seats for landholders, they are not content with that and they manage to come in through the general constituencies also. When the landed aristocracy for whom the second chamber is intended in the provinces are well represented even in the lower house or the present provincial legislature, there is no need for a second chamber in the provinces at all.

"About indirect elections, Sir, I just want to say a few words. At present, indirect elections are proposed for the Federal Assembly and with this Mr. Yahya Ali agreed in view of the fact that otherwise the constituencies would be too large for one candidate. But the difficulty is that people are now accustomed to have direct elections. Will they be satisfied with the indirect elections if we now try to substitute it for the direct elections? Any way I feel that it is not desirable to take away this power they now enjoy. Under the existing Constitution, the constituency for a seat in the Legislative Assembly consists of three or four districts. Under the proposed scheme roughly one district will constitute an electorate for returning one Member to the Federal Assembly. When that is the case, when each district will hereafter return one Member, how can it be said that the constituencies will hereafter be wider than they are now?

28th January 1935] [Mr. P. V. Krishnayya Choudari]

"Sir, another argument against the indirect election proposed is this: Suppose the Governor-General dissolves the Federal Assembly and asks the local Councils to reconstitute it. Whom will these Councils return? They will very possibly return the same set of Members. Dissolution under such circumstances would be no good. On the other hand, if there is direct election, the composition of the new body would be different. The system of transfer of votes now contemplated will add to the unrepresentative character of the future Federal Assembly. For instance, if a candidate has ten votes, he will get himself elected and this will introduce a lot of corruption. Aristocrats who can command large sums of money would capture these seats and under such circumstances real democracy cannot exist.

"The Federal Assembly, under the scheme, is going to be flooded with a large number of representatives of the States Rulers. They will represent only the Rajas by whom they are nominated. The subjects of the States will have no voice in the selection of these representatives. The scheme thus gives no right to the subjects of these States to elect men to represent them. But the evil does not stop there. The presence of these nominated States' representatives in the Federal Assembly will act as a spoke in the wheel of the representatives of democratic British India. The real voice of the people of India will not thus be heard.

"Sir, at present we have got fiscal autonomy, but that is being taken away. Hereafter statutory form of legislation takes its place. The little fiscal powers that we now have are going to be denied to us hereafter.

"With these few words I commend my amendment to the House and leave my leader, Mr. K. P. Raman Menon, to further explain the object of my motion." (Laughter.)

* Mr. K. P. RAMAN MENON:—"Sir, I have great pleasure in seconding the motion tabled by Mr. Krishnayya Choudari. In doing so, I wish to justify the position taken up by my party with reference to the motion tabled by Dr. Subbarayan. Sir, after mature consideration, we have come to the conclusion that we cannot agree with him in the latter portion of his motion. Sir, so far as it expresses the dissatisfaction of the people of this country and the failure of the Report to satisfy the aspirations of our people, we are in hearty agreement with the sentiments expressed by Dr. Subbarayan. But so far as the latter portion of it is concerned, I am afraid we have to take a different view. No doubt, he reinforced his arguments by saying: 'What about the resolutions we passed when we discussed the White Paper on the floor of this House? Have the persons responsible for the Joint Parliamentary Committee Report in any way altered the White Paper with reference to the decisions arrived at by this Council? If at all they have altered it, they have done so only to the detriment of our country.' That is a very forcible suggestion made by him. No doubt, it appeals to this House and it makes one think that any suggestion that we make on the floor of this House will similarly fall flat. But, as he himself remarked on an earlier occasion when dealing with the White Paper, the task of the British Government having had to reconcile the irreconcilable Conservative Party has also to be kept in mind. We must

[Mr. K. P. Raman Menon] [28th January 1935]

remember that now also. No doubt, as he expressed it, I have myself very grave doubts as to whether any discussion that we have here in this House will have any material effect on the Members who are going to consider the Joint Parliamentary Committee Report and the Bill that is said to have been introduced in Parliament. Yet, we would be failing in our duty if we say that we do not want anything according to the scheme put forward. We should be justified in so saying only if we are convinced that the proposed scheme is retrograde and not an advance on the present position. Is the proposed scheme retrograde or is it an advance on the present system of Government? Under the new scheme, first of all there is the provision for what are known as Governor's Acts and the Governor's Ordinances. That, no doubt, is a retrograde move. There is then the Governor's right to overrule the Legislative Assembly as we are going to be called hereafter with reference to any decision that we may take on any particular subject. Then there is the provision that we are not to vote the Ministers' salaries and the salaries of certain establishments. Under present conditions, except with reference to reserved subjects, we are entitled to vote and express our views which carry weight. These are points which support the view that the present proposals are retrograde. But there are other provisions which certainly are in advance of the present conditions. First of all there is the tremendous extension of the franchise. Instead of the present very limited electorate we are going to have an extended franchise. Under the new scheme, therefore, the House will be much more representative than at present. Then there is the fact that the financial control, at least in theory, is vested in this House. We have the power to initiate measures of taxation and to allocate the revenues. Then there is the fact that the official block altogether disappears. There are to be no officials at all in the Assembly and they are not to have the vote. These are facts which really are in advance of the present position. I am one of those who think that, notwithstanding the extensive powers vested in His Excellency the Governor, as His Excellency observed very rightly, they are not powers which will be brought into action from day to day, but will be brought into play on occasions when there is a breakdown threatening. A breakdown of the Constitution should at all costs be prevented and these powers are intended for that. So that, taking all in all, I am of opinion that, as a matter of fact, the system adumbrated by the Joint Parliamentary Committee is really an advance on the present system. That is the reason why myself and those who follow me have taken the attitude that though the report is unsatisfactory and fails to satisfy our aspirations, we are not in a position to say that it should be rejected, to borrow the phraseology of some Members or to say in a milder way that it is not acceptable and that we prefer to struggle under the existing conditions.

"Dealing now with the Report itself, I do not subscribe to the view put forward by the Joint Select Committee that there is such a divergence of opinion here and such irreconcilable and conflicting interests that it is impossible to frame a Constitution which will satisfy the aspirations of all Indians. The Joint Parliamentary Committee Report says that there is practically the existence of two civilizations—Hindu and

[28th January 1935] [Mr. K. P. Raman Menon]

and Muhammadan—with the age-old antagonism facing them, and the distrust of the minority communities and that for these reasons mainly it is not possible to frame a constitution which will be satisfactory to all concerned. Now, with reference to the age-old antagonism, I am afraid I must point out that it is the European mentality that is responsible for exaggerating this. There is considerable difference between the mentality of the Easterners and the mentality of the Westerners. If you look to the history of Europe, from the 13th century onwards you will find religious persecution of an intensive type going on. This went on in France, England, Switzerland, Germany and so on until very recent times. Notwithstanding all this, the different States are carrying on their administration and England in particular had perfected democratic institutions. In the East religious intolerance of the type never took root. You never hear of Mussalmans burning Hindus and vice versa as was the case in Europe as regards conflicting religions. There the Roman Catholics burned the Protestants and the Protestants, when they had the upper hand, retaliated and burned the Roman Catholics. You do not hear anything in the East corresponding to the Sicilian Vespers or the Massacre of St. Bartholomew and incidents like that. India's dual cruelty, no doubt, existed in the East but not in the mass directed against the weaker section of the population.

"We had more tolerance than the western nations. Coming nearer home, during the time both of the Hindu and Muhammadan Rajas, Muhammadan officers were under the employ of Hindu Rajas and vice versa. No feelings of hatred were entertained by one community against the other. There are instances where the Hindus were captains of Muhammadan armies. Coming still nearer home, under the Zamorin of Calicut there were several Moplahs as soldiers. One entire division of his troops consisted of Moplahs. One Kunhalikutti Marakkayar commanded his fleet and even now his tomb Kottakal can be seen and is a place of pilgrimage. If, as a matter of fact, the hand of the British officer is taken away there will be more affinity between the two races. The Muhammadans in South India are all converts from Hindus and I do not think there is one Hindu who bears ill-feeling or hatred against a Muhammadan. They are perhaps people with different cultures and the Muhammadans go to Muhammadan saints and the Hindus to Hindu saints. They are all substantially the same people and not people belonging to divergent races as mentioned in the Joint Select Committee Report. It may be that the British people are suffering from a sort of mental obsession on account of racial antagonism among the European nations themselves, which is stronger in Europe than here. Take the case of modern Germany. There is always antagonism between Germany on the one side and Jugo-Slovakia and Hungary on the other. That antagonism has been going on for the last half a century. As far as I believe it is not possible in India. Then again I put it to you, Sir, if, as a matter of fact, in Canada where the two races, viz., the French and the English now form one homogeneous whole and can be brought under one system of Democratic Government, is it not reasonable that the British Government should be able to find a system of

[Mr. K. P. Raman Menon] [28th January 1935]

Government which would reconcile the aspirations of Hindus and Muhammadans in India? British statesmanship is not so bankrupt as to be unable to find a solution for this problem. Again take the case of South Africa. Within a few years after the Boer War between the Dutch and the English, a system of Government was established by which the aspirations of both the peoples were satisfied. If British statesmanship can achieve that, I fail to see why they cannot evolve a system of Government in India by which the aspirations of the two great communities, viz., the Hindus and the Muhammadans can be satisfied.

"Then, again, coming to portions of the Report itself, I submit the Report is unsatisfactory and cannot be accepted. I submit that portions having reference to Provincial Legislatures, are most retrograde and most objectionable so far as I am concerned and people of my way of thinking are concerned. The Report gives enormous powers to the Governor and says that his powers of making ordinances and Acts are similar to the power of certification which exists at present. I fail to see the analogy between the two. Reading through the Report I find that this is the only argument they have advanced for investing the Governor with power to promulgate Acts. I find no analogy between the two. They say that the Governor may pass an Act which, in his opinion, is necessary for the peace and tranquillity of the Province and the Legislative Assembly can move an address to the Governor if they think otherwise. If no such address is presented, it becomes law automatically. Sir, this is not found in any constitution. I challenge whether such a procedure is found in any constitution in any part of the world.

"Now coming to our own Government, ever since the Regulating Act of 1783 was passed, all acts of His Excellency the Governor were Acts of the Governor in Council and all acts of His Excellency the Viceroy were Acts of the Governor-General in Council. The Council before Legislative Councils were set up consisted of the Executive Councillors and others who formed the Council and the Governor and the Governor-General were bound under the constitution to act according to the advice given by the Council. Later, when the Provincial Legislative Council was formed, there were nominated members on it, and they had some voice in the making of laws. Then again, when the Legislative Councils were enlarged and made partially elective, all Acts were Acts of the Governor's Council and it remains so. So, when Executive Councillors give place to Ministers why should not their advice and the advice of the people whom they represent be taken. Is the Council, the Legislative Assembly, not to have the same force when the Governors are advised by the Executive Councillors? I submit there is absolutely no reason mentioned for the procedure to be laid under the proposed Reforms. No doubt it may be said that the Governor will think twice before he passed such an Act. I ask why should there be such a power at all vested in the Governor, a power which is not inherent in him under the present constitution. With reference to

[Mr. K. P. Raman Menon] 28th January 1935]

the Ordinances I do not very much care about them. They would be in force only for a few months. So there need not be much agitation about this. With regard to the other matter, there is absolutely no justification that such a power should be vested in the Governor.

"Again it is said that financially we have been given extensive powers. It will be seen from the power given to the Governor anything which in his opinion does not conduce to the peace and tranquillity of the Province can be vetoed. On that ground any allotment can be disturbed and any legislation can be vetoed. So also with regard to any acts which concern the minority communities and which affect the peace and good Government of the Province.

"With reference to legislative action, I have already discussed that point. Now with reference to financial action, he can override the financial resolutions of the Council. That is stated on pages 59-60 of the Report. I cannot find any justification for that, so far as Provincial Councils are concerned. I can understand, so far as the Central Government is concerned, that there may be large questions of policy involving defence, external relationship and so on. But so far as we are concerned, the powers given to the Provincial Legislatures and their ambit of enquiry are very limited. We want the Government to be carried on and peace to be observed. Things are done only for the better government of the people. So why should there be any such power vested in the Governor to enable him to override the resolutions that are passed by the Legislative Council?

"Then again, another point on which I should like to touch upon is with reference to the Provincial Legislative Councils being bi-cameral. No reasons have been put forward. The matter was discussed in this Council and it was decided by a large majority that there should be no Second Chamber in this Province. Perhaps it is unnecessary for me to reiterate the arguments that were advanced then. One of the arguments put forward now is that a Second Chamber would act as a check on any hasty legislation. Another reason adduced for the establishment of a Second Chamber was the safeguarding of any special interests which could be affected by any legislation of the lower Chamber. Now does not power vest in the Governor to dissolve the Council if it passes any such legislation which is against the views of the general public, and does not power vest in him to summon a new Council? For the purpose of protecting particular interests and for preventing hasty legislation it is not necessary to have a Second Chamber. Look at the enormous cost that it involves. There must be a President, a Secretary, a Deputy President and all the paraphernalia of the lower house attached to the upper house also. You must have the necessary accommodation and you must have so many things. There will be more money required for all this. Now more money is required for water-supply in villages and for sanitation in the Presidency. Is there any sanitation at all in the Presidency? Even in Madras, is public health good? Is any additional grant made for public

[Mr. K. P. Raman Menon] [28th January 1935]

health? Are there not one thousand and one avenues which conduce to public good and for which monies can be spent usefully? When such is the case why should we waste money on a Second Chamber? I submit that Second Chambers are luxuries and there is absolutely no necessity for establishing them.

"Dealing with Federal Chambers, I really fail to see how they can be regarded as representative. The Lower House is supposed to consist of 375 members among whom 125 members are to be nominated by Rulers of States. I shall not deny the merits of those people who represent such interests when I say that they are backward in their political culture and their general outlook of life. They are very far behind what obtains in British India. They may not even know what powers the nominated members from the States have in the Assembly. Even when they are elected they will not come to the standard of members here. What can you expect of them a solid block of 125 members who really do not know what they should do.

3-15 p.m. "Recently there was an incident reported in the Mannargudi Municipality. There was an Adi-Dravida member on the municipality. When the voting time came on a particular question, he did not know what to do. He first voted one way and then voted another way. When he was told he should not do like that, he is reported to have said, 'Do not trouble me with these votings and so on.' I read of this incident in the *Madras Mail*. I submit that the representatives of the Indian States who will be nominated by their sovereigns will be much in the same position as the member mentioned above. They or many of them will not be in a position to understand the real issues that come before the Federal Assembly and tackle them properly. I do not for a moment want to disparage the Rulers of the States, but I really do not think they will be able to find out suitable individuals. I take it for granted that the individuals who will be nominated will be the best available. But even then, they will be far behind the representatives of British India in their political education and they cannot understand the outlook of the people of British India for long years to come.

"Then, Sir, I come to the question of election to the Federal Assembly and the Federal Upper Chamber. When indirect elections are proposed for these bodies, it is a farce to call these bodies representative assemblies. Well, Sir, what is the argument in favour of indirect elections to these bodies? The only argument is that the constituencies would be very large, in some cases as large as Wales and in others practically equal to half of England. Therefore, it is said that it is not possible to have a representative to represent such a large area. If that is so, how can a man elected by the Provincial Legislative Assemblies represent an area which is larger than Wales and half as big as England. The Provincial Assemblies are admittedly smaller bodies. This argument conclusively shows that indirect election is absolutely no good at all. If direct election will not result in a representative assembly, how can indirect election attain that result?

[Mr. K. P. Raman Menon] 28th January 1935]

Again, Sir, direct election has been the rule all these years and we have been used to it. There is also this advantage in direct election, namely, that if the constituency is large there will be less chances of corruption and malpractices during elections. Further, Sir, is there anything in common between the subjects that come up before the Provincial Legislative Assemblies and the subjects that come up before the Federal Legislative Assembly? The lists of subjects are given in the Joint Parliamentary Committee's Report itself. The subjects that come up before the Federal Chambers are subjects in which the whole of India is interested whereas the subjects that come up before the Provincial Chambers are subjects in which the particular Provinces alone are interested and not other Provinces with few exceptions. Therefore if we resort to indirect election, the persons who are elected by the Provincial Legislative Assemblies will be carrying their parochial views into the Central Legislature and thus hindering and not helping the Government in any way. As a result of the work done by the Indian National Congress during the last 50 years, the people have now an outlook of life which is more national than parochial. If we adopt a system of indirect election, the national outlook that has been so laboriously built up and is vigorously apparent in the present Legislative Assembly will be totally gone and that is a loss which we can hardly make good. I submit, therefore, that indirect election is a farce and it cannot be accepted at all by the people.

"With reference to the respective powers of the Upper and Lower Chambers as described in the Joint Parliamentary Committee's Report, I should say that it will not be possible to work the system, if the two chambers have co-ordinate powers as now proposed. That is another difficulty that will have to be surmounted.

"Then there are various other matters with reference to Defence, External Affairs and Ecclesiastical Affairs. There is also a distinction sought to be made between the Viceroy and the Governor-General. With regard to Defence, it has been pointed out that Indians are not able to defend themselves. Well, Sir, how can they defend themselves, if as a matter of fact, there is no Indian Army? If India is regarded as a training ground for British troops, if British troops are sent down here to hold the people in check—for practically the British Army is an army of occupation—how can you expect an Indian Army? You will have to create an Indian Army and you can create one if you have the will. If you have not got the will, if you look upon India merely as a place where the British troops can have their war-exercises, if the British Army is merely an army of occupation, there is no good of saying that there is no Indian Army to defend India. Stated plainly, you have no confidence in Indians and you want the British Army to be the army of occupation. It would be more honest if you say that, instead of saying that you want to create an Indian army in 25, 50 or 75 years. I should say, Sir, that the whole thing is bunkum—the anxiety which they express to have an Indian army.

[Mr. K. P. Raman Menon] [28th January 1935]

"Again, Sir, with reference to Defence, it is said that expert advice must be had so far as the Government are concerned. But why should Defence be regarded as a secret thing? Why should not Indians be taken into confidence? Why should they not be regarded as being able to keep secrets? As a matter of fact, they are even now bound to keep official secrets whenever they take office. As Members of Council they are bound by oath to keep Cabinet secrets. If an Indian is appointed as Minister in charge of the portfolio of Defence, he is bound by oath to keep the Cabinet secrets. Why then should he not be trusted in regard to this also when he is trusted in regard to various other matters? In pre-British days there have been numerous examples of Indians being in charge of armies and responsible to the head of the State so far as the armies are concerned.

"With reference to External Affairs such as for instance treaties with foreign powers, the Viceroy's voice may prevail. But is there any reason why he should not be advised by Indian Ministers? No reasons have been stated why it should not be done and unless reasons are given why that should not be done, I for one am not prepared to support the proposition that Indians are unfit to handle the portfolio of External Affairs.

"As regards the question of Ecclesiastical Affairs, I do not quarrel with the decision taken by the Committee. So long as we want the British Army and British officers in India, we do not want to meddle with their religious affairs as we do not want them to meddle with our religious affairs. Therefore I have no quarrel with the decision of the Committee on that matter.

"Again, Sir, with reference to commercial treaties and commitments made by India with foreign countries, it is said that these matters will be beyond the scope of the Federal Assembly and the Council of State. As I have stated already, if, as a matter of fact, Indians can be trusted in so many departments of Government, I fail to see why they should not be trusted in this department also. Is it supposed that the moment they are given the power, Indians will pass discriminatory legislation? I certainly think that it is not the right view. We know very well that millions of pounds of British capital have been sunk in enterprises in India and does anyone think that any Indian politician will ever think of sequestering this capital? Does any one think that discrimination would be carried to such an extent with reference to British goods? Even now, notwithstanding all the propaganda which has been made for Swadeshi articles, so many British articles are sold in this country. India takes more of British goods than any other country. India still remains Britain's best customer. Under these circumstances, it is idle to say that there will be commercial discrimination. It is said that these powers should be vested in the Governor in order that he may hold the scales evenly. (Interruption.) Mr. Langley reminds me of the Congress. The Congress no doubt did at a certain stage propose that foreign debts should be repudiated, but they did not say that all foreign debts should be repudiated. What they

[28th January 1935] [Mr. K. P. Raman Menon]

said was that an impartial tribunal should be appointed to enquire and find out what was borrowed for Indian purposes and what was borrowed for non-Indian purposes. By whom was that tribunal to be set up? By the British Government themselves. And that tribunal should decide what should be done. Is that a strange request? Have not the British Government done the same thing so far as the contributions for the army are concerned? The Government set up a tribunal and they gave an award allocating the army expenses as between India and England? Similarly if another tribunal is set up and they make an award, I do not think that anything that they may do will be unjust to the people who have sunk their money in India.

"Sir, I have two observations more to make with regard to the Federal Legislature. Of course one can go on talking for hours and hours with reference to the various details of the scheme, but as there are so many hon. Members who wish to speak, I do not want to take up the time of the House much longer. I would therefore confine myself to one or two observations. The most disappointing thing is that the words 'Dominion Status' have been studiously omitted. The demand of the country for ever so many years has been that we should be given Dominion Status. It is said that Dominion Status in Canada is not the same as Dominion Status in Australia and that the meaning of the phrase 'Dominion Status' is so very flexible that no one can say what exactly it is. Of course, the phrase is not explained in any particular statute, but I fail to see that there is any very great flexibility so far as the meaning of the phrase goes. We have a clear idea of what is meant by Dominion Status. It is a status similar to that enjoyed by Canada, Australia, South Africa and other members of the Commonwealth. It is the right of the people concerned to govern themselves according to their own will. It is nothing more and nothing less. We do not want to impinge on the authority of other countries—Canada, Australia and South Africa—in dealing with their own affairs. We want to regulate our affairs according to our likes and dislikes and see that the Government of our country is run on lines which are peculiar to us and which are beneficial to us. The studious avoidance of that word has given great offence to India. I still hope that Parliament before it passes the Bill will find some means to introduce that phrase in the Bill. It is said that the Preamble to the Act of 1919 has not been repealed. Whether the Preamble to the 1919 Act is repealed or not, I will leave it for constitutional lawyers to decide.

"Why not say that Dominion Status is our goal? We do not say that we want Dominion Status at once. The amendment simply states that it is our ultimate goal. I for one think that we should ask for Dominion Status at once. That is the goal we aim at. It must be stated that the goal is Dominion Status. The amendment as it stands does not prescribe a time-limit. The goal may be actually reached in ten years or fifteen years; we want it to be stated that that is our ultimate goal. Indians are very very emotional; they want that their goal should be defined; even this very modest request is denied. This omission is most disappointing to the people of this country. I have great pleasure in seconding the amendment."

[28th January 1935]

* Rao Sahib N. SIVA RAJ:—"Sir, I beg to move the following amendment:—

'Add the following at the end:—

"(a) And, on such consideration, this Council is of opinion that the scheme of representation for the Depressed Classes in the legislatures embodied in the Report is injurious and not beneficial to the interests and welfare of the community and therefore requests His Majesty's Government through the Government of India to exempt Madras Province from the operation of the Communal Award as amended by the so-called Poona Pact and to restore the system of representation for the Depressed Classes proposed in the original Premier's Award."

"Before referring to my amendment, I wish, with your permission and the permission of this House, to advert to the remarks that fell from the hon. Leader of the Opposition regarding the proposals contained in the Joint Parliamentary Committee Report. He stood for the rejection of the proposals. I cannot answer him better than in his own words when he moved the amendment to the White Paper proposals, when they were brought for consideration before this House in March 1933. On that occasion he moved the following amendment:—On such consideration this Council is of opinion that the proposals in the White Paper are not satisfactory and the following alterations at least ought to be made in the Bill to be placed before the Parliament. The view the Leader of the Opposition then expressed was, however defective the proposals of the White Paper are and however much they need modification, that he was prepared to work any Constitution based upon the White Paper. He did not then say that the present Constitution was better than the one proposed in the White Paper. He went further than that and said that 'all hon. Gentlemen in this House will agree that His Majesty's Government have sincerely devoted their attention to solve this vexed problem and they have done the best they can under the conditions that exist to-day.' I wonder if those conditions have transmuted themselves into something better so as to enable him to say that those proposals should be rejected. In another place he quotes Sir Tej Bahadur Sapru in his favour: 'There is no getting away from the fact that the proposals as they stand to-day have sincerely been put forward with a view to satisfy the national aspirations of this country.' Unless the Leader of the Opposition maintains that the Joint Committee Report is entirely different from the proposals contained in the White Paper, it is difficult for me to reconcile the statement he made this morning with that he made on that occasion. Contrary to the view he took then, he wants now that these proposals ought to be rejected; it is a thing which I cannot understand. No doubt the case for rejection which he put forward has been very neatly and almost practically demolished by the able, eloquent and the simple manner in which my hon. Friend for the Muhammadan Constituency for Nellore, etc., Mr. Yahya Ali spoke this morning. I now see that the Leader of the Justice Democratic Party also is of the view that the proposals ought not to be rejected. In answer to Dr. Subbarayan's

[28th January 1935] [Mr. N. Siva Raj]

remarks, I can do no better than quote what the Rt. Hon. Sir Tej Bahadur Sapru says on the proposals of the Joint Parliamentary Committee Report:—

'I am not prepared to endorse the view which has been put forward in certain quarters that the proposed Constitution will make our position worse off than the existing one. I am not able to understand what exactly is meant by the rejection of the scheme, if the idea of rejection is divorced from any idea of non-co-operating with the constitution or refusing to accept responsibility to the extent to which it gives.'

"I am sure that this House will agree that there is no other person who has contributed to the cause of constitutional reform in this country and to the cause of improvement of the reform proposals so much as Sir Tej Bahadur Sapru. No one can deny the ability, the character and the courage with which Sir Tej Bahadur Sapru has been tackling all the problems that came up before the Round Table Conference. He is one of those men in the public life of India whose example ought to be emulated by every public man. He does not pander to the taste of the mob; he is a man who does not care for cheap popularity; he is a man who has trained himself to say things with courage and without caring for popularity; he is a man who does not play to the gallery. The opinion of such a gentleman who has devoted most of his time to the study and practice of Constitutional Law, is well worth having on this occasion. He says:—

'We cannot afford to live any longer upon a mere negative policy. When the Constituent Assembly which is said to be the alternative to the present constitution may come into existence, no one knows. Who will call it, on what franchise it will be called what measure of agreement among ourselves is anticipated, and how we are going to get it accepted by British Parliament, unless we are prepared to shut our eyes to the realities of the situation and to ignore the existence of Parliament, are questions which yet await answer. Meanwhile if the foreshadowed constitution is put on the statute book, condemn it as much as we may, it will work us, if we are not prepared to work it.'

"There is no doubt that Members of the European group will endorse what I say; His Majesty's Government have made up their minds to go ahead; it may be they may have committed many mistakes; it may be that the mistakes they have committed may harm not only Indian interests, but also those of the Britishers in India, but they have made up their minds to go ahead; and they will go ahead. We are not for rejection of the proposals.

"Referring to the amendment that stands in my name and in the name of my colleagues in this Council who represent the interests of the depressed classes here, I wish to say that it is a very modest amendment. In moving this amendment I am fortified by the hope that this Council which has been generous and sympathetic in dealing with problems concerning the welfare of the depressed classes, will view this question also in the same spirit of generosity and sympathy. We have always had the best consideration for our points of view from this Council. This amendment has been drafted after great consideration and with a full sense of responsibility. Sir, I may assure the House that in drafting this amendment, in giving notice of it, and in now moving it, we are actuated by the same sincere motives that worked us up at the time when we went all the way from Madras to Poona and signed the agreement which is known as the Poona Pact. Our justification for bringing forward this amendment is that our experience of the

[Mr. N. Siva Raj] [28th January 1935]

past and our fear of the future are such that we are obliged to bring to the notice of His Majesty's Government and to the notice of the hon. Members of this House, the disappointment that we had within the years that passed between now and the days of the Poona Pact. Sir, we were sincere in saving Gandhi from his wanton death, we were hoping against hope all these days that he is the only person amongst the caste-Hindus who, by whatever force at his command, spiritual or political, can help us in improving our condition. It is with that honest belief we signed the Poona Pact and wanted to save Gandhi's life. Now we find we have saved him for some one else than ourselves; the result is that Gandhi is being used by interested politicians for their own ends. He has been chucked out of the Congress; he is not wanted by the Congress to-day, because he is an inconvenient member of the Congress. But it is really difficult for us to understand what the position of Gandhi to-day is. He is of the opinion that the Congress is not following his policy; he is of the view that the Congress is corrupt to the core and he has made that a ground for not joining the Congress political activities or of being a member even of the Congress at the present moment. At the same time Gandhi blesses those Congress members who have been returned at the recent elections, even though he does not approve of the policy of the majority of the Congress members in contesting the elections. Matters like these have created a fear in our minds; we fear that our future interests are not safe in the hands of our nationalist friends. Quite recently we had the sad spectacle of a depressed class candidate being opposed by the 'mighty' Congress.

3-45
p.m.

" We on behalf of the Depressed Classes Federation issued an appeal to the electorate of the Madras City Constituency for supporting our candidate on the ground that he stood for the policy of supporting any Government in power and bringing constant pressure upon that Government from time to time to see that greater facilities and concessions were afforded to the depressed classes, irrespective of who constituted that Government. That was a fair appeal made to the electorate. While we found that every other party, the Justice Party and the Independent Nationalist Party—of whom Dr. Subbārayan is the leader—thought it advisable to withdraw their candidates because that would mean success for our candidate, the Congress party alone would not do so. That being so, we think that what has been done to-day will be done by any other political party in this country in the future. This has created a fear in us. There is another instance also to show why we have no faith in these general electorates, however much they say that are in sympathy with us. Mr. Deorurkar, a gentleman of the depressed classes community in Bombay, stood nearly five times for an ordinary municipal election on the Congress ticket; but every time he was defeated by the caste-Hindus, even though he was a Congressman. That only shows that whatever may be one's political creed, whether he stands for a local election or for the Legislative Assembly, whether now or even when the Congress accepts office, a caste-Hindu electorate will not elect a depressed class candidate. There are also instances where, if a depressed class man was returned by the general

28th January 1935] [Mr. N. Siva Raj]

electorate, it invariably elected a man who never represented the community as such. Especially in regard to district board elections and municipal elections, we know how very unfairly the depressed class candidates have been treated and how people who did not advocate the interests of the community itself have been returned as depressed class candidates. I might quote here the case of Mr. Veerian. Nobody can deny that he is a very sincere member of our community, a gentleman who has devoted all his time for the welfare of the community. Such a gentleman has not been able to find a place in the Coimbatore Municipal Council because the political masters, who happened to be the caste-Hindus, liked to have their own man in the place of Mr. Veerian. These and many other things have made us feel that we are not safe so far as the general electorate is concerned. The Poona Pact is nothing more than the addition of a panel system in a general electorate. There is no half-way house between a separate electorate and a joint electorate, and the one or the other must ultimately prevail. Even if we are to adopt the Poona Pact, it will all depend upon the electorate itself. If the general electorate is very keen on the election, and if it takes into its head that the election of a depressed class man should be contested, the result will be that the man who supports a particular political party will be elected, but not the man whom the community itself would like to have on the legislature. That is the position so far as the panel system is concerned; and it does not solve the problem of the depressed classes electing their own nominees to the various legislatures. Particularly in this Province, Sir, we feel that it is not possible for any person who is really devoted to the service of our community, who really can advocate the cause of the community, to come in. As a matter of fact, we already see Mr. Satyamurti the drummer-boy of the Congress in this Province strutting about the Presidency and proclaiming to the world that he will be able to put up thirty depressed class candidates next time—all men of his own choice—I do not know for whose benefit? Probably for the benefit of Mr. Satyamurti who to-morrow will turn round and say that while he supports the depressed classes, he will not support the Temple Entry Bill, a gentleman who would not give any opinion on the Temple Entry Bill in the recent Assembly Elections. Thanks to my friend here, I have the latest information about him. It seems in a recent address to the Assembly Members by Mr. Gandhi, Mr. Satyamurti said that the Temple Entry Bill should not be pursued, as the caste-Hindus are not for it. Now, I ask, where do we stand? Mr. Gandhi promised that he would work miracles with the caste-Hindus and we expected that he would; and that is why we were led into accepting this Poona Pact. Now however we find that they have all gone back on that Pact; and especially at a time like this, it is very regrettable that our hands should be bound by what the English people consider a contract or a pact. With reference to that point, I must mention the following circumstances: In the first place, the circumstances which brought the Poona Pact into existence were somewhat peculiar, and that position has been understood and given expression to by the authors of the Joint Select Committee report in their own inimitable language. They say in their report that:

[Mr. N. Siva Raj] [28th January 1935]

"Under the pressure"—note the word *pressure*—"of Mr. Gandhi's fast, these proposals were precipitately modified."

"The two words that are important in this statement are 'pressure' and 'precipitately.' It was a fact that as Mr. Gandhi was dying, at any rate that was the impression created in us, every moment pressure was brought to bear upon us to agree to some kind of thing which will satisfy Mahatma Gandhi, and nobody could have noticed, more than we who were present there at the time, the artificial atmosphere in which the whole pact was agreed to. Many people have no doubt signed it, not believing in it, and many people also said things in which they did not believe. I know, Sir, and I do not wish to mention the names of many big people who were there, who condemned Mr. Gandhi; at any rate they did not approve of Mr. Gandhi's adopting this method in order to effect the Poona Pact. They all said that he was wrong, that on principle they did not agree with that system of representation for the depressed classes as defined in the Poona Pact. I may again quote Sir Tej Bahadur Sapru who never agreed with him at any time on that method of representation. At the Round Table Conference, when Mr. Gandhi was present, he said:

"He did the very best"—meaning Mahatma Gandhi—"that he could to arrive at a settlement between the Hindus and Muhammadans. I have no doubt that his intentions were of the purest. I did not however see eye to eye with him on the question of the method of representation of the depressed classes. That is to say, it was, in my opinion, most unfortunate that while intending most sincerely to protect the interests of the depressed classes from his own point of view, he should have given rise to the impression that he was opposed to their demand."

"Even at the time of the Poona Pact, while he was no doubt sincere that he could protect our interests by means of this panel system that was devised, he did not foresee that it would be put to the basest use by persons who are interested in their own self-aggrandizement and who for their own purposes of self-advancement, would work the Poona Pact in an entirely different way. Sir, the other point that I wanted to mention about the Poona Pact is the opinion of the Joint Parliamentary Committee. That opinion is better expressed in the report itself; there it very clearly says, after referring to the communal award:

"We may deplore the mutual distrust of which the insistence on this demand by the minorities is so ominous a symptom, but it is unhappily a factor in the situation which cannot be left out of account. Nor do we think that we can usefully add anything to what we have already said on the subject. We accept, therefore, the proposals in the White Paper for the composition of the Legislative Assemblies. As regards the Poona Pact, we are satisfied that it was made between persons who may properly be regarded as representative of the caste-Hindus on the one hand and of the depressed classes on the other; and for that reason we think that it falls within the terms of the announcement made by His Majesty's Government and that it ought not to be disturbed. We say frankly that we do not care greatly for it, and still less for the methods which brought it into existence. We are of opinion that the original proposals of His Majesty's Government constituted a more equitable settlement of the general communal question; but the Pact was made by accredited leaders of the communities concerned, and was acquiesced in at the time by the communities themselves, or at least elicited no protest;

"Those are the views of the Joint Select Committee whose authors are men of experience and men with extraordinary ability. Again,

28th January 1935] [Mr. N. Siva Raj]

with regard to the Poona Pact, they make another observation, and that is with regard to the representation of the depressed classes in the Bengal Province:

"Nevertheless, as we have said, objections to the Pact in relation to Bengal have since been strongly urged by caste Hindus from that province; and if, by agreement between the communities concerned, some reduction were made in the number of seats reserved to the depressed classes in Bengal, possibly with a compensatory increase in the number of their seats in other provinces where a small addition in favour of the depressed classes would not be likely materially to affect the balance of communities in the Legislature, we are disposed to think that the working of the new constitution in Bengal would be facilitated."

"So that, Sir, two points are clear from the observations they have made regarding the Poona Pact. The first is that the Poona Pact was brought into existence under peculiar circumstances which they themselves say they did not approve; and in the second place, they are of the view that to a certain extent it requires modification, at any rate in Bengal on account of the pressure that was brought to bear upon them by the caste-Hindus of Bengal. We also say, that having regard to the peculiar conditions that exist in the Madras Presidency supported by the recent experience we have gained with regard to elections in the Madras City, and elsewhere it is necessary—I would like to impress this point on the hon. Members of this House and also on the Leader of the House and the Member in charge of Reforms—that this Council ought to make a representation to His Majesty's Government that the Communal Award as amended by the Poona Pact should be modified in so far as this province is concerned and that the Poona Pact should not be operative in this province. We would much rather be satisfied with the quality of the few men that may go into the legislatures rather than have an increase in their number, as we might have according to the Poona Pact. Our people may be quite willing to unite with any of the political parties in the country; but we want to have representatives of our own. (Mr. K. P. Raman Menon: There may be men to support the depressed classes in those parties.) Sir, there may no doubt be men like the leader of the Justice Democratic Party, as was proclaimed by him in this House the other day, whose sincerity and sympathy for the depressed classes is as great as the sympathy and sincerity of all the ten of us put together here. No doubt, we would like to have such persons with us, but how many such people are there in this Legislature? Particularly when the Reforms come into operation and when the House will have full business, it will be practically impossible for us to get any one of these leaders to evince any great interest in our community, as a community."

* The Hon. the PRESIDENT:—"Is the hon. Member likely to continue for any length of time?"

* Rao Sahib N. SIVA RAJ:—"I should like to have a few more minutes, Sir."

The Hon. the PRESIDENT:—"The House will now adjourn and meet again at 11 a.m. to-morrow."

R. V. KRISHNA AYYAR,
Secretary to the Legislative Council.

[28th January 1935]

APPENDIX

[Vide answer to question No. 577 asked by Mr. Basheer Ahmed Sayeed at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on the 28th January 1935, page 586 supra.]

G.O. No. 1949, L. & M., dated 8th June 1931.

In G.O. No. 1072, L. & M., dated the 28th March 1931, the draft of certain rules which Government proposed to issue under the Mussalman Wakf Act, 1923 (India Act XLII of 1923), was published for general information and criticism. Of the suggestions received Government accept only those offered by the Board of Revenue. The draft rules as modified are now confirmed.

2. The appended notification will be published in the *Fort St. George Gazette*. It should be republished in all the District Gazettes in English and in the vernacular languages including Hindustani.

3. The Senior Translator to Government is requested to have the notification translated into Tamil, Telugu, Kanarese, Malayalam and Hindustani and to forward the translations to the Superintendent, Government Press, for publication in the District Gazettes. The Collector of Ganjam is requested to publish the notification in Oriya in the *Ganjam District Gazette*.

(By order of the Government, Ministry of Local Self-Government)

HILTON BROWN,
Secretary to Government.

To all Collectors.

- „ the Board of Revenue.
- „ the Law (Drafting) Department.
- „ the Law (General) Department.
- „ the Revenue Department.
- „ the Superintendent, Government Press, for publication of notification in Gazette.
- „ the Senior Translator to Government [through Law (Legislative) Department].

APPENDIX.

NOTIFICATION.

In exercise of the powers conferred by section 11 of the Mussalman Wakf Act, 1923 (India Act XLII of 1923), the Governor acting with Ministers is hereby pleased to make the following rules with effect from the date on which the Act comes into force in the Madras Presidency:—

RULES.

1. *Short title*.—These rules may be called the Mussalman Wakf Rules, 1931.
2. *Definition*.—In these rules, 'the Act' means the Mussalman Wakf Act, 1923.
3. *Statement of particulars to be submitted under section 3 (1)*.—The statement referred to in sub-section (1) of section 3 of the Act shall, in addition to the particulars required by clauses (a) to (f) of that sub-section, also contain the following particulars, namely:—
 - (i) a statement kept in any convenient form of the movable property belonging to the Wakf;

[28th January 1935]

- (ii) a statement of the immovable property belonging to the Wakf in the form contained in Schedule A hereto annexed;
- (iii) the debts due to the estate and the interest due in respect of such debts;
- (iv) the debts due by the estate and the interest payable in respect of such debts;
- (v) the securities held;
- (vi) the balance on hand;
- (vii) the amounts actually spent on each of the items specified in clause (f) of sub-section (1) of section 3 of the Act during the five years preceding the date on which the statement is furnished; and
- (viii) how the mutwalli succeeded to or assumed office.

4. *Notice under section 4 (1) how to be published*.—The notice referred to in sub-section (1) of section 4 of the Act shall also be published in the *Fort St. George Gazette*, in a local vernacular newspaper and at the mosque or other important building forming part of the Wakf property.

5. *Fees on application under section 4 (1)*.—Every application to the court under sub-section (1) of section 4 of the Act shall be stamped with a court-fee stamp of the value of one rupee.

6. *Statement of accounts*.—The statement of accounts referred to in section 5 of the Act shall be in the forms given in Schedules B and C hereto annexed and shall contain the particulars specified therein.

7. *Powers of Auditors*.—Among other powers incidental to their audit, the auditors referred to in clause (a) or clause (b) of section 6 of the Act may call on the mutwalli or the person authorized by him in this behalf to furnish any information, document, or books of account, or to explain any matters relating thereto, and on his failure to do so, may report the matter to the court.

8. *Certificates to be given in audit reports*.—The report of the auditors shall contain a certificate stating whether all necessary information has been given to them and whether they certify the statement of accounts to be a full and correct statement of accounts.

9. *Auditors' fees*.—A court shall, in its order passed under clause (b) of section 6 of the Act authorizing a person to audit accounts, fix the amount of his fee.

10. *Fees for inspection and supply of copies of documents connected with Wakf Administration*.—The fees chargeable from a person applying for an inspection under section 9 of the Act shall be eight annas per day for each day of inspection. Such inspection shall be carried out according to the rules for the inspection of court records. Copies shall be given by the court under the ordinary rules for the grant of copies.

11. *Custody of records*.—(a) All statements and documents furnished under the provisions of sections 3 and 4 of the Act shall be preserved in the same manner as judgments of the court.

(b) All statements of accounts furnished under the provisions of section 5 of the Act shall be preserved for five years in the same manner as the judicial records of the court.

12. *Procedure as to processes, etc.*—In respect of processes and other matters not specifically provided for in these rules corresponding rules prescribed for proceedings under the Code of Civil Procedure, 1908, shall be followed *mutatis mutandis*.

ANNEXURES.

SCHEDULE A.

[See Rule 3 (ii).]

Statement of the immovable property belonging to the Wakf.

Submitted by the Mutwallis to the Court, under section 3 of the Mussalman Wakf Act, 1923, on _____

Date of receipt by the Court _____

Signature of Mutwallis.

[28th January 1935

PART I.

Particulars of management of the Wakf.

- (a) Name of the wakf property.
- (b) District or districts in which it is situated.
- (c) Names and addresses of the Mutwallis.
- (d) Area of the estate.
- (e) Date on which the present Mutwallis assumed charge of the property.

Signature of Mutwallis.

PART II.

Particulars of the property.

District _____

NOTE.—When the property is situated in different districts, it should be shown district by district.

- A. Ryotwari lands, minor inams and whole inam villages borne on the permanent Revenue Registers and under direct management.

NOTE.—The share in each property should be stated.

- B. Ryotwari lands, minor inams and whole inam villages sublet or otherwise farmed.

- C. Tenure of all kinds, whether rent paying or rent free, and under direct management.

- D. Tenure of all kinds, whether rent paying or rent free, sublet or farmed.

- E. Houses under lease.**

Signature of Mutwallis.

PART III.

Total assets and liabilities.

Assets.			Liabilities.		
Description of assets.	Annual income, if any.	Estimated value.	Description.	Principal.	Annual interest payable with rate.
	RS.	RS.		RS.	RS.
Assets producing a regular income—			1 Bonded debts secured and unsecured		
1 Landed property.			2 Other debts		
2 House property			3 Arrear rent and cesses due to the superior landlords.		
3 Government securities.			4 Accumulated interest up to date.		
4 Stock or debentures or shares in railway or other companies.			5	....	
5 Debts due to the estate, secured and unsecured.			6	....	
6					
7					
Assets producing no income—					
1 Recoverable arrear rents and cesses due to the estate.					
2 Recoverable debts due to the estate.					
3 House property	..				
4 Jewellery	..				
5 Furniture	..				
6 Livestock	..				
7					
8					
Total					

Signature of Mutwallis.

28th January 1935]

PART IV.

Estimated receipts and expenditure.

Receipts.	Amount. RS.	Disbursements.	Amount. RS.
I. Rent		1 Government revenue .. .. .	.. .. .
II. Cesses		2 Rent to superior landlords .. .. .	.. .. .
III. Interest on Government securities.		3 Cesses .. .. .	.. .. .
IV. Receipts other than those shown above—		4 Management of property—	.. .. .
(a) Dividend on stock or debenture, etc.		(a) Salary or remuneration of Mutwall .. .. .	.. .. .
(b) Interest on debts due to the estate		(b) Salary of manager, if any .. .. .	.. .. .
V. Miscellaneous—		(c) Establishment, travelling allowance and commission .. .. .	.. .. .
(a)		(d) Contingencies .. .. .	.. .. .
(b)		(e) Works (buildings, etc., including repairs to buildings and lands).	.. .. .
VI. Normal surplus receivable from Managing Collector, if any		5 Law expenses .. .. .	.. .. .
		(a) Salary of establishment, if any .. .. .	.. .. .
		(b) Other expenses .. .. .	.. .. .
		6 Allowances under the deed of Waki to individuals .. .. .	.. .. .
		7 Religious purposes .. .. .	.. .. .
		8 Charitable purposes .. .. .	.. .. .
		9 Education .. .. .	.. .. .
		10 Miscellaneous—	.. .. .
		(a) Municipal taxes .. .. .	.. .. .
		(b) Income-tax .. .. .	.. .. .
		(c) Panchayat board tax .. .. .	.. .. .
		(d) Petty expenses not detailed above .. .. .	.. .. .
		11 Normal surplus (if any) .. .. .	.. .. .

Signature of Mutwallis.

SCHEDULE B.

[See Rule 6.]

Income from immovable property.		Income from other property including securities if any.		Total realization and outstandings
(1)	Particulars of property.	(5)	Description of property.	
(2)	Arrears of income at the end or the previous year.	(7)	Arrears of income at the end of the previous year.	Amount recovered during the year.
(3)	Demand of rent fixed for the current year.	(8)	Amount to be recovered during the current year.	Amount outstanding.
(4)	Amount realized during the year.	(9)	Amount realized during the year.	(11)
(5)	Outstandings with details of the year to which they belong.	(10)	Arrears due.	(12)
				(13) Remarks.

[28th January 1935]

SCHEDULE C.

[See Rule 6.]

Statement showing the expenditure of Wakf property situated at
for the year ending

Assessment, cesses and other Government dues.	Municipal and other taxes.	Charges incurred or maintenance and necessary improvement of property including repairs.	Pay and allowances to servants.	Ceremonies.	Remuneration to Matwails.	Other expenses.	Total expenditure.	Total income.	Balance.
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)

[28th January 1935]

THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL OF THE GOVERNOR OF MADRAS.

Tuesday, the 29th day of January 1935.

The House met at eleven of the clock, Mr. President (the Hon. Mr. B. RAMACHANDRA REDDI) in the Chair.

PRESENT:

Stokes, K.C.I.E., C.S.I., I.C.S., The Hon. Sir Hopetoun.
 Reddi Nayudu, Kt., The Hon. Rai Bahadur Sir K. V.
 Pannirselvam, The Hon. Rao Bahadur A. T.
 Souter, C.S.I., I.C.S., The Hon. Mr. C. A.
 Raja of Bobbili, The Hon. the. Rajan, The Hon. Mr. P. T.
 Kumaraswami Reddiyar, The Hon. Diwan Bahadur S.
 Abdul Hameed Khan Sahib Bahadur.
 Ahmed Meeran Sahib Bahadur, A. M.
 Alamelumangathayaramma, Mrs. K.
 Annamalai Chettiyar, Mr. S. A. A.
 Appadurai Pillai, Diwan Bahadur A. Arasu, Mr. V. T.
 Ari Gowder, Mr. H. B.
 Basheer Ahmed Sayeed Sahib Bahadur.
 Basu Dev, Mr. C.
 Bhanoji Rao, Mr. A. V.
 Birley, Mr. F.
 Devadasan, Mr. M.
 Dharmalingam Pillai, Rao Sahib V.
 Duraiswami Reddiyar, Mr. K. M.
 Foulkes, Mr. R.
 Jagannatham, Mr. H. M.
 Jayaram Nayudu, Rao Sahib C.
 Jones, I.C.S., Mr. C. E.
 Kesavaramamurti Nayudu, Mr. K.
 Khalif-ul-lah Sahib Bahadur, Khan Bahadur P.
 Kolanda Reddi, Rai Sahib C.
 Koti Reddi, Mr. K.
 Krishnayya Choudari, Mr. P. V.
 Krishnamurti, Rao Bahadur D.
 Kumararaja of Venkatagiri, The. Langley, Mr. W. K. M.
 Madanagopal Nayudu, Mr. R.
 Mahboob Ali Baig Sahib Bahadur.
 Manikkavelu Nayakar, Mr. M. A.
 Metherell, Mr. J. K.
 Moidoo Sahib Bahadur, Khan Bahadur T. M.
 Muniswami Pillai, Rao Sahib V. I.

Murugappa Chettiyar, Diwan Bahadur A. M. M.
 Muthiah Chettiyar, Mr. M. A.
 Muthu Chettiyar, Rao Bahadur P. C.
 Nachiyappa Gounder, Mr. K. A.
 Nanjappa Bahadur, Subadar-Major S. A.
 Narasa Reddi, Mr. T.
 Narasimhaswami, Rao Sahib D. V.
 Narayanan Nambiyar, Mr. V. P.
 Natesa Mudaliyar, Rao Bahadur C.
 Palat, Mr. R. M.
 Parthasarathi Ayyangar, Mr. C. R.
 Patnaik Mahasayo, Sriman M. G.
 Patro, Kt., Rao Bahadur Sir A. P.
 Pattagar of Palayakottai, The.
 Pocker Sahib Bahadur, B.
 Premayya, Mr. G. R.
 Rajagopala Pillai, Mr. P. V.
 Raja of Kallikote, The.
 Ramachandra Padayachi, Mr. P. K.
 Ramalingam Chettiyar, Diwan Bahadur T. A.
 Ramamurti, Rao Sahib Pandit Ganala.
 Raman Menon, Mr. K. P.
 Ramaswami Ayyar, Mr. T. S.
 Ramaswami Mudaliyar, Mr. V. M.
 Rameswara Rao, Mr. G.
 Ranganatha Mudaliyar, Mr. A.
 Ranganatha Mudaliyar, Mr. G.
 Rangaswami Reddi, Mr. M. B.
 Ratnasahhapatil Mudaliyar, Diwan Bahadur C. S.
 Ratnavelu Thevar, Mr. P.
 Russell, I.C.S., Mr. T. B.
 Sahajanandam, Swami A. S.
 Schamnad Sahib Bahadur, Khan Bahadur Mahmud.
 Scott-Brown, I.C.S., Mr. W.
 Shetty, Mr. A. B.
 Simhachalam Pantulu, Mr. G.
 Siva Raj, Rao Sahib N.
 Sivasubrahmanya Ayyar, Mr. K. S.
 Soundara Pandian, Mr. W. P. A.
 Sreshta, Mr. M. S.
 Srinivasa Ayyangar, Mr. T. C.

[29th January 1935]

PRESENT—cont.

Srinivasan, Rao Bahadur R.	Vasudeva Pillai, Mr. V. G.
Sriramulu, Mr. G.	Venkatarama Ayyar, Mr. K. R.
Subbarayan, Dr. P.	Venugopal Nayudu, Rao Bahadur R. K.
Subrahmanyam Chetti, Rao Sahib P.	Viswanatha Rao, Diwan Bahadur V. N.
Subrahmanya Bhatt, Mr. U. C.	Yahya Ali Sahib Bahadur, Khan Bahadur.
Sundara Rao Nayudu, Mr. T.	Yakub Hasan Sahib Bahadur.
Syed Tajuddin Sahib Bahadur, Khan Sahib.	Zamindar of Kirlampudi, The.
Thangal, Mr. P. M.	
Uzielli, C.I.E., I.C.S., Mr. H. R.	

I.—QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

STARRED QUESTIONS

Local Self-Government

Proposal, if any, to withdraw the Commissioner, Tiruvarur Municipality.

* 57^a Q.—Mr. K. A. NACHIYAPPA GOUNDER: Will the Hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether there is any proposal to withdraw the Commissioner appointed to the Tiruvarur Municipality;

(b) if so, what the reasons therefor are; and

(c) when the Commissioner was appointed to that municipality?

A.—(a) No.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) In September 1934.

Mr. K. A. NACHIYAPPA GOUNDER:—"May I know, Sir, whether such a thing was ever contemplated at all?"

The Hon. the RAJA OF BOBBILI:—"I do not quite follow the hon. Member's question, Sir."

Mr. K. A. NACHIYAPPA GOUNDER:—"May I know, Sir, whether the withdrawal of the Commissioner of the Tiruvarur Municipality was at least contemplated?"

The Hon. the RAJA OF BOBBILI:—"When once a municipality is notified, there can be no question of withdrawing the same."

Mr. K. A. NACHIYAPPA GOUNDER:—"May I know whether the Commissioner of the Mayavaram Municipality in the same district was withdrawn?"

The Hon. the RAJA OF BOBBILI:—"I have already answered that question that the Commissioner previously appointed to Mayavaram Municipality has been reverted and another man already appointed in his place."

[29th January 1935]

Land Revenue Administration

Condition of the second rice crop in South Kanara.

* 579 Q.—Mr. A. B. SHETTY: Will the Hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state whether Government have received any and, if so, what report regarding the state of the second rice crop in South Kanara and how it has been affected by scarcity of water owing to the failure of the north-east monsoon?

A.—The Government have no information other than what is contained in the weekly season reports which are published in the Fort St. George Gazette.

Mr. A. B. SHETTY:—"May I know, Sir, whether the Government will be pleased to call for a special report from the Collector in regard to this matter?"

The Hon. Mr. C. A. SOUTER:—"I have no objection, Sir."

Control of Vehicles

Restrictions on the plying of motor buses for hire from one district to another.

* 580 Q.—Mr. K. A. NACHIYAPPA GOUNDER: Will the Hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether the motor buses for hire are allowed to ply from one district to another;

(b) if so, whether it is a fact that the District Superintendent of Police, Coimbatore, has refused permission to buses for hire in Salem district to ply in his district;

(c) if so, what the reasons therefor are; and

(d) whether it is a fact that some of the buses for hire of Coimbatore district are also plying in Salem district; if so, how they have been so permitted?

A.—(a) Yes, provided "G" Permits are obtained from the licensing authority of each district.

(b) & (c) The Government have no information.

(d) The Government have no information.

Mr. K. A. NACHIYAPPA GOUNDER:—"May I know whether the information will be called for and the defects rectified?"

The Hon. Rao Bahadur A. T. PANNIRSELVAM:—"I should know what the defects are before I can call for a report."

[29th January 1935]

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—"May I know whether Government are aware of the fact that even taxis which are engaged, for instance, in the city of Madras, are not allowed to go into any other neighbouring district without a 'G' permit for that district?"

The Hon. Rao Bahadur A. T. PANNIRSELVAM:—"Any motor car that plies for hire has to obtain a 'G' permit; and each 'G' permit holds good only for the particular district in which it is issued. So, if a car has to travel from one district to another, it has perforce to obtain 'G' permits of both the districts."

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—"May I know how the Hon. Member expects a person when he engages a taxi in the city of Madras, to apply for 'G' permits when he goes out of the City limits and returns the taxi to Madras?"

The Hon. Rao Bahadur A. T. PANNIRSELVAM:—"It is not for the person who engages the taxi to obtain the 'G' permit but for the person who owns the taxi."

Mr. K. A. NACHIYAPPA GOUNDER:—"May I know, Sir, whether the District Superintendent of Police has powers to refuse 'G' permits, if they are applied for?"

The Hon. Rao Bahadur A. T. PANNIRSELVAM:—"In certain circumstances, if the car does not come up to the prescribed standard, he has a right to refuse it."

Mr. K. A. NACHIYAPPA GOUNDER:—"May I know whether in view of the fact that the District Superintendent of Police of Coimbatore does not allow buses to ply for hire from Salem district to Coimbatore district, the Hon. Member will call for information with regard to this point and redress the grievance?"

The Hon. Rao Bahadur A. T. PANNIRSELVAM:—"If the hon. Member will draw my attention to any specific case, I shall certainly call for a report and look into it."

Administration of Justice

Proposals, if any, for the construction of a building for the Bar Association, Ellore, West Godavari district.

* 581 Q.—Mr. C. INDRAIYA: Will the Hon. the Law Member be pleased to state whether there is any proposal now under the consideration of the Government for the construction of a building for the Bar Association, Ellore, in the district of West Godavari?

A.—When the Hon. the Law Member visited Ellore in June 1934, a representation was made to him asking for the construction of a separate building or for the extension of the existing

[29th January 1935]

building for the use of the members of the Bar. The matter however did not receive the consideration of Government so far.

Electricity.

Progress of the Mettur Hydro-Electric Scheme.

* 582 Q.—Mr. K. A. NACHIYAPPA GOUNDER: Will the Hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

- (a) at what stage the hydro-electric scheme at Mettur is at present;
- (b) when it will be completed and put to use;
- (c) what the places which are to be served by this scheme are;
- (d) what the estimates for this scheme are, whether it includes the amount already spent at the time of construction of Mettur Dam; and
- (e) what is the amount spent in this behalf at the time of construction of the Mettur Dam?

A.—(a) The sanction of the Secretary of State to the scheme is awaited.

(b) In about three years from the date of receipt of sanction.

(c) It is proposed to extend lines and distribute electrical energy during the first few years to the following places:—Salem, Erode, Bhavani, Karur, Trichinopoly, Tanjore, Mannargudi, Negapatam, Kumbakonam, Vellore, Polur, Chittoor, Chidambaram, Villupuram and Cuddalore. Some of these places are at present, or will shortly be, supplied with power from Pykara and when the Mettur Hydro-Electric Project functions they will get power from the latter and Pykara power will then be diverted to other places such as Madura and the West Coast. When load conditions justify the expenditure, additional lines to other towns and villages will be constructed.

(d) & (e) Rupees 1,30,17,800 initially rising to Rs. 1,82,00,000 by the tenth year of operation. The initial estimate includes a sum of Rs. 10,80,000 already spent on providing hydro-electric pipes and gates in the Mettur dam and also an expenditure of Rs. 44,52,000 already incurred and being incurred on extension of supply to Erode, Salem, Trichinopoly and Negapatam. The net initial capital expenditure will therefore be 74.86 lakhs.

Mr. K. A. NACHIYAPPA GOUNDER:—"May I know, Sir, as to what the anticipated revenue from this scheme is?"

[29th January 1935]

The Hon. Sir K. V. REDDI NAYUDU:—"I want notice. It is in the report and I cannot give it off-hand."

Mr. K. KOTI REDDI:—"May I know if the Ceded Districts are ever contemplated in the operation of any of these schemes, Mettur or Pykara?"

The Hon. Sir K. V. REDDI NAYUDU:—"It is difficult to foresee whether it would be extended to those districts under these two schemes, but I may assure the hon. Member that the Ceded Districts are not forgotten and whenever an opportunity occurs itself every attempt will be made to find electricity for them."

Mr. K. A. NACHIYAPPA GOUNDER:—"May I know from the Hon. Member whether the charges that are to be made under the Mettur Scheme will be more or less than what is charged under the Pykara scheme?"

The Hon. Sir K. V. REDDI NAYUDU:—"That question has not yet been considered but I suppose it will not be more."

Railways.

Application of the Kurnool District Board to open a railway line from Kurnool to Atmakur.

* 583 Q.—S. M. K. BEYABANI SAHIB Bahadur: Will the Hon. the Member for Finance be pleased to state—

(a) whether there has been any proposal to open a branch railway line from Kurnool to Atmakur; and

(b) whether the District Board, Kurnool, has requested Government to accord sanction to undertake the above work?

A.—(a) & (b) Yes. The District Board of Kurnool last agreed in 1930 to guarantee a metre gauge line against loss and the proposal was included annually from 1927 to 1930 in the programme of railway construction proposed by this Government, but owing to financial stringency no new lines of railway have in recent years been taken up in the Madras and Southern Mahratta Railway area in this Presidency. In March 1929 the District Board requested the Government to have estimates prepared for the construction of a narrow gauge light railway from Kurnool to Nandikotkur and Nandikotkur to Atmakur, but the Board was informed that unless and until the metre gauge line was definitely abandoned the Government were not prepared to consider proposals for a light railway. The District Board has not since moved in the matter.

[29th January 1935]

UNSTARRED QUESTIONS

Land Revenue Administration

Alleged lootings in Cuddapah due to the prevalence of famine.

584 Q.—Mr. T. NARASA REDDI: Will the Hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government have received any information from the Collector of Cuddapah that, in some villages of Jammalamadugu and Proddatur taluks, people have looted the granaries of ryots; and

(b) whether the Collector of Cuddapah has informed the Government that famine works should immediately be started to avert the lootings and plunderings of grain and other properties in Cuddapah district especially in Jammalamadugu, Proddatur and Pulivendla taluks?

A.—(a) The Collector reported that there was no looting of granaries in the district.

(b) The Collector reported that expansion of District Board and Minor Irrigation works was necessary in the Pulivendla and Rayachoti taluks and in a portion of Cuddapah taluk to provide employment for labourers.

Control of Vehicles.

Agency in the Madras City for testing the fitness of motor vehicles plying for hire and the remuneration payable therefor.

585 Q.—Mr. DANIEL THOMAS: Will the Hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(a) what kind of control is being exercised in the Madras City in regard to the structural strength and fitness of motor vehicles plying for hire;

(b) whether it is a fact that Sergeants and Inspectors of Police without technical qualifications test motor vehicles plying for hire in Madras City, and that the Commissioner or Deputy Commissioner of Police counter-signs the certificates of fitness;

(c) who draws the remuneration of Rs. 25 per motor vehicle certified; and

(d) what is the average total remuneration per month paid by the Government for certifying motor vehicles plying for hire in Madras, in addition to the regular pay of the officer receiving this extra remuneration?

[29th January 1935]

A.—(a) The Deputy Commissioner of Police, Traffic and Licensing, carries out the half-yearly examination of buses plying for hire in Madras City. Surprise inspection of buses is also carried out by the Divisional Police Inspectors.

(b) No.

(c) & (d) No remuneration is now being paid to the Deputy Commissioner, Traffic and Licensing, or any Police officer in the City of Madras for inspecting motor vehicles and certifying as to their fitness.

STARRED QUESTIONS—cont.

Land Revenue Administration

Alleged incorrectness of the case presented to His Excellency the Governor by the deputation of the South Kanara Landholders' Association in regard to settlement proposals.

* 586 Q.—Mr. U. C. SUBRAHMANYA BHATT: Will the Hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that a note was prepared by the Revenue Department, meeting the points raised by the deputation from South Kanara to His Excellency the Governor, concerning the mistakes at the last settlement made by the Settlement department which have enhanced the half share of the Government; if so, whether the Hon. Member will be pleased to place a copy of the same on the table of the House;

(b) in what respects the case of the deputation with reference to each mistake is wrong; and

(c) whether the Government will be pleased to give the people of South Kanara a chance to prove the correctness of their case?

A.—(a) Yes. The Government are not prepared to place a copy of the notes prepared by the Revenue Department on the table of the Legislative Council.

(b) & (c) The Government carefully considered the representations made by the deputation representing the South Kanara Landholders' Association, before passing final orders on the proposals for the resettlement of the district. They do not consider that any useful purpose will be served by furnishing the details asked for, or by receiving any further representations at this stage.

Mr. U. C. SUBRAHMANYA BHATT:—“Sir, in view of the fact that the Landholders' Association of South Kanara has brought forward definite charges of miscalculation and mistakes, why do the Government

[29th January 1935]

rest satisfied with making a statement that those mistakes do not exist without giving reasons? Are Government not convinced of the case of the Kanara landholders?”

The Hon. Mr. C. A. SOUTER:—“Because, Sir, Government have carefully considered this question and as I have already stated, they came to the definite conclusion that those mistakes were based on no foundation.”

Mr. V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—“May I request the Hon. the Revenue Member to give another opportunity to Mr. Bhatt to explain the case of the Kanara landholders.”

Mr. U. C. SUBRAHMANYA BHATT:—“May I know why Government should not give reasons and why they should think that the people should take whatever Government say as gospel truth?”

[Note.—An asterisk (*) at the commencement of a speech indicates revision by the Member.]

II.—MOTION RE REPORT OF THE JOINT PARLIAMENTARY COMMITTEE—cont.

* Rao Sahib N. SIVA RAJ:—“Mr. President, overnight I closed with the observation that the members of the Nationalist Group, who have approached Mahatma Gandhi, have gone back upon the pledge that they gave us at the time of the conclusion of the Poona Pact, that they would try their best to see that untouchability in any place or in any form, would be removed at any cost, probably suggesting even at the cost of the life of Mahatma Gandhi. I unfortunately made the mistake of suggesting to the House that it was one of those pigmies of the Nationalist Group that made this suggestion, but I found last night to our utter dismay and our disappointment that this statement emanates from no less a person than the ex-Leader of the Congress and the Saint of Sabarmathi. He, when he had no business to advise the Congress Members of the Assembly, having given up the Congress and left it entirely in the hands of his followers, goes out of his way to advise the Congress members that they ought not to take serious interest in the question of the Temple Entry Bill legislation in the Assembly. He goes further and says, and supports his statement by saying, that public opinion, in spite of his wonderful agitation and magic influence, is not sufficiently strong in supporting that Bill, and that it is not in favour of it. May I ask Mahatma Gandhi and the Leaders of the Nationalist Group as to where was that perspicacity and the clearness which the *Madras Mail* applauds, and of which Mahatma Gandhi was capable of; and may I ask him where was that perspicacity and the clearness and the sincerity of his opinion at the time he undertook his ‘fast unto death’ in order to take separate electorates away from us. Sir, from the considered and the mature opinion of the Prime Minister and His Majesty's Government as contained in the Premier's Award and an opinion which was subsequently supported by the authors of the Joint Committee Report, and

[Mr. N. Siva Raj] [29th January 1935]

from the unanimous demand of the Depressed Classes community throughout India for separate electorates, Mr. Gandhi should then have known that public opinion was against joint electorates so far as the representations of the Depressed Classes was concerned. Knowing probably that public opinion was against him, he resorted to this unusual method of fasting unto death, thereby evoking the sympathy of a generous-hearted and a credulous people, by presenting the spectacle of a dying man and by presenting the spectacle of a man in the pangs of death, to enter into a pact the real object of which was it is stated to help the Depressed Classes, and to remove untouchability everywhere. As a matter of fact, it is within the knowledge of every public man in this country that Mr. Gandhi, whether in the Press or in the platform, proclaimed that the Temple Entry legislation and the uplift of the Harijans movement, were part and parcel of the Poona Pact, so that one can realize how even they who were behind the scenes and even though it cannot legally speaking be drafted on to the Communal Award, that the Poona Pact was based upon the condition of the Hindus taking every step to remove untouchability and that should they fail to do so, we expected that Gandhi would again fast unto death to get the public opinion of the Hindus in his favour. To-day, we are surprised to hear that he has followed the ordinary methods, of ordinary mortals and says that public opinion is not yet ripe for the Temple Entry legislation. Where do we stand now? We certainly can complain and we are justified in complaining that Mahatma Gandhi and his lieutenants were guilty of a breach of faith. The crime is the more heinous and the betrayal is the more poignant because it proceeds from Mahatma Gandhi. Sir, what else is it but a betrayal? We were led to believe that everything that Mahatma Gandhi is capable of could be done to lift us up and to remove this untouchability, which is a bar on our progress everywhere. We find, that so far as that point is concerned, in the first place, there was a breach of promise and a breach of faith. Sir, in the second place, I adverted to circumstances under which the Poona Pact was drawn up and in which it was brought into existence. The circumstances were such that the leaders both of the Depressed Classes and of caste-Hindus who met at Poona were rather keen on arriving at some agreement somehow, rather than base the solution of the problem of the representation of the Depressed Classes on any general or equitable principle. That is our firm conviction."

* The Hon. the PRESIDENT:—"Is the hon. Member not moving his second amendment about which also he has to speak?"

* Rao Sahib N. SIVA RAJ:—"Yes, Sir, I am coming to it. As a matter of fact, the exigencies of the time would not permit of any other course and so we had perforce to sign this Poona Pact. Those may be called the extrinsic defects in the Poona Pact. Now, Sir, may I crave your permission to refer to what I may call the intrinsic defects of the Poona Pact. In the first place, hon. Members of this House ought to be struck by the inequity of having a double election, whereas every other community naturally goes through only one election

29th January 1935] [Mr. N. Siva Raj]

before it can secure a seat in the Council. Secondly, the injustice perpetrated by the necessity, through the means of panel, of putting forward four candidates and having a contested election in every case where the Depressed Class man has got to secure his seat in the Legislative Council, whereas every other community is given the privilege, wherever possible, of getting their candidates uncontested to the Council. Thirdly, the uncertainty of the quality of the candidates who will be returned under this system to which I have already referred. There is no guarantee, and having regard to our experience in the past, having regard to the nature of the members that are returned from the various joint electorates provided for district board elections, and having regard further to the fact that such members who are elected to these municipal councils and local boards, are not allowed to take their seats in those various bodies, we are not certain about the quality of the candidates who may be returned to the Council.

"Then, lastly, Sir, may I advert to this one fact, namely, that in 11-15 the present constitution, one of the important safeguards which we value a.m. most is the safeguard of the protection of the minorities. Now, in order that, the safeguard might be effective and in order that that safeguard may be used for our benefit, it is very necessary, Sir, that opinion ought to make itself felt upon the Governor of the Province and the head of the administration. We do not see how genuine opinion and information which represent the interests of the Depressed Classes can ever be brought to bear upon His Excellency the Governor, if a system like the one provided for under the Poona Pact is to exist and if the members have to depend upon the tender mercies of the majority community. It is feared, Sir, that in the future constitution, the Governor in taking care to see that he does not apply so many safeguards provided for and in his anxiety to take the Council along with him, it is quite possible that he might apply the safeguards in one or two instances only. In his efforts in this behalf, he might be guided by the view of the majority party and we fear that in the present system of Poona Pact, we may not be able to get representatives of the type we would like to have in this Council, through whose means we can exert our influence on the party in power and the party in power in its turn on His Excellency the Governor. Those are the defects of the Poona Pact. Now, Sir, may I appeal to my hon. Friends of the Legislative Council particularly to the Muslim friends and the Indian Christian friends and ask for their support on the simple principle, namely "Do unto others what you wish should be done unto you." We expect that you will give to us an exemption from the operation of the Poona Pact in this Province as you would like to have separate electorate undisturbed. Sir, there is one other group to which I should make a special appeal. Let down as we are and as we undoubtedly have been, between the intolerable inconsistency of Mahatma Gandhi and the intellectual dishonesty of his lieutenants and of his supporters, whither are we to turn for redress except to the fountainhead of justice—His Majesty the King-Emperor and to those Englishmen who value equality, justice and

[Mr. N. Siva Raj] [29th January 1935]

fairplay and who breathe these sentiments in their everyday life? We naturally look to the Englishmen to see that a contract or an agreement which is vitiated by the circumstances that I mentioned before ought not to be brought into operation to the permanent prejudice and unhappiness of a large class of population. Our only hope was Mahatma Gandhi and Mahatma Gandhi is neither a permanent factor in the public life of this Presidency and even if he were, he is not such a consistent person as to pin our faith in him. It is that fear that makes us request this Hon. House—a request which is a very modest one—that without disturbing the Poona Pact elsewhere, without touching it and without in any way infringing the Premier's pledge to the public that in the Poona Pact or any agreement, no amendment would be made except by mutual agreement of the various parties concerned, we merely ask for exemption of the Poona Pact. There is one other matter which, with your permission, Sir, I may be permitted to refer to and that is this, with your permission, I beg to move the amendment given notice of by me and Rao Bahadur R. Srinivasan which runs as follows:—

(b) Add the following at the end—

“and on such consideration, this Council is of opinion that adequate number of seats be reserved in Second Chambers, Provincial and Federal, for representation of the Depressed Classes and requests His Majesty's Government through the Government of India to so modify the proposals.”

“The proposals do not anywhere clearly state what exactly is the method of representation and what are the number of seats that are reserved for the Depressed Classes in these Chambers if and when they come into existence. We would have been satisfied if we had separate electorates. We see much smaller communities like the Muslims and the Indian Christians by the logical extension of the principle of separate electorate get their seats. Because of the absence of separate electorates, our position is left indefinite and so we request this House to support this motion also.”

“In conclusion, I request the Hon. House to see that we are not subjected to political slavery in addition to the social slavery from which we are already suffering. May I also add that unless we are protected against these injurious effects of the Poona Pact, it would not be possible for us to get our legitimate claims satisfied in the future constitution and it is very necessary that the constitution must be made safe for the Depressed Classes. If, however, the constitution is not safe, we fear, having regard to the changing times, the Depressed Classes will become unsafe for the constitution. (Hear, hear.) Thank God, the warning has come in good time and it is not too late. And knowing as we do that in the future when we have got everything to gain and nothing to lose by any movement which will promise to us every facility, even at the risk of breaking the constitution, we feel that our people may take to such movements and it is time that this Council and His Majesty's Government and particularly the Government of Madras realize the implications of our statement here and see that nothing harmful is done to us. Sir, as one great gentleman said: ‘things are

[Mr. N. Siva Raj] 29th January 1935]

what they are and the consequences of them will be what they will be. Why then should men like to be deceived?’ (Cheers.)”

* Mr. H. M. JAGANNADHAM:—“Mr. President, I beg to second the amendment so ably moved by hon. Friend, Mr. Siva Raj.

“Before I commend this to the acceptance of the House and offer my remarks on it, I should like to make a few observations on the general issue. I am surprised at the amendment which the Leader of the Opposition has ventured to put forward. I did not expect that a person who has occupied the position of Chief Minister to this Government, could possibly subscribe to the proposition contained in his amendment. It is unfortunately a fashion in this country for some of our public men to ape as far as possible congressmen and to meekly imitate their utterances. We are aware of the attitude which Congress has taken on the subject of these reforms. We know that it had made up its mind to condemn everything connected with the Round Table Conference. We know that in advance and even before knowing what the White Paper proposals were, Congressmen had determined to condemn them. We are equally aware that while the Joint Parliamentary Committee was still in session, Congressmen had decided to condemn the recommendations of that Committee. Their attitude is perfectly understandable. They can think of nothing but criticisms and condemnation of the proposals which do not emanate from them. There is a proverb in South India that if the daughter breaks a pot it is only of earthenware of no value; but if the daughter-in-law does it, it is a golden one of inestimable value. So also, nothing that Congress has not been directly responsible for, can be of any use to this country; but if Congressmen accept certain positions then they become fundamental policies whose acceptance was considered to be a test of the highest patriotism. The conduct of Congressmen during the last four years amply proves the truth of what I have said. Mr. Gandhi accepted the idea of Federation, and therefore Congressmen did not question that principle. He accepted the proposition that princes must be left to their sweet will in sending delegates to the Federal House of Commons and therefore Congressmen from Vallabhai Patel downwards had not a word of censure against such a proposal. But the detailed safeguards and reservations adumbrated in the Joint Parliamentary Committee Report have not been accepted by Congressmen. At any rate, they were not parties to it and therefore there is all this furor in the country. I can, as I said, understand their point of view; but I cannot understand other politicians who have taken part in those deliberations, turning round and suggesting, as the Leader of the Opposition does, that the new proposals are worse than the present constitutional position and that the country would be better under the existing conditions. I do not think I shall be putting it very strongly when I state that no one outside bedlam can possibly think that even the proposals of the Joint Parliamentary Committee, restricted as they may be, are not a great advance on the present constitutional position. I think it is time for honest men to speak up and not to further mislead Indian public opinion. The fact is that for a thousand critics who have criticized the proposals of the Joint Parliamentary Committee, not more

[Mr. H. M. Jagannadham] [29th January 1935]

than one has had the patience to read its recommendations or the leisure to understand the implications of some of its proposals. The word is passed from mouth to mouth, from one ignoramus to another ignoramus that somehow the recommendations are very reactionary and the whole country is made to repeat the same story that the constitutional proposals are not wanted and in fact take the country backward. I am only sorry that a gentleman in the position of the Leader of the Opposition, with his record of past services, should make himself a party to this absurd and irrational opposition. I think those who repeat this cry are doing the greatest disservice to the country. They are the real enemies of progress. They create such a situation that when the time comes for working the constitution, they will find themselves not masters but slaves of that situation that they have themselves created. I warn them against these activities. If you find that there are defects in the proposals, by all means, come forward with helpful criticisms and suggestions to improve them or alter them. But do not, if you have any patriotism in you, repeat this parrot cry that it is preferable to 'struggle' under the present constitution. May I ask the Leader of the Opposition, what he means by 'struggling' under the present constitution. How does he propose to carry on the struggle? Is he referring to the Civil Disobedience Movement, with mental reservations? Let us be frank. The Congress apparently takes up the attitude that by creating greater unrest in the country, by bringing about a crisis whereby orderly Government is made impossible, the British Government may be forced to enact a measure or larger reforms. I personally believe that Congress is very much mistaken in its view and that the British Government cannot be coerced in this manner. But I ask the Leader of the Opposition whether that is the position and if not, what does he mean by 'struggling' under the present constitution? It is a matter of some regret to me that I belonging to the humble depressed class should be forced to speak on such matters and that leaders from whom we expect a lead, should so mislead us and try to take us beyond our depths.

11-30
a.m.

"Let me say a few words about the amendment that is proposed. Sir, it is a matter of notorious knowledge that the Poona Pact has been forced on us at the point of throwing the sin of causing the death of Mr. Gandhi on our heads and it was the real reason why the depressed classes were coerced into accepting such a pact. I think every one will admit that in politics, there ought to be no room for such considerations and I feel equally certain that after the Pact was signed and the fast was discontinued, many who were parties to that Pact regretted that the Pact was ever concluded. But that is not the full story. The Pact referred not only to the question of seats in the Council and the method of election but also to the treatment which the depressed classes will thereafter receive from caste-Hindus. It was supposed to be the *Magna charta* of the depressed classes in this country. The entire sympathy of the caste-Hindus will be with them, thereafter, temples should be thrown open; absurd customs restraining depressed classes in a variety of ways, will be abandoned. Pandit Malavia's

29th January 1935] [Mr. H. M. Jagannadham]

assurance was given to us that there should be no difference shown between the caste-Hindus and depressed classes thereafter. But to-day what is the position of Pandit Malavia and the caste-Hindus? You talk of pledges being broken by British Government. Here is a pledge given in the sight of 350 millions of Indians, by the bed-side of a man supposed to be dying and by the foremost protagonists of the Hindu community, broken before the ink has dried, broken to the heart by every means possible. The Temple Entry Bill has been withdrawn. The Congress Party refused to make an election issue of this vital question in the recent elections. The depressed classes have been ignored. Not one candidate has been chosen to represent the Congress. I would here recall the fact that when Congress had its programme of Council boycott, depressed class members were put forward by Congressmen and were successfully returned. What is the conclusion that I have to draw therefrom? Are we fit to enter those places which Congressmen feel it beneath their dignity to enter and when Congressmen think of entering these places, are we to be treated as untouchables and excluded? These farces must stop. I appeal to the members of all the communities to note the attitude of the Congress. It was only the week before last that the candidate whom we had put forward was defeated, because Congressmen decided to put forward a member of the privileged class and contested the election. In spite of the fact that he was a depressed class member and pledged to no party, he had not the support from Congressmen and yet Mr. Gandhi is continuously proclaiming his eagerness and sympathy for the depressed classes!

"Now Sir, my objection to the Poona Pact and the method of election guaranteed thereby is fundamental. Congressmen have made no secret of the fact that unless depressed classes toe-the-line with the Congress, they can find no support. We are between the devil and the deep sea. By training, by instinct, and by all that we hold sacred, we are loyal to the British Crown. We know that whatever little privilege we have obtained—and that has not been much—we owe it to the British and we know too that if the British were to disappear straightaway from this country, we will go back to the unenviable position of helots, untouchables and in fact the proscribed of the land. Are we to choose to sit with the Congress, adopt the anti-British attitude and say along with them that even the celebration of the Silver Jubilee of His Most Gracious Majesty should not be observed? Are we to be dragged into disloyal and traitorous depths, and to betray our own interest and the well-being of the country. That is the price which is asked of us, if this is how the most dominant party in the country is to help us in the country's election, and I am afraid, Sir, that some of our men will be enticed into the Congress parlours by assurances of support through those joint constituencies—a situation will arise which will mean to the community further humiliation and the gravest of perils. I, therefore, emphatically assert that nothing can save us, except separate electorates. We are frustful people. We have been betrayed at Poona. We have been betrayed by Congress assurances and we seek now the protection of the British Parliament. We beg

[Mr. H. M. Jagannadham] [29th January 1935]

of them to relieve us from the Poona Pact. We beg of them most earnestly to restore to us the system of separate electorates, so that we may be free to select our best men who will be loyal to God, Crown and the Country and who will not betray the interests of the community. I am certain that under the Poona Pact, there will be many of our own men returned but who will betray the vital interests of the community and play second fiddle to Congressmen. It will be worse than having no representation at all. I would rather have a few seats nominated by the Governor than the thirty elected members who are supposed to be our representatives but in reality on any occasion will cut our throats. I speak strongly, because I feel strongly. If this Council is in sympathy with the depressed classes, and if the members of the various political groups are really keen on helping the cause of the depressed classes, now, Sir, is the time for you to show it by accepting my amendment and thereby excluding at least Madras from the pernicious effect of the Poona Pact.

"One other vital observation and I am finished. I want to be quite candid. There are differences among the depressed classes themselves. The Adi-Dravidas and Arundatheeyas do not see eye to eye with each other. They differ much and in some places at least their difference is as acute as between caste Hindus and depressed classes. It is unfortunate that it should be so. Living under the lowest scale of civilization prevalent in this country, both of us ought to realize that in unity lies our strength. I am certain that the leaders of both the communities are working to that end; but it will take time and in the meanwhile each of the communities deserves to be safeguarded, till the realization of their common position makes them absolute brothers. I, therefore, have ventured to plead that in such a separate electorate for depressed classes, places may be reserved for members of the minority community. The Arundatheeyas are in a minority and will have no chance whatever of being returned, unless such reservations of seats is made. I appeal to you, Sir, and to all the Members of this Council in the name of all that they hold sacred, in the name of justice, equity and good conscience, I appeal to them in the name of that sympathy which they have so far shown to the members of the depressed classes, that they should support my amendment wholeheartedly and thereby earn the ever-lasting gratitude of the members of our community."

* Mr. M. S. SRESHTA:—"Mr. President, Sir, I beg to move the following amendment:—

"Add the following at the end:—

"And on such consideration, this Council resolves to request His Majesty's Government through the Government of India to give effect to the resolution passed in this Council on the 23rd March 1933, that the number of seats assigned to Indian Christians in the Madras Legislative Council be increased by five, the total number of seats in the Council being increased by the same number."

"As a member of the Indian Christian community, I should like to say a few words about the Joint Select Committee's Report before I

[29th January 1935] [Mr. M. S. Sreshta]

approach specifically the amendment standing in my name. I can speak with authority that the Indian Christian community shares the disappointment which is felt all over this country as regards the proposals made in the Joint Parliamentary Committee's Report. I am at one with the Leader of my party, Mr. K. P. Raman Menon, in regard to the remarks which he has made regarding the various points he has touched upon. We feel that it was quite possible to have been less cautious in regard to the matters dealt with in the report. But at the same time we realize the great difficulties in the way of a suitable solution. We realize that the British Parliament had to satisfy various political desires and views, and at the same time they had to satisfy the political aspirations of this country. Unfortunately, the divisions which were found among our own people have made it more difficult for the British Parliament to ignore the views of the die-hards in Britain. Whatever it be, we feel that a serious attempt has been made to solve the problem and we also feel that there has been goodwill on the part of the British Parliament towards India. We also feel that the new Constitution is a great advance over the existing Constitution. At the same time, we trust that every attempt will be made even at this late stage to get rid of these difficulties in the Constitution which have been pointed out by this House.

"So far as the Indian Christian community is concerned, we feel that we have been let down very badly indeed. When the White Paper proposals were being discussed in this House, I moved a resolution to the effect that the number of members of the Indian Christian community in this House should be increased by five, the total number of members being increased by the same number. That resolution was passed, and it was creditable to the House that there was no division on that resolution, because, no doubt, it was felt by all sections of the House that our demand was a legitimate demand. We regret to find that in spite of that resolution without a division having been passed by this House, no notice has been taken of it by the British Parliament, or rather the Committee of the British Parliament, and we trust that the British Parliament even at this last stage when considering these proposals would do justice to our community."

"The number of seats assigned to the Indian Christian community is inadequate in all the legislatures, and particularly so in the Madras Legislative Council. As regards this Council, the following table shows the proposed distribution of seats among the minority communities, the numerical strength of each community, and the number of persons who would be represented by each member. The depressed classes, who, while belonging to the majority Hindu community, stand in a class apart only by reason of their social disabilities, are not included in this table:—

	Number of seats.	Population.	Number of persons per seat.
Total	215	46,740,107	217,396
Muhammadians	29	3,305,937	113,997
Indian Christians	9	1,733,293	192,582
Anglo-Indians	2	28,669	14,334

[Mr. M. S. Sreshta] [29th January 1935]

"This table shows that of these minority communities, the Indian Christians alone do not receive due weightage. That every minority community should receive due weightage is an accepted maxim."

11-45 a.m. "Mr. John Morley, when introducing the Bill embodying the Minto-Morley Reforms, said in the House of Commons with reference to Muhammadans, 'They demand the election of their own representatives to these Councils in all the stages, just as in Cyprus, where I think the Muhammadans vote by themselves . . . Secondly, they want a number of seats in excess of their numerical strength. These two demands we are quite ready and intend to yield in full.'

"The late Mr. K. T. Paul was one of the Indian Christian representatives in the Round Table Conference. He said in the statement submitted by him to the Minorities' Sub-Committee, 'Wherever weightage is given to any community, we should also be given similar weightage. We are not asking for weightage *per se*. But we are sure that when any community is given weightage, seeing that it is bound to be bigger and more forceful than we are, we certainly feel to be in a position of increased disadvantage. Therefore we ask that we should also be given proportional weightage if that is accorded to any other community.'

"On this principle, Indian Christians should be given more weightage than Muslims, being a smaller community. While the Anglo-Indians are being given proportionately more weightage, we have not been given weightage in that proportion. It is difficult to understand why when this principle of weightage has been accepted in the case of Muslims and Anglo-Indians, the Indian Christians alone should not be given the benefit of that principle.

"Sir, Mr. Paul had a pronounced bias towards nationalism and was apologetic and hesitant in asking for anything that savoured of communalism. His demand for weightage is therefore all the more deserving of the fullest consideration.

"In the present Council there are 13 Muslims and 5 Indian Christians. The Muhammadans are a little less than double the Indian Christians in population, as will appear from the above table. Therefore even in the present Legislature we should have seven seats. But, as since the inauguration of the Minto-Morley Reforms, two of the depressed class members have been Indian Christians, we have practically seven seats. In the new Legislature, the Muslims are to have 29 seats as against 9 for Christians, more than three times as many. The fact is that the Muslims were allowed weightage in the present Legislature in accordance apparently with what Lord Morley said above. And the weightage given to the Muslims has now been greatly increased, whereas the Indian Christians continue to have very meagre weightage.

"Weightage has been given to communities smaller than ours, namely, Anglo-Indians and Europeans. Again, the Sikhs who number about 2½ millions in the Punjab are allowed 32 seats. Indian Christians in this Province are a little more than 1½ millions. If the same weightage as that given to the Sikhs were given to us, we should get 22 seats.

29th January 1935] [Mr. M. S. Sreshta]

But we get only nine! Compared to every minority community therefore, Indian Christians are placed at a very great disadvantage. The Minorities' Pact entered into during the sessions of the Round Table Conference allowed 14 seats for Indian Christians in the Madras Legislature and 30 for Muslims. The aim was evidently to give the same weightage to the Christians as to the Muslims, though 16 would have been nearer the correct number for Indian Christians. The Madras Franchise Committee reduced the number for Indian Christians and Muslims to 11 and 21, respectively. This maintains the correct ratio between these two communities, based on the same measure of weightage. However, the Madras Government in its letter No. 298 of 23rd February 1932 addressed to the Indian Franchise Committee reduced the number of seats for Indian Christians from 11 to 9, while retaining the 21 recommended for Muslims. When the matter went up to His Majesty's Government, the number of seats for Muslims was increased from the 21 already recommended to 30, whereas the number of seats for Indian Christians was retained. The effect of this was that the weightage which was stated by the Madras Government to be considerable for Muslims was made even more considerable by an increase of about 50 per cent, whereas Indian Christians received hardly any weightage, and the endeavour of the Minorities Pact, supported partially by the Madras Franchise Committee, to right an old wrong done to Indian Christians, failed. It is not clear why the Madras Government's recommendation was revised in favour of the Muslims, but not in the case of Indian Christians.

"Sir, as I said, already, I have no quarrel with the Muslims or the Anglo-Indians who get more weightage. We only demand fair treatment for us. We remember with gratitude that they recommended in the Minorities' Pact 14 seats for our community as against the smaller number that we are now granted. But why has Government not granted us the share due to us when they have accepted in regard to the other communities the recommendations of the Minorities' Pact? What is the justification for the differential treatment accorded to us? We admit that the Muslims deserve weightage, but are not Indian Christians as a smaller community entitled to weightage in the same proportion as the Muslims? The only reason for this unequal treatment given to us is that our community is supposed to be of no political importance, although our importance economically and socially has been acknowledged by the Simon Commission and the Memorandum presented by the Madras Government to that Commission. Perhaps the Government would have given us weightage if it was possible to so satisfy us without reducing the number of the general seats. That is why in my resolution I suggest that the total number of seats be increased by 5 and that those 5 seats be allotted to us.

"It has been recognized in all the modern Constitutions such as those of Egypt and the new States established in Europe after the Great War that minorities should receive due representation and also weightage. Therefore it follows that if weightage is to be given and if separate seats are to be given, the principle which has been adopted in regard

[Mr. M. S. Sreshta] [29th January 1935]

to Muslims and Anglo-Indians should be extended to the Indian Christians.

"As to why originally the Muslims were given considerable weightage whereas Indian Christians did not receive any weightage is not very clear, but the reason is perhaps indicated by the extract from Lord Morley's speech quoted above, to the effect that His Majesty's Government intended fully to yield to the demand of Muslims that they should get a number of seats in excess of their numerical strength. Evidently at that time the Indian Christians did not make any demand for weightage. Concentrating on education and social service, the Indian Christian community has always been politically lacking in self-assertion. But as to their fitness for weightage, there can be no stronger testimony than that given in the memorandum submitted by the Madras Government to the Indian Statutory Commission: 'Indian Christians have attained a high average level of education they are keen and vigorous and being largely autonomous in their religious and social concerns have much experience in affairs.'

"The Indian Christian community has always been remarkable for its law-abiding and peace-loving character. I have already quoted the opinion given by the Madras Government about this community, in its memorandum to the Statutory Commission. The Indian Statutory Commission itself speaks thus of this community:

'Of the remaining religious communities, the Indian Christians, from the point of view both of numerical and political importance,'

note the words 'political importance.' Hitherto we have been treated as politically unimportant. To continue:

'call for special consideration. The many admirably conducted schools and hospitals founded and maintained by Christian missionaries of various nationalities and denominations, some of which we visited during our tours through India, compel a tribute to the splendid services they render. It was the missionaries who were among the pioneers of education for the illiterate; they maintain some of the best medical institutions of the country; and their work among women and children, and for the depressed classes, is of special significance. Not the least admirable feature of their activities is that they have carried on their labours without offending the susceptibilities either of Moslem or of Hindu, and have lived at peace and amity with their neighbours.

'The Indian Christians stand high in the table of literacy. More than one in five of them is returned as able to satisfy the test—a remarkable result, considering that so many are drawn from the lowest strata of Hindu society. The Parsis and the Buddhists are the only Indian religious communities which make a better showing. In English education, the Indian Christians are second only to the Parsis, whose advantages are enormously superior. The achievement is a great one and shows what good work is being done in mission schools.'

"Therefore, Sir, as I have pointed out, our political importance also has been recognized by the Simon Commission. Indeed, its attitude during these years of political trouble has been of great value in the maintenance of Law and Order and it is its desire to be as helpful as possible to constituted authority and to sympathize with national aspirations; but it has been reluctant and hesitant to assert itself and claim even what it is entitled to.

29th January 1935] [Mr. M. S. Sreshta]

"You will remember, Sir, that in the Legislative Assembly the question of adequate representation of the Indian Christian community in the services recently arose. A resolution was moved by the Indian Christian Member of the Assembly to the effect that more adequate representation should be given to Indian Christians and reference was made to a Government Order whereby Indian Christians were ignored. This resolution was passed by a very large majority. This shows that we have the sympathy of all sections of the population. What we are now asking is practically on similar lines. It is admitted on every side that the representation given to the Indian Christian community is too inadequate for any balanced Constitution. If weightage is given to any minority community, the same weightage should be given to the Indian Christian community also, for the reasons I have given and for the additional reason that our community has always been on the side of Law and Order and on the side of national aspirations. Further, Sir, as I said already, if our demand will injuriously affect any other community we are willing to withdraw our demand. But, it is not the case, as our proposal is to increase the total number of seats to the extent necessary to give us equal weightage with the other minority communities. Sir, let justice be done to us. Justice was done to us in the Legislative Assembly and I have no reason to think that this House will refuse to do justice to our community. On the last occasion, the House passed my motion without a division and I hope that the same treatment will be accorded to my motion this time also.

"In this connexion, Sir, I may point out to this House that in the Legislative Assembly the proposal of the Indian Christian representative was supported by all sections. I will just quote what Diwan Bahadur A. Ramaswami Mudaliyar said of our community:

'It has thrown its fortunes with the people with reference to many of its activities and has completely identified itself with the people. It seems to me that a community like that should be better treated than any other community in this country.'

"Mr. F. E. James, M.L.A., made similar remarks. In this House I hope I am not asking far too much when I ask that justice should be done to us so that the Constitution may be well-balanced and so that our community which has some special interests of its own may be able to voice its views in such a manner that they will have some effect on the House. Otherwise, what will happen is that we shall not be able to express our views and injustice may be done to us in various matters. That would be bad not only for our community, but I submit it will not be good for the nation as a whole.

"Therefore I ask that the matter may be carefully considered by this House and after it has been so considered by this House, may it be carefully considered by the British Parliament, so that the wrong which has been done might be redressed. As regards the Poona Pact, the Select Committee report makes some reference to it. It points out that in the Poona Pact there is no agreement among all the members of the depressed classes, and they have considered the arguments which have been adduced against the Poona Pact. I am very glad that they

[Mr. M. S. Sreshta] [29th January 1935]

have done so, and hope that justice will be done to the depressed classes. But unfortunately no reference is made to the resolution which was passed in this Council regarding the representation of the Indian Christians. I do not know how it is that no reference has been made, or whether the matter was not considered at all. I trust that at this stage, though it is a late stage, the British Parliament will go carefully into the matter, consider all the arguments advanced in favour of a revision of the number of seats allotted to us and will do justice to us, so that our community may feel that it has not been let down, and that when every endeavour is being made to satisfy all the communities in this country, we alone, the Indian Christians, have not been neglected."

* Diwan Bahadur A. APPADURAI PILLAI:—"Mr. President, Sir, I rise to support the amendment so ably moved by my hon. Friend, Mr. Sreshta. He has stated all the arguments that can be advanced in favour of the request of the Indian Christian community to raise its representation from the nine seats granted to it in the Joint Select Committee's report and the White Paper proposals. You will find, Sir, from the statement at page 349 of the Report that out of 215 seats 9 seats are allotted to the Indian Christians including one seat for woman. Unfortunately, Sir, in fixing that number, a very favourable remark made by the Simon Commission has not been taken into account. Sir, I would, even at the risk of reiterating what my Friend, Mr. Sreshta, has already pointed out, quote one or two sentences from the Simon Report:

'Of the remaining religious communities, the Indian Christians, from the point of view both of numerical and of political importance, call for special consideration.'

'A Christian church has existed in India for over 1,500 years. The old Syrian Christian community in Malabar cherishes a tradition that it was established by the Apostle St. Thomas himself. . . . In any case, its great antiquity is undoubted, but it is only in the course of the last half century, since the efforts of Christian missionaries have been concentrated upon the remote village districts, that this religious community has exhibited such rapid growth. It now claims to be the third largest religious body in India, numbering in British India and the Indian States combined about 4½ million souls, of which 2,775,000 live directly under the British Raj.'

"That was the remark made by the memorable Simon Commission, but unfortunately in allocating seats to the Indian Christian community, adequate consideration does not seem to have been paid to the claims of the community for proper representation. Whatever that may be, at the time the franchise proposals were being considered, it was thought that the Indian Christian community would be merged in the general electorate and would not be given separate electorate. This was the recommendation made by the Simon Commission: In Madras, the Indian Christian deputations asked for 'the retention of their separate electorates. We should, in any case, much prefer reservation of seats for Indian Christians to separate electorates, and we hope that when details come to be worked out this may be found to be possible.' But in the White Paper, which followed the Communal Award, we were given separate electorates; but unfortunately the number of seats

[29th January 1935] [Mr. A. Appadurai Pillai]

that were earmarked for us were reduced to nine. Ever since the White Paper proposals were published, the Indian Christian community has been carrying on an agitation even on the floor of this House. My hon. Friend, Mr. Sreshta, brought forward a resolution which was unanimously accepted by this House, thereby showing its generosity in matters where Indian Christian interests are concerned. That was only in keeping with what the Simon Commission has said:

'Their work among women and children, and for the depressed classes is of special significance. Not the least admirable feature of their activities is that they have carried on their labours without offending the susceptibilities either of Moslem or Hindu, and have lived at peace and amity with their neighbours.'

"In accordance with that opinion, we expected the Government very generously to support the resolution moved by my hon. Friend, Mr. Sreshta. Unfortunately, however, there has been no effect. The number given to us, i.e., nine seats, is too small to permit a fair distribution among the 26 districts of this province. All the five of us here are supposed to represent the whole of the Presidency. I am supposed to represent not less than nine districts—Madras, North Arcot, South Arcot, Chingleput, Chittoor, Cuddapah, Kurnool, Bellary and Anantapur, covering a distance of nearly 48,000 square miles. My Friend, Mr. Moses, is supposed to represent Ganjam, Vizagapatam, East Godavari, West Godavari, Kistna, Guntur and Nellore, covering an area of about 51,000 square miles, and I am sure that he has not seen some of the portions of Ganjam or Vizagapatam, much less the Agency. That is the anomalous position in which our community is unfortunately placed. It is not therefore possible for us to be in touch with the people or adequately to represent the grievances or the opinions of the people whom we are supposed to represent in this House. It is necessary, therefore, in fairness to our community, which has proved its capacity in the matter of public life, in the matter of local Government and in the matter of administration, that its claims should be recognized and that this disability about which we have been constantly complaining should be removed. We find that in recommending the establishment of a Second Chamber for this Province, the Joint Parliamentary Committee has allotted to us 3 seats out of 54 seats in that Chamber. If 3 out of 54 is supposed to be a suitable and adequate representation for our community on the Second Chamber, working on that basis for 215 seats, we ought to get somewhere about 12 seats in the lower chamber. Apparently, 3 out of 54 has been fixed on the consideration that the Indian Christian community is entitled to better treatment than what has been accorded to it in the White Paper proposals. Proceeding on that basis, I would argue that for the lower House, 9 out of 215 is a very poor number. All that we now ask for is an addition of five more seats to the number already allotted to us, so that 14 seats in the aggregate may be adjusted between the 26 districts which we are at present supposed to represent in this august House. I have great pleasure, therefore, Sir, in seconding the amendment moved by my hon. Friend, Mr. Sreshta."

[29th January 1935]

* Mr. T. C. SRINIVASA AYYANGAR:—“ Mr. President, Sir, I desire to place before the House an amendment which though coming last, is not the least. It has a special importance. It is unlike the other amendments which seeks to enlarge the rights and say that the report under consideration does not go far enough. This amendment I am moving, prays the House to give its verdict that no rights Indians have now in Burma should be taken away and that whatever rights the Indians enjoy there shall be continued when Burma is separated from India.

“ This resolution merely prays that no rights should be abrogated, and that no fresh difficulties should be created in the way of Indians who went to Burma under the flag of Britain and who, by their labour, by their investments, by their energy and by their enterprise, have developed and made the country what it is to-day and that no discriminatory legislation should be allowed in the future. Sir, I desire to slightly alter the wording of the amendment which I have given notice of, so that it may be consistent with another resolution given notice of by my Hon. Friend, the Kumararaja of Chettinad. I like to introduce into my amendment one or two words which find place in the amendment of my Hon. Friend. There is no substantial difference between the amendment which I move and the one given notice of by Mr. Muthiah Chettiyar.

“ Sir, the necessity for placing this subject before this House is that the Joint Parliamentary Committee's Report makes recommendations which were unexpected and which seek to discriminate against the Indians. Paragraph 473 of the Report was already referred to by my hon. Friend, Mr. Appadurai Pillai, when he dealt with the motion which he seconded. That paragraph contains two ideas. Although it may not be necessary to read the whole of it, I am desirous of bringing the material portions therein to the notice of this House:—

‘ The memorandum to which we have referred deals also with a particular problem affecting the right of entry of Indian subjects into Burma. It points out that there are in Burma over a million persons either domiciled in India or originating from some Indian province. Some are in permanent service of the Government, but the greater number are labourers who only intend to stay in Burma for a few years and who, by accepting smaller wages, tend to oust the indigenous labourer and to lower his standard of living.’

“ That is one charge.

‘ Others are Indian money-lenders who advance money on the security of agricultural land and crops and whose operations, especially in times of depression, are such as to bring about an extensive transfer of ownership from an indigenous agricultural population to a non-indigenous and non-agricultural class.’

[29th January 1935] [Mr. T. C. Srinivasa Ayyangar]

“ That is another charge.

‘ It is clear that in these circumstances it would be unreasonable to include in a new constitution for Burma provisions which would in effect give to all persons domiciled in India an unrestricted right of entry into Burma.’

“ That is their conclusion; and their recommendation is:—

‘ It is accordingly proposed that it should be competent for the Burman legislature to enact legislation restricting or imposing conditions of entry into Burma in respect of persons other than British subjects domiciled in the United Kingdom.’

“ Now Sir, one would naturally expect that if on grounds of administrative convenience or on the ground of economic development, when a large tract of country which was under one administration, is sought to be erected into a new unit of administration, the convenience and the facilities which exist for the people who have helped or who have come on the land and invested their money or made their residence there shall not only be protected, but the same facilities shall continue in the future also for all subjects of the Crown. The Report does not do any such thing. On the other hand the report goes the wrong way.

“ Burma, ever since its conquest and the constitution of the Chief Commissionership of Lower Burma, has always been an Indian Province. 12-11 p.m.
Now, for all practical purposes of Indians, it is sought to be erected into a foreign country with powers to make hostile and discriminatory legislation against Indians. Is that fair? It is certainly not. Is the charge that is levelled against the Indians in the Report founded on fact; and can it be made out? Can any one sympathize with the authors of the Report to any extent in their recommendations? I propose now to quote some authorities, not emanating from the side of the people who are sought to be hit but opinions of administrators and show that there is really no foundation for the charges which are levelled. For some years past there has been a cry for the separation of Burma. I do not now want to enter into the question of the separation of Burma and deal with the merits or demerits of that proposal. It is primarily for the Burmans concerned and also for the Government of Great Britain who, for purposes of Imperial policy, may think of separating Burma. Into that question, I do not go. I deal only with the question of the proposals for discriminating against Indians. If we study the history of Burma in respect of the question of Indian migration there, you will find that soon after the conquest of Burma in 1852, the British Government found that large tracts of land were forest land, unoccupied land, that communications were difficult and facilities for import and export trade did not exist, while at the same time, the country contained abundant resources which awaited development. It required labour, it required capital and it required people who would come and stay there and brave the difficulties. Unlike certain other countries where the pre-existing development attracts exploiters, this was a country in which the necessity for development attracted the people. The Indians were induced to go there in the interests of Burma. In those days it was the settled policy of the Government to make a sojourn to Burma as attractive as possible to the people.

[Mr. T. C. Srinivasa Ayyangar] [29th January 1935]

"The Report says that the connexion between Burma and India whether traditionally or historically was of the least. I wonder where the learned authors got their idea from. I will quote from the Census Report of 1911, a report prepared at a time when political passions were not roused, when, as lawyers would put it, no troubles or disputes existed. The testimony is all the more valuable. This is from the Census Report prepared by Mr. Morgan Webb, I.C.S.:—

'As far back as the history of Burmese national life can be traced by means of its chronicles and its legendary lore, migration from India has been one of its most prominent and continuous features. Both the Burmese and the Talaings owe their evolution from a number of small, wild, scattered, disunited and nomadic tribes into large and cohesive kingdoms, to their contact with Indian colonists who had settled in numerous small colonies in the valley of the Irrawaddy. The earliest attempts at any form of Government beyond a mere tribal organization commenced under Indian auspices at Tagaung, at Prome and at Thaton. The religion of Burma equally with its system of government was obtained from Indian sources. Indian influence is to be found in every branch of Burmese life, not only in its religion and in its government, but also in its architecture, its festivals, its ceremonials, and its more intimate and domestic phases. The further back in point of time the investigations are carried the greater is the degree of Indian influence perceived.

"I do not want to trouble the Council with a historical dissertation except to draw their attention to this important statement made officially and after investigation at a time when no troubles existed between Burmans and Indians or between Burmans and Indians on the one hand and Britons on the other.

"I understand that even to-day in this country of Burma whose area is 230,000 square miles, three-fifths is forest land. What must have been the case 80 years ago. A much greater extent was forest land. Then communications had to be opened; roads had to be built and railway tracks laid. All this required labour and it was India that supplied it and Indian capital mainly that worked it. When the country was reclaimed and brought under cultivation, Burma started on a progressive march of economic development. Time will not permit me to go into this interesting history but let me satisfy myself with giving a few figures concerning the development during the last 30 years. In 1900 the acreage under cultivation was 72 lakhs of acres; in 1910 it was 138 lakhs of acres, in 1920, 150 lakhs of acres and in 1930, 190 lakhs of acres. In the export trade of Burma, nearly Rs. 11 crores worth of rice is imported into India. The largest single consumer of the agricultural produce of Burma is India. India consumes about Rs. 8½ crores worth of petroleum, kerosene and other mineral products and Rs. 9½ crores worth of teak. In a port in the district of Ramnad, the main business is the import of timber from Burma. Along with the extension of rice cultivation, came the rice-milling business. From 1892 to 1925 the number of rice mills increased from 52 to 529 and one-third of the mills are owned by Indians. Now with the clearance of the forests and with the growth of the timber trade and industry in which the Government have sunk vast sums of money, came along the saw mills. The number of saw mills increased from 41 in 1892 to 116 in 1930. Considering all the factories there in Burma, the number has

[29th January 1935] [Mr. T. C. Srinivasa Ayyangar]

increased from 21,000 mills to 87,000 mills between 1892 and 1925. The question is who contributed to the vast development of Burma and what was the effect of this development? Did the development hinder the Burman from becoming rich? Have the Indians, Europeans or other non-Burmans who exploited the country been mere profiteers and have the Burman population been made to suffer in any way? It has not been the case at all. I will quote from no less an authority than Sir Harcourt Butler, former Governor of Burma.

'Without the assistance of the Chettiyar Banking system, Burma would never have achieved the wonderful advance for the last 25 to 30 years. The Chettiyars provide the necessary finance to the agriculturists in practically every village throughout the Province, and while enabling the Burman to greatly increase his production, they have at the same time, undoubtedly inculcated the idea of thrift and economy by their insisting on regular payments as regards both principal and interest. The Burman to-day is a much wealthier man than he was 25 years ago and for this state of things, the Chettiyar deserves his share of thanks.'

"I want to say a few words on the question of the banking system of the country. The European, the Chinese and foreign incorporated banks have their establishments in the big cities. But the industrial and agricultural operations of the rural parts of the country require a quite different system of banking which is supplied by the Chettiyar community who have ramifications all over the country and have about 1,500 firms in both Upper and Lower Burma. Without the co-operation and the co-ordinated effort of the great European banking houses in the cities and the Chettiyar firms in the country parts, the banking system of the country would not have been perfect and all this great economic development of the Province would not have been possible. I will quote a passage from the Report of the Burma Banking Enquiry Committee:—

'The Chettiyars are the mainstay of agricultural finance in this Province. They not only do a large, generally, the largest part of lending direct to agriculturists, they also finance to a considerable extent others who do such lending, etc. They have not only rendered a service in the past, playing in the development of Burma, a necessary part which no other class has offered to play; without their support or the substitution of some other banking system towards which no steps have as yet been taken, the internal and external trade of the country would break down and the rice crop could not even be produced.'

"Under these circumstances, the question arises whether the Chettiyars have helped Burma and the Burman people or whether they have deprived them of their land or their means of subsistence. Have they in any way stood in the way of the progress of the Burman people? One charge particularly made in the Report is that they lend money in a way by which, during times of depression the land tends to pass from Burman agriculturists to non-agriculturists of India. Nothing can be farther from the truth. Many of us know that the Chettiyar Banking community receive deposits as any bankers do, add the same to their own capital and utilize both for their banking business in Burma. Therefore, to the Chettiyars nothing is more welcome than liquid cash. To have their cash investments converted into land is a most unwelcome thing to them. If to-day large tracts of land have come into their possession, it is in spite of their desire and in spite of their need as bankers. They do not want agricultural land and they

[Mr. T. C. Srinivasa Ayyangar] [29th January 1935]

cannot want it if their banking system is to progress. The possession by Chettiyars of land in Burma is due mainly to the fall in the price of paddy and the depression engendered. The difficulty of recovering their money has led to their taking possession of the land by way of liquidation of their claims. If the Burmans were obliged to sell their land to others, their liabilities could never have been discharged. If a reasonable price was available, these Chettiyar bankers who came into possession of the lands would be the first to take advantage of it, sell their lands and get their money back. No adequate enquiry has been made; no proper investigation of the circumstances that led to the transference of the lands even attempted and not even authoritative documents examined before the charge has been levelled. A hasty conclusion has been arrived at and a recommendation which is as much unjust as it is undeserved has been made.

"As regards the question of labour, we find very very strange observations made in the Report. Apart from prior official documents I will show how inconsistent the Report itself is.

12-30 p.m. "I shall read a passage from the Joint Parliamentary Committee Report. Paragraph 434 of the Report says:

'The difficulty of regulating the economic relations of India and Burma in the period immediately following separation has presented itself to us as the most serious obstacle to a recommendation in favour of separation.'

"Mark these words:

'We were much impressed by the views of the Delegates representing commercial interests, both European and Indian on the disturbance of India-Burma trade which might result from separation.'

"But they offer a palliative. That seems to be a trade agreement, under which, in spite of separation, there ought not to be tariff operation and the present basis of free tariff for imports and exports that subsists now between Burma and India shall continue for some years. But how has this economic development been brought about? The report itself in another place says—paragraph 433:

'The negotiations for a Trade Agreement might also be extended to the regulation of the immigration of Indian labour into Burma for the first few years after separation.'

"That clearly shows that the Indian labour is considered absolutely essential for Burma and therefore they seek to provide for a continuance of it. As the Joint Committee Report frequently quotes the Statutory Commission in respect of their recommendations, I shall read a passage from the Statutory Commission Report, regarding the part played by the Indian labour as well as by the bankers of India in the development of Burma. The Statutory Commission Report says:

'The cosmopolitan port of Rangoon contains indeed an Indian element largely due to emigration from Madras which is actually larger than the Burmese population. . . . As the emigration and immigration statistics of the ports show, the Indian comes and goes and the steady excess of immigrants over Indian emigrants may to a measure rather of economic development than of any Indian penetration of Burma. If the Indian immigrant does stay, he tends to be absorbed into the Burman population. Whether he stays or returns, he plays a part in the economic life of Burma, which the Burman is not very willing to undertake for himself;

[Mr. T. C. Srinivasa Ayyangar] 29th January 1935]

for, the Burman is not equally willing to face hard work for small pay. . . . The Burman has so far been content to leave large scale commerce and industry entirely in foreign hands.

Rangoon in the volume of exports and imports ranks only below Calcutta and Bombay. The wealthy merchants there are Europeans, Indians and Chinese.'

"The Statutory Commission, after having mentioned that the *association of Burma and India is a longstanding one*, proceeds to consider whether the proposal for separation may be made. One of the questions which it formulates is this:—'Have ties been formed between India and Burma, the breaking of which would injure either or both partners?' In dealing with this question, some observations are made which shew that in any view no discriminatory laws should be allowed to be passed as against Indians. The Statutory Commission observe:

'Burma is also dependant for much of her prosperity on Indian labour. India is the largest single consumer of her produce. A considerable part of the capital and enterprise which have developed her trade is Indian.'

"Further on, they say:

'The political and constitutional development which she has now reached has come to her as a part of India and her reliance for securing further advance is based on promises made by Britain to India.'

"For some reasons which are not convincing, a recommendation for separation is made. However, I am not directly concerned with the question of separation. But I am concerned with the other question whether discriminatory legislation should be made or not. The Statutory Commission which is an authority for the Joint Committee Report says:

'In view of the vital importance of Indian labour to Burma and of Burma rice to India, and of the need to Burma of Indian coal and gunnies, a trade convention is necessary . . .'

"The report further on says:

'The presence of Indians in Burma, is due not to any special privileges extended to them but to the plain fact that Indians can perform many services which the Burman is unable or unwilling to perform for himself. The new constitution for Burma should make due provision for the protection of the legitimate interests of Indians domiciled in Burma.'

"I say the recommendation of the Joint Parliamentary Committee in that respect is against the view expressed in the prior documents. I ask whether it is just and proper that such a power to discriminate against Indians should be given in the circumstances. In asking for rights of free entry, residence, acquisition of property and privileges in the matter of franchise, education and various other things which are mentioned in the amendment, our claim is the result of our long connexion with Burma. We want, Sir, what, even prior to the British connexion, Indians fewer in numbers then enjoyed in Burma; after the advent of Britain and the advent of the steamship, emigration has been on a vaster scale, with the consequence of a quicker, and far wider development of the country with advantage to the Burmans and Indians. As I feel, Sir, that there are other Members of the House like my hon. Friends, Messrs. Murugappa Chettiyar, Muthiah Chettiyar, Vasudeva Pillai and others who have more intimate acquaintance with Burma

[Mr. T. C. Srinivasa Ayyangar] [29th January 1935]

and the conditions in Burma and of the commercial and industrial pursuits in that Province than I have, I wish to close my remarks and I submit the following amendment for the acceptance of the House:—

Add at the end—

“and, on such consideration, this Council is of opinion that proposals for separation of Burma should not be given effect to unless sufficient safeguards are provided in regard to free entry, residence, education, franchise, representation on the Legislature, services and professions, banking, trade, and ownership of lands and other properties, for Indians in Burma””

* Mr. M. A. MUTHIAH CHETTIYAR:—“Mr. President, Sir, I rise to second the amendment moved by my esteemed friend from my district, Mr. Srinivasa Ayyangar. He has so very ably dealt with the question that my work has been lightened. He is one who lives in the midst of persons who are connected with Burma; that is the chief reason for his having such a sound knowledge of things in Burma. The question of Indian Nationals abroad has always taken serious turns occasionally and crises like this are often found in places like South Africa, Ceylon, Indo-China and other foreign places. It is surprising that there should be a crisis for Indian Nationals in our own country, for Burma has been part of India all along, and that persons who have been living in our own country should be told ‘you are foreigners from to-morrow.’ This is the difficult situation in which our Indian brethren are placed in Burma; they have lived in Burma, worked in Burma and carried on their avocations in life, like trade, commerce and employment. They have been thinking that Burma will always be part of India. It is true that the question of separation has not come suddenly in 1935 from the Joint Parliamentary Committee. It is a question which has been agitating the minds of Burmans for the last four or five years; though it was mooted out on previous occasions also, it has been seriously agitating the minds of the people in Burma for the last five years. I may say that the Nattukkottai Chettiyar community did not take part in the question of the separation of Burma. They remained neutral. The Burmans themselves have not decided whether they want separation or not. That question was fought out and the opinion was keenly divided and it was most surprising that in the Legislative Council of Burma, the debate went on for six days, without a decision being taken—most surprising in the history of legislative bodies. If a vote had been taken, anti-separationists might have succeeded. Of course, I cannot prophesy what would have taken place, if vote had been taken; opinion was so keenly divided. But Indians did not raise any great protest—even those who felt that separation would end in disaster to Indians. They did not take any active part at all, though they felt strongly in the matter. But I do not think there is any Indian who felt that injustice would be meted out to Indians in Burma. All of us are for seeing that justice is meted out to us and that our political and economic rights are safeguarded in the future Burma. We have always been thinking that

[29th January 1935] [Mr. M. A. Muthiah Chettiyar]

the work we have done for the development of Burma would not be forgotten. Burma would not have been what it is to-day but for Indian capital and for Indian labour. Ever since the annexation of Burma, immigration was increasing and the Government took part in encouraging immigration. More than that, merchants and bankers who carried on business there and invested money, had the assurance that their rights would be secure. Burma being one of the Provinces of India, they have been carrying on their professions peacefully. They own extensive property; they built towns; almost all the towns have been built by Indians; most of the buildings that exist in Rangoon do belong to Indians; extensive property is owned by Indians throughout the Province of Burma, landed property as well as house property; they pay taxes, enormous taxes to the Corporation and Municipalities in Burma. If we take the details with regard to the population of some of the towns, it will be surprising to note that the majority of the population in Rangoon, the capital City, is Indian and a considerable portion of them is from the Madras Presidency. In some other towns like Moulmein, Insein and Bassein, you will see that Indians are 40 to 50 per cent of the population. The interests of Indians in Burma are enormous. I do not want to weary the House with all the details as most of the Indians here do realize the importance of the wealth and prosperity of those Indians who are connected with Burma; the prosperity of thousands of families of poor Indians rests with their prosperity in Burma. There are thousands of poor families who are working there as labourers and in other kinds of employment there; some of them happen to own lands there and have remained there for years; of course, some of them come away after their short stay at Burma; all of them depend upon Burma. But it must be said that Burma has been benefited greatly by the advent of Indians into that country.

“Sir, the sub-committee of the first Round Table Conference laid down clearly that there should be no discrimination against Indians; and it was this which made us hope that we would have justice in the future constitution. Now the Joint Select Committee Report has given a rude shock. A Chettiyars’ Conference was held and strong protest was made against the attitude of the Committee towards Indians in Burma and their resolutions have been sent to the British Government so that the wrong may be righted. Besides the labourer and the capitalist, there are large sections of Indians who are responsible for running the services of Government in Burma. The British people when they annexed Burma could not get men enough to carry on the administration and so they had to get men from India; and these men have been continuing in service for decades together. And now they are to be told that they will not be given free entry and they cannot have employment as in the past, in the future administration of Burma. This is a thing which they never dreamt of. Already there exist certain restrictions against them. The Joint Parliamentary Committee have not only retained them, but they have gone a step further in yielding to the Burman agitation and accepting their proposal to empower the Burma legislature to pass a law restricting the free entry

[Mr. M. A. Muthiah Chettiyar] [29th January 1935]

of Indians to act as a safeguard against the invasion of Indians in the services. This is enough to show that they want to discriminate against Indians as such, who want to take service there.

"I shall refer in particular to the position of the Chettiyar community in Burma. In Burma, the Chettiyars have a banking system spread all over the country, in every nook and corner. There are now about 1,400 firms, and they have been largely responsible for bringing into cultivation large tracts of forest land. As has been pointed out by the previous speaker, the acreage of land under cultivation has increased from 70 lakhs of acres in 1,900 to 190 lakhs of acres in 1934. Not only have they been responsible for this large increase in the area of cultivation, but they are also responsible for the financing of agricultural operations. My statements are borne out by the authoritative report of the Banking Enquiry Committee. But for the money the Chettiyars advance annually for cultivation it would not be possible for the cultivation to be completed. Added to this, the next factor is important. Indian labour from India has been found necessary to complete the cultivation and the harvest. In paragraph 473 of the Joint Parliamentary Committee Report it is stated impliedly that the Indian banker is avaricious of taking over the lands, upon which they advance money in the first instance. We emphatically protest against such a statement. The Indian banker there is the Nattukottai Chettiyar, or the Guzarati or the Multani. They are averse to possessing any land, for it is not in their tradition and they would have only liquid cash always. But they have been forced to own lands as otherwise the crores of money they have advanced on them were at stake. The Nattukottai Chettiyars alone have invested about 80 crores in that province and they have been forced to own land much against their wish. They now find it very difficult to manage all that land. It is a great problem for them to pay the land revenue. They pay about a crore of rupees by way of land tax, income-tax and other taxes. On account of the great depression, they have been finding it very hard to pay these taxes. The question whether the Chettiyars are anxious to own land or not will be clear from the following statement of the Chairman of the Banking Enquiry Committee. He says 'the present increase of lands in the Chettiyars' hands is a reflection of the depression in the business of paddy cultivation and it is not an indication that the Chettiyars are greedy to get possession of land.' Mr. Grentham, the Chairman of the Committee has been in Burma for over 20 years and is well acquainted with the banking system of the Chettiyars. The Chettiyars are only looking forward to the day when the price of land will go up and when it will be possible for them to realize a fair proportion of the money invested by them. The Conference held in Chettinad also passed resolutions protesting against the insinuation that the Chettiyars are anxious to own lands. In paragraph 473 of the Report the Committee say that they want to restrict the free entry of Indians on the ground that Indian labour is cheap and would oust Burmese labour, and they want to restrict the entry of all classes of Indians except those of 'good standing.' That high-sounding phrase

[29th January 1935] [Mr. M. A. Muthiah Chettiyar]

'good standing' is very difficult to define and I am sure it will not help us at all in any way. For later on, in another place dealing with the question of admission to services they say that the power of the Burma legislature to impose conditions or restrictions on entry into Burma should prove a sufficient safeguard. So I do not think Indians will gain anything by this phrase 'good standing.'

"There is one other point that I should like to stress, viz., the question of alienation of land. The Burma White Paper has been approved by the Joint Select Committee. In the Burma White Paper it is said that any legislation restricting free alienation of land will not be considered as discriminatory legislation. This is enough to ruin all those persons who are in possession of land. Unfortunately some Indians and Indian bankers have come into possession of land in Burma and it will take many many years before they are able to dispose of it. Till then there should not be any restriction. That is my point. If it is said that land shall not be alienated to anybody except to agriculturists, it will be very difficult for the non-agricultural class who have now come into possession to sell that land. It is to this the Indian community takes very strong exception. On the other hand, we should have a safeguard definitely stating that we have the right of free alienation of lands that are now in the hands of Indians and lands that may come into our possession in the future. Otherwise all the money that has been turned in the shape of land is at stake.

"With regard to representation in the legislature of Burma, the Indian percentage is sought to be reduced. The percentage at present for Indians is 10 per cent; it is proposed to reduce it to 6½ per cent whereas for the Karen community, the percentage is raised from 6 to 10. All we want is that adequate representation should be given to the Indian community. The Chettiyars' Association and the Indian Landholders' Association also require separate representation on the Legislative Council. It is but fair that the Chettiyar community having such a large stake in the country should be given adequate and separate representation on its legislature, which is to decide the destinies of the people under it.

"It is but meet that a resolution of this kind should be considered by this Council—for thousands of families in this Presidency are connected with Burma and their fortunes are dependent on the constitution that is going to be proposed for it—and its views expressed in no uncertain terms. I hope this Council will agree to pass this resolution."

The Hon. the PRESIDENT:—"I do not propose to allow any other amendments to be moved; for these seven amendments have taken already a day and a half and I wish the House, considering the short time before it and the long list of hon. Members who are anxious to speak, will be satisfied with as little time as possible for each individual member.

"The main motion as well as the seven amendments are for the discussion of the House."

[29th January 1935]

Mr. KOTI REDDI:—"May I ask whether it would not be possible for Government to allot one more day for this, for there are still many members who are anxious to speak."

1 p.m. * Mr. F. BIRLEY:—"Mr. President, Sir, there is only one amendment to the Hon. the Revenue Member's motion now before the House to which I can lend my almost unqualified support and that is the amendment sponsored by my hon. Friend, Mr. Devadasan. And having supported that view I had no difficulty in deciding on my attitude with regard to the amendment which my hon. Friend Dr. Subbarayan had the temerity to father. I am prepared to admit that there are many points in the hon. Dr. Subbarayan's speech, with which I am very largely in sympathy although I cannot admit the Irish analogy. Although perhaps there were evidences that such a situation might arise in the future, I feel that the action now taken by His Majesty's Government will preclude any possibility of the development of a situation in this country, such as has developed in Ireland. My hon. Friend Dr. Subbarayan referred to the attitude of the representatives of British interests in this House and this reference has caused us some surprise and perhaps a little pain. I am a little uncertain as to whether my hon. and learned Friend's remarks constitute a threat or a promise, but I think that he is a very poor judge of character if he thinks that the representatives of British interests in this House can be cajoled or bribed or intimidated or even sandbagged into the adoption of an attitude which is not in complete accord with their honest convictions. I feel sure that when my hon. Friend, whom we all know is a sportsman, fully realizes the implications involved in his remarks, he will be sorry not only that he uttered them, but he ever conceived such a thought. There is nothing reactionary about our attitude. We are face to face with the actualities of the situation in our everyday life and we require neither threats nor promises to enable us to read the writing on the wall and to appreciate fully the situation which has developed under our very eyes.

"It is, Sir, within the knowledge of the Members of this House that we non-official Britons domiciled in this country have for many years worked wholeheartedly with our Indian fellow subjects of the Empire in the great cause of political advance for India. But we have always been on the side of orderly progress as opposed to an ill-defined policy leading to nowhere—except perhaps to chaos. In these circumstances, Sir, and in this spirit, we welcomed the Simon Commission, we welcomed the Franchise Committee, we welcomed the Round Table Conferences and we welcomed the White Paper. We saw in these evidences of the desire of the British Government for progress—and for progress on proper lines. And now, when in the fulness of time the Joint Parliamentary Committee Report embodying the final results of years of patient research and enquiry has appeared, the recognized bodies of non-official Britons in India have given it in general their approval and their blessing.

[29th January 1935] [Mr. F. Birley]

"Now, Sir, there has been plenty of plain-speaking from the left in this House and elsewhere and it is high time that there was some equally plain-speaking from the right; and talking of plain-speaking I read a few weeks ago in a report of a meeting of Indians domiciled in England that a speaker had expressed the view that it was an impertinence for the British Parliament to take upon itself the task of drafting a constitution for India. May be the individual who voiced this opinion was a person of little consequence and may be it would be politic not to say anything more about it. But we are talking plainly now; so I will express the view that whoever shares the view of our friend in London resembles the ostrich who buries its head in the sand to hide itself from its pursuers. He is either ignorant of the history of India during the past hundred years or he deliberately disregards it. In any case, whether it is palatable or nauseous the British Parliament has the sole right and the sole power to decide the nature of the future constitution of India, and having recognized that I would ask the members of this House to consider the present political situation in England. There is on the one hand a body of British statesmen actuated by the keenest goodwill towards Indian aspirations and on the other a body of politicians whose goodwill towards India embraces no shadow of sympathy towards any form of political advancement. I would ask to which of these two bodies should the members of this House lend their support and encouragement. And the answer is obvious. And yet, this house is seriously considering resolutions which on the face of them play into the hands of the enemies of our legitimate desire for constitutional advance. And it is not as my hon. Friend Dr. Subbarayan argued a question of placating opinion. Sir Samuel Hoare has long recognized that it is a waste of time attempting to reconcile the irreconcilable and he knows that the Joint Committee report was condemned before it was published, just as the Simon Commission report and the White Paper were. It is a question of practical politics. The Bill has to be manœuvred through Parliament and it would be a tactical error of the first magnitude to play into the hands of the reactionaries in England. And it goes even farther than that because I am sure that the great majority of the members of this House and of the people whom they represent are satisfied that the proposals contained in the Joint Committee report are substantially advantageous to this country.

"Then, Sir, with the detailed criticisms of the report I have much more sympathy and it would indeed be a miracle if the entire proposals contained in the report completely satisfied all shades of opinion. The interests which I represent are not completely satisfied and in common with several other minority communities we are agitating for certain modifications. As there is no time to-day to discuss these, I would like to speak about something of more general interest.

"I may say at once however that we find it difficult to reconcile the agitation against the safeguards with the broad statesmanlike view which should characterize the views of great Indian leaders. If any explanation in the matter of safeguards were needed His Excellency the

[Mr. F. Birley] [29th January 1935]

Governor's speech in this House last Monday should have disarmed criticism.

"In my office I frequently come across contract forms for the purchase or sale of goods and these forms are so hedged in with pains and penalties that a timid man or an inexperienced one would only sign them in fear and trembling.

"And yet in actual practice if the seller delivers the goods and the buyer takes delivery and pays for them the contract is duly fulfilled and the pains and penalties are inoperative.

"The analogy is perfect—the penalty clauses in a business contract are the exact counterpart of the safeguards in the constitution and so long as the Ministers who are elected by the people of the country to govern deliver the goods correctly, the safeguards, like the penalty clauses in a contract, are never even thought of.

"The penalty clauses are inserted to protect both buyer and seller and the safeguards are there to protect the people of this country from ill-advised action which might lead to disaster, not to the British Parliament but to the people of India.

"The commercial safeguards are more my immediate concern than the constitutional safeguards. And here again, I would ask my friends in this House to view this subject broadly and to consider that these safeguards have been framed in the common interests of India and Britain.

"It is literally true that British commerce established in this country has viewed with alarm the uncompromising attitude of certain sections of Indian opinion, and in our representations to the Round Table Conference and to the Joint Committee we have pressed not for any favours but for the ordinary rights of citizens of the Empire in a country which is and which, please God, will remain an integral part of the Empire. Our representations were sympathetically received not only by the British Members of the Round Table Conference but also by the great majority of the Indian delegation, and the Joint Committee have to some extent recognized our claims for just treatment based on reciprocal just treatment of Indian nationals in Britain. We have asked for the continuance of our right to live and work in peaceful amity with our neighbours in this country and there is nothing in the proposals of the Joint Committee which purports to give us anything more than this right.

"In conclusion, Sir, I am glad to find that there is in this House a generous attitude of mind towards these proposals for constitutional reform and some recognition of the care and forethought based on centuries of political experience embodied in the Joint Committee report, the predominating factor in which is the true desire for the ultimate good of India."

* Mr. YAKUB HASAN SAHIB:—"Mr. President, Sir, as one who had been fighting for more than two decades and who had perhaps made the greatest individual sacrifice for the freedom of India, I feel very

[Mr. Yakub Hasan Sahib] 29th January 1935]

sorely on this subject. In order that I may speak with due restraint, especially in view of the present unsatisfactory state of my health and weakness, I have thought it advisable to jot down a few notes and I will try to keep myself within them.

"The Parliamentary Declaration of 1917 has made the British Government so enamoured of doing things by stages in respect of the constitutional reforms in India, and in order that the fall may not be too precipitate and sudden, they have let down India in the present case by stages. Retrograde and disappointing as the White Paper was, it was more liberal than the Joint Parliamentary Committee's Report, and by the time the Government of India Bill emerges through the onslaught of the diehards in both the Houses of Parliament, it will only be a mockery of what was so alluringly offered to India in 1929. In these days of short memories it is necessary that the British Government are reminded that the demand of Dominion Status was made by the All-Parties Conference held at Calcutta in December 1928. It was the first occasion when the representatives of all parties assembled and in one voice asserted that India will not be satisfied with her position in the British Empire if she was not given the status of a Dominion in the British Commonwealth of Nations. I had the privilege of seconding the principal resolution so ably moved by the late lamented Congress stalwart, Mr. Sen Gupta. Mahatma Gandhi, who had practically retired from the Congress, was brought back to the Congress and it was through the great personal devotion that he commanded even in the extreme section of Congressmen that the Congress was practically coerced into accepting with a narrow majority a constitution that was capable of ensuring for India the status of a Dominion, if that constitution was granted within a year. Such a united demand was bound to be irresistible and the Viceroy was summoned to the headquarters of the Empire so that the Cabinet may with his advice find out the ways and means of meeting a unique situation that had arisen on account of the united stand that all parties had taken in India in respect of the freedom of India. The then Lord Irwin (now Lord Halifax) went to England to meet the Tory Cabinet but it so happened that he had eventually instructions from the Labour Government—a party whose sympathy and good intentions for India are gratefully gratifying to India. Lord Irwin was instructed authoritatively to put on the Parliamentary announcement of 1917 an interpretation which the National Government now refuses to incorporate in the preamble of the forthcoming Act. On the other hand, against all the canons of Act-making, it is proposed to retain the preamble of the old Act, while the Act itself is to be repealed so that the 1917 announcement may continue to be conveniently interpreted to suit different occasions and India might still be at the mercy of the British Parliament for further dolos of reforms.

"It was not for the settling of a constitution of a kind that is now adumbrated in the Joint Parliamentary Committee Report that India was invited to the Round Table Conference. Nor is the proposed Bill

[Mr. Yakub Hasan Sahib] [29th January 1935]

the outcome of an agreement between the British Government and the representatives of India, the principle of which was unmistakably propounded in the first Round Table Conference. In fact the British Government was so impressed with the unrepresentative character of the Indians assembled in the First Round Table Conference and they so vividly realized that any agreement arrived at with Indians, who were not in a position to deliver the goods, would not be binding on India that after the conclusion of the First Round Table Conference Gandhiji was set at liberty and the famous Gandhi-Irwin Pact was made to make it possible for the Congress representative to attend the second Round Table Conference.

"Does this constitution give India the substance of Independence and can any Britisher who has a particle of honesty in him and who is endowed with such a thing as conscience, say that the elaborate safeguards provided in the report are purely in the interests of India?"

"Sir, far too much is made of the failure of Mahatmaji to bring about an agreement on the communal question in the second Round Table Conference. The question of the representation of minorities in the legislature and administration was of minor importance when the freedom and the birthright of India to govern herself and manage her affairs without outside interference was at stake. Eventually any communal settlement, however partial it might be to certain minorities and unsatisfactory to the majority community, would have been readily agreed to if the main object of full responsible Government was attained. Communal adjustments can satisfactorily be made only in self-governing India, but for the working of the kind of constitution that Great Britain wishes to impose upon India the communal award of the British Premier would prove ideally helpful. Besides this, in the proposed federal legislature the Britishers will have additional allies, and as if landowners and capitalists, 'people with stakes in the country' were not enough in the present constitution to thwart the progressive element in British India the handbound representatives of the rulers of States need to be brought in to act as additional check on the popular element in the central legislature!"

"Only free India can be federated India and no spectacle could be imagined to be more edifying and proud than to see the representatives of the provinces and those of the States sitting side by side in the Indian Houses of Parliament and functioning unitedly for the good Government and national advancement of free India. It was the prospect of India's possessing the Dominion Status in the commonwealth of British nations that induced the Princes to agree to join the Federation in the first Round Table Conference and induced the British Indians to agree to the principle of Federation. The present hesitation on the part of some Princes to lend their support to make Federation an accomplished fact is, I think, to a large extent, due to the fact that the picture of Federation that they were led to form mentally in the first Round Table Conference is cleanly wiped out by the Joint Parliamentary Committee's Report. In fact His Highness the Maharaja of

29th January 1935] [Mr. Yakub Hasan Sahib]

Patiala has recently said that as British India is not satisfied with the constitution outlined by the Report the Princes hesitate to be a party to an arrangement which is unacceptable to British India.

"The question of accepting or rejecting the constitution in the making of which Indian opinion was not given any weight, does not arise in my opinion. The Government is powerful enough to impose any constitution they like on India and if 150 years of British Rule has not done anything else it has at least created and fostered the 'Dependency' mentality in some Indians to a sufficient extent that there can be no fear of the forthcoming constitution not being worked. (Hear, hear.) But there is a difference in the working and working of a constitution and as the spokesman of the Justice Party has pointed out, the proposed constitution requires substantial modifications 'to secure good will for the working of it in a peaceful atmosphere.'

"Has the Government read a warning in the new orientation of the Indian National Congress in respect of the legislature? If the working of the constitution means accepting it, the Congress will, I am sure, accept the challenge and will work the constitution both at the centre and in the provinces. The Congressmen and Congresswomen will not, like the Swarajists of old, refuse to accept office. They will as a majority party form the Ministry in every province and will defy the Governor at every step to use all his special powers and safeguards to counteract the ministry. (Hear, hear.) In providing safeguards, Governor's Acts and what not, Government have no doubt anticipated the future attitude of the Indian nationalists in the legislatures. While the constitution will be worked internally by Congressmen and Congresswomen in the manner I foresee, the atmosphere outside will hardly be such as to be called peaceful. Intense agitation will be carried on in which all communities and parties will join without any reservation and India will not rest till the proposed enactment is fully repealed. (Hear, hear.)

"The affront given by the Report, Sir, is already so great that all parties and communities have condemned the report unitedly. (Hear, hear.) There are no doubt still some people who are under the delusion that the eleventh-hour representations of a Council like this will induce the Britishers to improve the Bill, that is now before the Parliament. But when their hopes are dashed to the ground, as they are sure to be, the reaction will only make the national solidarity doubly solid. (Hear, hear.)

"Sir, now that the spokesman of the depressed classes and Indian Christians have had their say on this question, as a Muslim and the Leader of the Madras Legislative Council Muslim Party, I may be allowed to say that the oldest Muslim political body in this Province, the Madras Presidency Muslim League, has adopted a resolution in the following terms:—

This Council of the Madras Presidency Muslim League is strongly of opinion after bestowing its careful consideration

[Mr. Yakub Hasan Sahib] [29th January 1935]

on all aspects of Joint Parliamentary Committee Report that the proposals contained in the Report, which are based on distrust and suspicion of the people of this country, are more reactionary than even the White Paper proposals (hear, hear), that any constitution based on the same will perpetuate the political, economic and commercial subjugation of the people of this country in a worse form than under the present system of Government, that the so-called reforms will be too heavy for this country to bear, that therefore the proposals are unacceptable (hear, hear) and deserve to be rejected. (Hear, hear and cheers.) "

The Hon. the PRESIDENT:—"The House will adjourn and meet at 2-30 p.m."

After Lunch (2-30 p.m.)

* Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. PATRO:—"Mr. President, Sir, I am glad that the Hon. Member representing the European Group has stated the case from the point of view of business and from a commonsense point of view. I think that is the view that is held by many of the thinking people in the country; I am glad that at this stage of the debate, Mr. Birley has given expression to the view of an experienced businessman. I have listened with some attention to what my hon. Friend, Mr. Yakub Hasan, has said. I thought then that he was addressing from the Congress platform or addressing in the breach, because I could not, I regret to say, find much substance in what he spoke except long string of words and phrases. If on the other hand there was any constructive criticism, I should have been glad to hear that from him. But to my disappointment, I was not able to get anything from out of the long speech that he made here. I do not on this occasion propose to enter into a discussion of the theories that were propounded by an experienced Congressman such as Mr. Yakub Hasan, but I confine myself now only to meeting the points which were raised by the hon. Member, Dr. Subbarayan, in support of the motion that he so ably placed before this House. Even Mr. Birley in his remarks said that his group was not altogether satisfied because some of the points pressed by them before the Round Table Conference were not all accepted. I am not surprised at the way in which the Joint Parliamentary Committee Report was received and the varying degrees of criticism both in India and in England. In England, it is the other extreme, viz., the cry of 'surrender' of British Rule in India; in India, the watchword went round saying 'reject the Joint Parliamentary Committee Report.' These are the two extreme views expressed in regard to this Joint Parliamentary Committee's Report. Now, I want to place before you the aspect how our opinion is strong in England itself. The *Daily Mail* began to hunder and say that the stage has come when Britain is going to lose India and all connexion with India; it further says 'this marks the end of British India which has been the greatest achievement of the British people in modern history.'

[29th January 1935]. [Sir A. P. Patro]

"I have discussed, Sir, the merits of the Joint Parliamentary Committee Report on several occasions and therefore it is unnecessary for me to enter into the various provisions or recommendations made in the Report. Therefore, I would like to deal with the points that were raised by the hon. Mover of the first amendment, Dr. Subbarayan. He has spoken with great warmth and earnestness in advocating the case which he has placed in his amendment. But there is not much of logic in the arguments that he advanced in favour of his position. He explored the regions of the past and wanted to know if he could find any ground to support the position which he has taken up. I would ask the House to refer to the Preamble of the Act of 1919 which summarizes all the proceedings before and definitely lays down the policy of Parliament, namely, the progressive realization of responsible Self-Government by successive stages. That is what has been laid down there. It does not help his case. So, he did not explore the history of this matter. I would therefore relate what happened in our country as soon as the scheme of 1919 was promulgated and action was taken on that. There was a section of people in this country who ran away from the post of their duty and did not work the Reforms for what they were worth in the interests of the people. So, they lost all the experience and knowledge necessary for the purpose of working Parliamentary institutions in this country and attaining their national ideals. Therefore, a resolution was tabled in the Legislative Assembly asking for an enquiry into the condition of the country for revising the Reforms which were inaugurated by the Montagu-Chelmsford Scheme. Now, as a result of that agitation in the Legislative Assembly, the Muddiman Committee was appointed, and that Committee by a majority said that the time had not come for a revision to take place but suggested certain amendments in regard to the procedure and other minor matters. Nevertheless, the agitation continued in the country; the political forces were gathering strength and when agitation reached a certain stage, the British Government thought it wise that an investigation should take place under the provisions of the Act of 1919. So, we had the Statutory Commission appointed. We all know that the hon. Mover of the first amendment courageously co-operated with the Simon Commission even though his colleagues in the Ministry had not the courage to face the difficulties of the situation, and in response to the various invitations made by the Simon Commission, a large volume of very important evidence was placed before them, and we have had the Simon Commission Report. But the Simon Commission Report was dealt with fortunately or unfortunately by a Government which was in Office but not in power. The Socialist or Labour Government was in Office at the time, and it was not possible for them to take any action either to implement or to carry out any of the recommendations made by the Simon Commission. Thus this important work has fallen to the lot of that sincere, courageous and far-seeing statesman, namely, Sir Samuel Hoare, who, in spite of difficulties and onslaughts and in spite of the very foul attacks that have been made both in India and in

[Sir A. P. Patro] [29th January 1935]

England, stood firm and piloted the scheme that we find to-day adumbrated in the Joint Parliamentary Committee's Report. The National Government is able to keep the ship steady on its keel in the midst of stormy weather and rough onslaughts of the extremists in India and the die-hards in England.

"Now, if we briefly go into the amendments that have been proposed in this Council, we will at once see what a difficult task the Council has before it, and in a matter like this, it is impossible to reconcile the various conflicting views and demands of the various classes and communities. And hon. Members could easily understand how gigantic is the task of framing a Constitution for the whole of India embracing 350 millions of population. It is from that point of view I beg to appeal to the House to review the Joint Parliamentary Committee's Report. It is not a mere matter of rejecting the recommendations of the Joint Committee because they do not agree with my view or your view, but the matter has to be considered as a whole and reviewed. The position is this. Let us now briefly analyse the amendments before this House. From the number and variety of amendments proposed ranging from the extreme demand to reject the Report and to be satisfied with the present system of 'hated' diarchy to the other of proposing the acceptance of the same, there is a large and difficult area of conflicting views. The theoretical or political idealism of the one to reject the scheme and the practical working man's conception of the other 'get what you can and fight for more' must be reviewed dispassionately to see whether it is possible for the parties or individual members of parties to arrive at a common agreement. There is a great deal that the hon. Dr. Subbarayan could do to reconcile the various elements. I wish very much that he tried his hand at this in order to bring into harmony the various conflicting views and demands of the several groups in this House for a common resolution. He failed last time when the White Paper proposals were considered. I suppose that when he made the attempt and failed and when he found most appalling results from the arbitration or conciliation he attempted, he has grown wiser and more prudent in not attempting to do so on this occasion.

2-45
p.m.

"Now, Sir, the hon. Member from Madura (Opposition) sitting on the Opposition desired that Parliament should legislate on the general lines of Mr. Atlee's draft. He conveniently forgot that Mr. Atlee, in his recent broadcast speech, has recommended that the present scheme should be worked to the best advantage of the people and remarked that it would be a great mistake if it is not worked at all, or if the idea of rejection or non-acceptance of the same is entertained in this country. My hon. Friend, Mr. Basheer Ahmed Sayeed (Opposition), desired that some of the proposals in the Report should be substantially modified and said that otherwise he will reject the scheme. The hon. Member from Ramnad (Opposition) sitting again in the Opposition, expressed the desire that Burma should not be separated from India. Hon. Members representing the Indian

29th January 1935] [Sir A. P. Patro]

Christian community advocated larger representation in the legislature for that community, while the hon. Members representing the depressed classes stated that they did not wish to support the Poona Pact and asked for separate electorates for themselves with a view to have their interests protected and advanced under the new Reforms. The hon. Member from the Nilgiris (Opposition) and the Whip of the Justice Democratic Party proposed amendments which would go to show that they do not accept the motion of Dr. Subbarayan, but that they desire certain modifications in the Scheme. The amendment tabled by the Justice Party accepts the conclusions of the Joint Parliamentary Committee that there should be Provincial Autonomy for British India and that an All-India Federation should be inaugurated early so as to terminate the present system of diarchy in the provinces and the irresponsible system of Government in the Centre. That Party urges further that a searching examination should take place at an early date and suggests that certain modifications should be made in the Scheme.

"Sir, an impartial observer will see from the above what the claims of the various groupes are and how far they are in consonance with one another. If this is the case in our Province, among us the representatives of the people here, you can imagine what the other provinces would ask to be included in the Scheme and what the independent Indian States would be asking for. Now, Sir, apart from the views that have been expressed here in this House, there is great unanimity in the acceptance of the basic principles of the Joint Parliamentary Committee Report. And though that is so, there is demand that the Report should be amended in certain important directions.

"Let us now see the expressed opinions of those who are outside the Council and those who have had opportunities of working similar schemes and gaining experience. We have opinions expressed in the Bihar Council that the general basis of the scheme is acceptable. Mr. Sachidananda Sinha is not a weak person. He is a stalwart public man. His opinion is that it is wrong to reject the Report, say whatever you may. He said in the Bihar Legislative Council that complete unanimity is not attainable in this country. He said 'Judging by past experience and in the light of stern realities of life obtaining in India at present, the scheme had to be worked by almost all constitutional parties. I would not be surprised if the Congress Party itself would undertake to work the new Constitution.' Again, we have the opinion of the Right Hon'ble Sir Tej Bahadur Sapru from whom my hon. Friend, the Mover of the amendment, claims inspiration. He was in England for all the Round Table Conferences and he was also in the Delegation assisting the Joint Parliamentary Committee. He took an active part in all these gatherings and he said openly that he does not belong to any political party and that he is a 'political orphan.' In other words, he does not belong to any clique or group or party caucus. The views of such an independent person are worthy of attention. He said:

'Defective as the proposed Constitution is, falling short as it does of our expectations based as it is on a system of checks and counter-checks, I am

[Sir A. P. Patro] [29th January 1935]

not prepared to say that it is either unworkable or that it is not likely to be worked even by those who are at present loudest in their condemnation of it. We cannot afford to live any longer upon a mere negative policy.'

"In this article which he recently contributed there is a direct answer. The House could easily infer from this how difficult it is to arrive at an agreed Constitution in the variety of opinions prevailing in the country.

"The hon. Mover quoted the Marquis of Zetland and asked whether the Report satisfied the aspirations of the people as stated by the Noble Lord. The answer is self-evident because Lord Zetland is a party to the Report and considered the Scheme was intended for the good of India. The learned Member forgot that the Noble Lord was endeavouring in the Lords to convince the die-hard opponents of the Indian Reforms. That was the position of Lord Zetland when he said that the Proposals should be accepted. He was appealing to his own countrymen to satisfy the national aspirations of Indians saying that there is a strong feeling in the country and that unless it was met in a proper manner, the Scheme would not be accepted. He was only appealing to them not to come across the progress of Indian nationalism. I dare say anyone in that position would do the same thing to satisfy the opposition.

"The hon. Mover then made a reference to the recent elections and said: 'Here is the voice of India, the voice of India.' Here again he forgot the fact that the result of the recent elections is not the real test of public opinion, because, in India, in the villages and hamlets, very little attention is paid to what is going on in the Assembly at Delhi or at Simla. Therefore, I say that is not the real test of public opinion. The real test should be in matters which affect the daily life and the living of the people. The test should be in matters which affect the day-to-day administration and their daily life. It is no test to take the opinion of a limited number of voters. Sir, while I do not discount the value and importance of the views of even this electorate, I do say that if you go further and ask us to believe that that is the real test of the popularity of a particular political institution, I am going to say with all the sincerity that I can command, that it is not the test. The real test on the other hand is this: what is it that the village organizations, the taluk organizations and the district organizations which reflect the opinion of the people in regard to their daily needs, think? Let not my hon. Friend be misguided into thinking that this supposed success is a permanent thing. If at all there was success on the other side it was due to the fact that the accumulated sins of omission and commission of one side were open to be exposed and criticized and taken advantage of. That is not the real test. The real test lies in the success at the elections to the institutions which affect the daily life and the interests of the people.

"It was said that an agreed Constitution is the only thing that will be acceptable to the country and not a Constitution imposed upon the country. I agree in principle that no Constitution which does

29th January 1935] [Sir A. P. Patro]

not meet the general aspirations of the people should be allowed to be introduced in India. The Government of India also have agreed with this view. They have stated very strongly in their Despatch on the Simon Commission Report as follows:

'The time has passed when it was safe to assume the passive consent of the governed. The new system must be based as far as possible on the willing consent of a people whose political consciousness is steadily being awakened.'

Now, the question is whether any agreed scheme is practicable. Soon after the Simon Report was published attempts were made to prepare an alternative scheme. A session of the Congress was held in Madras and it passed a resolution to the effect that the conflicting interests of Hindus and Moslems should be reconciled and that a committee should be appointed and an All-Parties Conference should be held with a view to work out a Swaraj Scheme. Invitations were accordingly issued by the President of the Congress to prominent persons all over India and the Conference was in being for over one year. Leading persons gathered there, though they were not elected by any constituency and may not be good enough representatives in the eyes of the hon. Mover, and after a good deal of deliberation they produced what is known as the Nehru Report.

"The Nehru Report was submitted to the President of the Congress. You will find that in that Committee there were such eminent men as the Right Hon'ble Sir Tej Bahadur Sapru, Mr. Jinnah, Dr. Ansari, the late Maulana Muhammad Ali, Mr. Aney, Mr. Kurashi, Mr. Mangal Singh, Dr. Kitchlew, Mr. Syed Muhammad, Mr. Jawaharlal Nehru, Mr. Subash Chandra Bose and others whose names will go down in the history of the country. But what was the result? The Mussalmans first took objection to it; other minority communities also, such as the Sikhs, rejected it. This report was supposed to be an agreed report; the constitution which was called the Swaraj constitution for India, was placed before the public; but what was the result of it all? No one now thinks about the Nehru Report or the constitution then drafted. I am not criticising it; my idea is to show that the position taken up by the hon. Mover of the amendment is not at all sound. The main question, therefore, is not the question of an agreed constitution. Hon. Members will remember that in 1930 and 1932 there were two all-party conferences held, one at Allahabad and the other at Delhi. Representatives of various communities and interests met there, but what was the result? The conferences failed and an agreed constitution was impossible to be arrived at.

"I will now refer you to a recent statement made by His Highness the Aga Khan. His Highness the Aga Khan as the leader of the British Indian Delegation presented a Memorandum to the Joint Parliamentary Committee on behalf of the delegation. With reference to this, in his statement, he says:

'Of course that memorandum did not receive support from India; it did not evoke in India as much interest as was due to it, in order to impress on the Joint Parliamentary Committee the force underlying the recommendations made in it for an immediate advance.'

[Sir A. P. Patro] [29th January 1935]

"That is another instance, as I said, where joint action failed. Then, what is it, I ask, that is to be done for an agreed constitution? All will undoubtedly agree that an agreed constitution, if possible, would be all important; but the House will realize that the foundation of any such agreed constitution should not be unstable sand or mere emotion, but should be reason born of practical experience."

"Now, Sir, I quite agree with Dr. Subbarayan when he says that Dominion Status ought to have been inserted. It is a great mistake made, a great blunder committed by the British Government not to have included the words 'Dominion Status.' But as I already said, I am not one of those who are enamoured of the expression 'Dominion Status.' The Right Hon'ble Srinivasa Sastri said very truly that 'Dominion Status is to be found in the Royal Proclamation of 1919 and also in the Instrument of Instructions issued to the Viceroy.' When British statesmen have had a knowledge of the expression as used in these documents, they ought to know what it meant. It does not lie in them now to say that it is indefinite or undefinable and therefore they will not accept it. It is not statesmanship to say that Dominion Status cannot now be accepted. I should think, Sir, this is a very serious thing which the British Government have been responsible for. If only they had taken care to know the feeling in India in regard to this expression 'Dominion Status,' I am sure they would not have hesitated to put it in the Bill. His Excellency the other day explained the reasons why it was not introduced in the Bill. It is this omission that has roused the Right Hon'ble Sastri to a volcanic temper and to a passionate declamation of the report, at the confederation at Poona. He observed that while the Liberals were chronic co-operators, they were not invited to the Third Round Table Conference and the Joint Memorandum was not accepted and that therefore they could not now co-operate for the enactment of the Constitution. The goal of India towards full responsible government should have been indicated. While speaking on this matter, it is interesting to refer to what another distinguished Indian, a disinterested Indian, one who commands general respect throughout India, Mr. K. Natarajan, the talented editor of the *Indian Social Reformer* has said. He is an independent person who belongs to no party; he is a great thinker; and what does he say? In the *Indian Social Reformer*, dated 12th January 1935, he says:

'There is indeed something pathetic about the fondness of the fabled old lady for the word "Mesopotamia." Mesopotamia is now Iraq. Mr. Baldwin himself does not know what Dominion Status will be in the next few years. There is nothing in Dominion Status that would satisfy the soul of India; India is ages older than Britain. Her legitimate position is equal partnership in an Indo-British Union.'

It is also interesting to see what the *London Times* states in regard to this matter:

'The reason for the omission is presumably for the reason that Dominion Status is not susceptible of definition in a precise constitutional document and they (Government) do not want to leave any loophole. Dominion Status in its fullest form is synonymous with nationhood which is perhaps a better word, that

[29th January 1935] [Sir A. P. Patro]

is what everybody who used it with authority has always intended as the goal of Indian progress and Sir Samuel Hoare will make this clear.'

This apologia will not satisfy India: Even 'nationhood' has not been substituted for 'Dominion Status.' If there was any substitution of 'nationhood,' then there would have been no need for this apologia on the part of the *London Times*.

"Sir, this scheme, as I said, marks a very great advance; and it is the opinion of the Leader of the Justice Democratic Party and many other speakers in this House. They declined to associate themselves with that part of the resolution which would confine the country to the present position."

"It is unnecessary to enter into the details of the great advance in constitutional progress under the new Scheme. No scheme will satisfy all people. Reference was made to the special powers vested in the Governor; and in the course of the debate it was discovered that there is confusion in the matter of the jurisdiction of these special powers. The special powers relate only to the special responsibilities of the Governor and the Governor-General. If, as I pointed out elsewhere, the Ministers are men of experience and statesmanship, of knowledge and courage, if they have a following in the House, the position of the Governor will become less difficult in the exercise of these special powers. On the other hand, the Governor will be obliged to co-operate with the Ministers in the discharge of his high responsibilities. Therefore, viewing it from the aspect of the 'Council of Ministers,' it seems to me that these special powers do not contain anything that is detrimental to the interests of the administration. His Excellency the Viceroy and the Governor have told us the circumstances when these powers would be invoked. An important point in this connexion is that the powers are there only for meeting emergencies. That power must remain somewhere; it cannot be that when such an emergency arises, either the Council should be dissolved or the Constitution itself should be broken up. Such powers are, therefore necessary, and it is amazing to find that the Leader of the Justice Democratic Party forgot, in his anxiety to make out a case, that the Mappilla rebellion took place in Malabar."

"Again, Sir, the hon. Member Dr. Subbarayan drew analogies from the Constitutions of Canada and Australia and said: 'These Constitutions are the result of negotiations by the people with Great Britain; and, therefore, why not India be allowed to have the same privilege?' I wish the analogy drawn by him was really a correct one. But take the political conditions of Canada and Australia when the Federation was formed. They were quite unlike the Indian conditions. In India, one important factor is that there are many Indian States which are independent and are governed by treaties with the Crown, not with the Government of India. Their existence, therefore, is quite a distinct factor in India. Secondly, India in its various units, viz., the provinces, have no autonomous or independent governments. On the other hand, the whole administration is carried on from the centre; the centre

[Sir A. P. Patro] [29th January 1935]

has the right to control, direct and superintend every one of the provinces. The centre is the one agency where real power is vested in this country. The units agreed to part with their power for common protection. Therefore, I say these two distinct factors should be kept in view in drawing analogies from other Dominions. In fact it is really unfair and dangerous to draw such analogies.

"Now, Sir, it is surprising that diarchy is approved by the hon. Member, Dr. Subbarayan. In his great eagerness to see that a proper Constitution is formed, he, however, put it when he said: 'Oh, we do not want these new schemes.' I am sure, Sir, that is not, however, what he meant. Perhaps, he only expressed a strong resentment or disagreement with the proposals. I am sure, when the Bill becomes an Act and the Scheme comes into operation, he will not be one of those who will run away without working the Act, or will non-co-operate. I am certain that he and other Members who have expressed the same views and criticised the Scheme in the same way, will be prepared to work the scheme, to the best advantage of the country. Sir, it is a great opportunity to the country to work the Reforms, to accept what is given and to fight for more.

"His Excellency the Viceroy is a tried and trusted friend of India who has advocated India's political advance towards Dominion Status even as Governor of Bombay in 1916. His letters to the Right Hon'ble Lloyd George are ample proof of it. Believe me when I say that he would never take a false step in the constitutional development of India. His advice based on long and distinguished experience, sound statemanship and love of the country, is most invaluable to the people. Practical service and successful working of the Scheme is the surest way for the attainment of India's political goal, attainment of swaraj.

3-15 p.m. "The Constitution Bill has been laid before the House of Commons and in a few days, the House of Commons will have the opportunity of going into details. It is open to us even now to start such constitutional agitation as is necessary, to make suggestions. I am not one of those who will advise that we should keep quiet without giving suggestions and that we should not ask for improvements in the Joint Parliamentary Committee Report. We must ask in a constitutional manner. Otherwise, the opportunity would be lost to us. Agitation on constitutional lines is necessary with a view to see that the necessary amendments or modifications of the Scheme are placed before Parliament."

* Mr. P. RATNAVELU THEVAR:—"Sir, regarding the Joint Parliamentary Committee Report, the attitude of the Indian National Congress, which I have the honour to represent in this superannuated House which has lost its representative character, is well known. It has been authoritatively formulated by the Congress itself and further explained by Babu Rajendra Prasad in his recent article in the *Manchester Guardian*. It is admitted that the Congress represents the nation more than any other organization. The verdict of the Congress and therefore that of the country is one of rejection of the Report, knowing full

[29th January 1935] [Mr. P. Ratnavelu Thevar]

well that such rejection must involve struggling under the present Constitution until it is replaced by a Constitution framed by the people's representatives in a Constituent Assembly. The report is a reproach to any nation. No progressive political party in the country has accepted it. There may be interested persons here and there who merely echo their master's voice and refuse to stand by the clear verdict of the country, and these are mostly job-hunters who want to exploit the masses."

Mr. W. K. M. LANGLEY:—"On a point of order, Mr. President. Can the hon. Member use the words 'job hunters'? Is it parliamentary?"

The Hon. the PRESIDENT:—"I did not hear what the hon. Member was saying."

* Mr. P. RATNAVELU THEVAR:—"These people may boast of their experience in running the administration, but the country knows that the experience which they boast of is only experience in maladministration. Let not Great Britain forget that the parties in the country who can admittedly deliver the goods are Mahatma Gandhi and the Congress. The Secretary of State for India boasts that 'criticism in India must not be taken to mean that the Indians will obstruct the Reforms. The Viceroy and all the Governors tell me that on the contrary, they will work them.' As regards this, the answer has already been given by the most moderate of moderate politicians; at one time the 'prize boy of Government,' a gentleman honoured by His Majesty's Government itself with a Privy Councillorship; one who has held high offices in the Empire, the Right Hon'ble V. S. Srinivasa Sastri. He has compared the constitution to 'fire' or 'flood' which, however anxious you may be to prevent, you are bound to accept, if for no other reason, at least to mitigate its consequences. As the Right Hon'ble Sir Tej Bahadur Sapru has pointed out in his article in the January issue of the *Twentieth Century*, 'if the foreshadowed constitution is put on the Statute Book, it will work us if we are not prepared to work it.'

"Interested parties may accept the Report with qualifications and suggestions which are mostly made for the purpose of appearing before the country as patriotic men and as not being far behind those progressive parties which have refused to look at it. But the opinion of the country is unmistakable. The Constitution, if enacted, would be one imposed on a weak people by superior force, and not one accepted by the willing consent of the people. For decades, this ancient country which was the cradle of civilization has been agitating for responsible government. More than ten years ago, the Assembly under the leadership of that great leader, the late Pandit Motilal Nehru, passed a resolution for a Round Table Conference. Since then, the country has passed through unprecedented sufferings—imprisonment, lathi charges, confiscation of property and humiliation of all kinds, for the purpose of getting the substance of liberty. Is it for this Constitution that all these sufferings have been undergone? It is stated that no alternative scheme was ever evolved. What about the Nehru Constitution? Was it ever seriously considered?"

[Mr. P. Ratnavelu Thevar] [29th January 1935]

"I am not surprised at the attitude adopted by the representatives of the depressed classes. I would like to ask the hon. Members who have spoken as their representatives, whether they represent anyone but themselves. They have gained rather than lost by the Poona Pact. They will have as many as thirty representatives in this House instead of eighteen which they obtained under the original award. If really the representatives have the interest of the nation in general and the community in particular at heart, they could achieve a great deal for the welfare of the classes whose interest the Congress has placed in the forefront of its programme. I challenge the hon. Member from Ganjam (Sir Patro) to resign his seat here and stand for re-election on this issue. I am prepared to do it.

"Sir, it is not all that cry 'Lord, lord' that shall enter the kingdom of Dominion Status or whatever the Whitehall declines to define. Let us honestly say that so far as this country is concerned, this Constitution is *non nobis*."

MR. M. DEVADASAN:—"Mr. President, Sir, I should like to speak a few words on the motion of which I have given notice and in doing so, I want to give my opinion on the main motion itself and the various amendments that have been moved to it. Since 1927 our country has passed through various political vicissitudes. At first the Simon Commission came here and it was opposed. Then we had the First Round Table Conference, the Second Round Table Conference, the Lothian Committee to consider the question of franchise and subsequently the Third Round Table Conference. The British Government issued the White Paper. We in this Council discussed the White Paper and condemned it. Now the Report of the Joint Parliamentary Committee based on the White Paper is issued to us and that too is being discussed and condemned. Sir, it is a truism to say that history repeats itself. The Joint Parliamentary Committee Report is now condemned. It is needless to point out that as there are several castes and creeds in our country, as there are the Indian States and the British Provinces, we are all not agreed on the question of reforms. My hon. Friend, Dr. Subbarayan, said that we were not agreed even in this House. When that is the case, are we prepared to accept the Reforms proposed in the Report? The term of this House has been extended twice as the new Reforms were expected to be introduced shortly and as new Councils were expected to be elected under the new Constitution. I ask, are we going to oppose the introduction of the new Reforms, postpone the election of the new Council and continue to be members of this Council indefinitely and thereby prevent other members from coming in? We would be doing a great injustice to the people of the country if we opposed the Reforms and thereby continue to be Members of this Council without any limit of time. The resolution of my hon. Friend, Dr. Subbarayan, has been discussed threadbare and it will be found that the latter portion of the resolution will be welcomed not by Indians but by Europeans belonging to the group of Mr. Churchill. They advocate no further reforms and when they see the resolution they will gloat over it, because, if we Indians do not want any further reforms, it will be good to the Europeans.

29th January 1935] [Mr. M. Devadasan]

"Coming to the subject under discussion, I must say that I support the Reforms. In 1928, when the Simon Commission came to India, we, members of the depressed classes in Tinnevely, made a representation to them to the effect that if even under the present system of British Government we should be subjected to tyranny of caste traditions of inequality, no further reforms should be granted to India. Since then considerable changes have taken place and much water has flown under the bridges. The country has passed through several political vicissitudes. We have had the fast of Mr. Gandhi and the Poona Pact which has been condemned by Mr. Siva Raj. I do not want to support the reforms, because it is opposed by other parties. I support the Reforms, because we, members of the minority communities, do not want it to be understood as not wanting the Reforms. We do not want to be thought as standing in the way of the progress of the country. Also, Sir, you know very well that large sums of money have been spent upon the Simon Commission, upon the members of the Round Table Conference and the Lothian Committee and other members who went on deputation. You will find that £29,409-3-4 has been spent in the production of the Joint Parliamentary Committee Report. Time after time, our country has been subjected to very heavy expenditure on account of Conferences, Commissions and Committees. That being the case, are we justified in postponing the Reforms indefinitely and continuing to sit as Members of this Council? As a constitutionalist, I for one, would like to have the Reforms introduced as quickly as possible.

"I shall give my reason as to why I support the Reforms. I say quite candidly and gladly and without any fear of contradiction and without any idea of giving any offence to anybody who holds a different opinion from mine that the Reforms recommended in the Joint Parliamentary Committee are an advance on the present constitution. I will show how. In 1909, before the Minto-Morley Reforms were introduced, there was not even a single Indian Member in any Cabinet. As a result of the Minto-Morley Reforms, Indians were appointed as Members of the Executive Council. Again after 1919, when the Montford Reforms were introduced more Indians were appointed as Members of the Executive Councils and were enabled to take part in the administration of the country. The Reforms proposed by the Joint Parliamentary Committee wipes out as my hon. Friend, Mr. Yahya Ali, pointed out, the Indian Civil Service element from the Cabinet. Do not you think that it is an advance on the present constitution? I hope hon. Members will excuse me if I am wrong in my estimate; I am only stating what I feel in the matter. I hope you will agree with me for the reason I have given that the proposed Reforms are an advance on the present constitution. Till now there has been divided responsibility between the Reserved Half and the Transferred Half. But hereafter there will be absolute responsibility for Indian Ministers who will have to be responsible to the Legislature. His Excellency the Governor said the other day that self-government was being given to Indians in the Provincial sphere. Therefore, it is a notable advance in the administration of the country. Even in the Central Government there is a marked change from a

[Mr. M. Devadasan] [29th January 1935]

unitary form of Government to a dyarchical form. I am sure that this will be accepted as a step in the direction of getting full self-government in the near future. Another important advance has been recommended and that is the formation of the Federation. The country has till now been divided into classes and classes, creeds and creeds and Indian States and British Provinces. Hereafter, there will be only one Federation consisting of British Provinces and Indian States.

3-30 p.m. "I must submit that it may not be practicable to form a Federation in the near future. But with the determination and character of His Excellency the Viceroy, Lord Willingdon, I think the formation of a Federation is not impracticable. The Princes themselves have recognized the necessity of forming a Federation and they have given their consent to enter the Federation. Even in the Bill which has been introduced in Parliament, there is a provision to the effect that within 20 years the Princes will be forced to enter the Federation. If Federation is achieved, our country will have taken one step more in advance than in the past.

"I wish to deal only with a few points as many more Members are willing to speak; I do not wish to weary the House. One great defect in the proposals is the recommendation of indirect election. I do not agree with that recommendation. It is for the proper growth and development of democracy that there must be direct election. For the representatives to be in direct touch with the people of this country, there should be direct election. In the past there has been direct election, and I do not find any reason why indirect election should be substituted for direct election.

"As regards franchise, I must say that a much larger number of people will be enfranchised than in the past and if adult franchise is introduced, the country will be a democratic country. I wish that there should be adult franchise for the entire country.

"My hon. Friend, Mr. Ratnavelu Thevar, observed that the members of the depressed classes spoke for themselves and that they did not represent the members of their communities. I strongly protest against that statement, coming as it does from Mr. Ratnavelu Thevar. We, members of the depressed classes, have got as much responsibility as any other Member of this House. I must submit that we have got more interest in this country; our interest in the country is as ancient as the country itself; that being the case, not to call us accredited leaders or representatives of the people is to do injustice to the members of this group.

"Before closing my speech, I must heartily endorse the remarks made by my hon. Friend, Mr. Siva Raj, who wanted that the Poona Pact should be abolished. It is not too late now to amend suitably the provisions of the Bill that has been introduced in the Parliament, before it becomes law. The provision can very well be amended now so as to suit the interests of the depressed classes in this Province.

29th January 1935] [Mr. M. Devadasan]

"Though, as a representative of the depressed classes, I am bound to support the interests of the depressed classes, as an Indian Christian I am morally bound to support the cause of Indian Christians. Mr. Sreshta desired that there should be 5 more Indian Christians in this House than the number provided for. Considering the status of Indian Christians in this Province, I submit that they are entitled to 5 more seats. The arguments that have been advanced by my hon. Friend himself are quite sufficient and I do not want to supplement his remarks. There is one point which is found in the Parliamentary Committee Report which was not touched by my hon. Friend. The interests of the minorities have been well provided for and even with regard to the selection of Ministers, the Governor has to select Ministers from among important minorities; even for Judicial services, the claims of important minority communities will be considered. So, I say that the safeguards that are provided for in the interests of minorities are quite necessary. I shall cite one instance in support of this special responsibility which is vested in the hands of the Governor. Sometime ago, there was trouble in Madras between Adi-Dravidas and caste people. On that occasion it was stated—I speak subject to correction—that the Adi-Dravidas in Puliantope should be deported from Puliantope so that other classes may be left to live in peace. At that time the Governor himself intervened and saw that there was no clash between the caste people and the Adi-Dravidas. Therefore, when the interest of the depressed classes is in danger, special powers to the Governor as are provided for in the Joint Parliamentary Committee Report are necessary.

"Then, coming to the Federal Assembly and the Council of State, there should certainly be provision for the representation of the depressed classes on them. I hope the Government of Madras will inform His Majesty's Government that there should be adequate safeguards for the representation of the minority communities on the Federal Assembly and the Council of State. In view of the introduction of Provincial Autonomy and of Federation and of widened franchise calculated to establish democracy in this country, I say that the reforms adumbrated by the Parliamentary Committee are very much advanced. I request hon. Members to support the Reforms adumbrated and thus expedite the introduction of the Reforms without any delay, so that the trouble we have already taken may not be in vain."

III.—ANNOUNCEMENT *re* MEETING NEXT DAY (30th JANUARY 1935.)

The Hon. the PRESIDENT:—"Since there are a large number of Members who are anxiously waiting to speak, it is proposed to meet tomorrow also for the discussion of this motion as well as the amendments."

II.—MOTION *re* REPORT OF THE JOINT PARLIAMENTARY COMMITTEE—*cont.*

Khan Bahadur P. KHALIF-UL-LAH SAHIB Bahadur:—"Mr. President, Sir, one important feature which attracts the notice of any one who has had a running view of the report is the studious avoidance of

[Mr. P. Khalif-ul-lah Sahib] [29th January 1935]

the words 'Dominion Status' in the voluminous report. It is not as if the Committee were unaware of the demand so vociferously made from India regarding the attainment of *Swaraj* as its political goal. It has been in the air for so long a time and has been pressed upon the Members of the British Parliament ever so many times. Not only that, Sir. His Excellency Lord Irwin has given the pledge to the effect that Dominion Status is the goal of the Indian Reforms. If, in spite of all this, we find the non-mention of the words Dominion Status in the whole Report, we are led to the inevitable conclusion that the avoidance was studied and deliberate. It may be so only for one reason, namely, the suspicion in the Committee's mind about the Indian people. I may say, Sir, that there is absolutely no room for any suspicion of this sort. The dyarchic system of Government which was the result of the Montford Reforms was certainly not fully appreciated and still Madras has anyhow shown proof of working the constitution that was really unworkable. In spite of the experience of the working of the Reforms for the last 15 years, if it has not made the Members of the Joint Parliamentary Committee repose some trust in Indians, I can only say that the Report will fail to evoke similar trust in the minds of Indians about the Englishmen also. That is so far as the words 'Dominion Status' are concerned.

"Coming next to the reserve powers of the Governor, I may say that the provision of such powers also smacks of the same feeling of suspicion and want of genuine good feeling on the part of the Committee. I am not one of those who are afraid of the misuse of these reserve powers. That will depend only upon the opportunities that may arise in India on the working of the Reforms. I am sure that our past experience would clearly have established the fact that we shall give absolutely no opportunity for the exercise of these powers. Apart from the fact that it smacks of suspicion that is prevailing in the minds of the Members of the Committee, there is no need to fear the vesting of so many new powers in the Governor for emergencies.

"Lastly, Sir, I shall come to the question of the Second Chamber for the Provinces. As one of the Members of the Madras Parliamentary Committee responsible for the recommendation of a Second Chamber for the Province, I think it is my duty to mention the reasons which induced us to make this recommendation. First of all, as a student of Constitutional History and of Constitutional Law, I ask my friends who object to the provision, the reason for their objection. So far as I know, I can only say that in all democratic institutions even from the Grecian and Roman times up to the modern day, there has always been provision for Second Chamber. In my opinion, Sir, democracy without a Second Chamber will not be a full democracy at all. (Mr. Abdul Hamid Khan:—Where is democracy?) My friend, Mr. Abdul Hamid Khan asks me 'where is democracy?' Democracy is in the making and in the making of it, it must be properly made. If it is to be properly made, provision for a Second Chamber also ought to be made. Take the Swiss Cantons. Even though the Cantons may be much smaller in area than our small Provinces in India, there too we find provision for

29th January 1935] [Mr. P. Khalif-ul-lah Sahib]

Second Chamber: Leaving these countries apart, coming to India, I say there is special reason why the provision for Second Chamber is necessary to suit the Indian conditions. India consists of various creeds and communities and, thanks to Dr. Moonji and his school, the differences between the two great communities, the Hindu and the Muslim, that are sought to be bridged by the earnest efforts of Mr. Muhammad Ali and others, are only accentuated and the communal rancour is growing every day, thanks, as I said, to Dr. Moonji.

"The Congress ought to have exercised its utmost in this behalf, and I feel bound to say it has failed to do its duty there. The Congress would have done better if it had set at rest these communal differences before pressing for Reforms. If these differences are set at rest and we begin to live amicably like brothers, then it will be time enough to demand for absolute *Swaraj*. Till then, to talk of nationalism is to talk from the mid air. So, I say, the provision of Second Chamber, so long as there are differences, so long as there is a difference between the depressed classes and the high caste Hindus, so long as Muslims and Hindus do not agree on many things, so long we cannot honestly claim absolute self-government.

"In this connexion, Sir, I must say that I am a humble believer with the late Mr. Gokhale that the Indo-British connexion is an indissoluble one, so far as one can see at present. I think I can see much farther than my Friend Mr. Hameed Khan. He sees only through one view, but I have got my eyes wide open and can see all round. I cannot afford to shut my eyes to what is happening every day throughout the length and breadth of India. I must face facts before I make recommendations suiting the imagination of certain people. So I say that second chambers in India are absolutely necessary for a proper constitution on democratic lines.

"I have already stated, Sir, that in certain matters, namely, the non-mention of the words 'Dominion Status' as well as the provision of reserve powers, the Joint Parliamentary Committee's Report has fallen short of our expectations. Not only in that, but also in various other respects, it has fallen short. I have referred to the communal question. I think I must certainly take this opportunity to thank the Prime Minister for his Communal Award, for the justice he has sought to render to the largest minority community in India, the community to which I have the honour to belong. I will go further than that and say that special safeguards ought to be provided not only for the numerical strength of representation to be given in the local Councils, but also some statutory provision should be made in the matter of appointments in the services also. This thing is particularly necessary in view of what is happening in Madras of late. Wherever we may turn our eyes, the Muslim is nowhere in the Government of the country. Why? Because no such provision finds a place in the Government of India Act. Until such a provision is statutorily made as will satisfy the requirements and the importance of the community, I do

[Mr. P. Khalif-ul-lah Sahib] [29th January 1935]

not think that proper justice will be done to the minority communities. Equally so will be the case with other minority communities in this country. So I say that special statutory provision should be made not only in the matter of representation of minority communities in the Legislatures, but also in the matter of representation of those communities in the services and in the administration of the country. I hope, Sir, that Parliament, when it considers the Bill, will clearly see the defects pointed out by the various representatives in this House and elsewhere and try to remove the spirit of suspicion and want of trust which is so obvious in the whole Report of the Joint Select Committee. I should, therefore, make an appeal through this House that Parliament will make things quite clear and remove that feeling of suspicion and distrust. India has proved in the working of the constitution in the past its fitness for working any constitution that may be given, and India has awakened to a realization of its position, and unless and until Parliament grants to India what it really deserves, Parliament shall not have done its duty to India."

3-45
p.m.

* The RAJA OF KHALLIKOTE:—"Mr President, Sir, let me at the outset thank you for giving me this opportunity to express my feeling of admiration for the strenuous work and labours of the Right Hon. Sir Samuel Hoare at the three Round Table Conferences and the Joint Parliamentary Committee which has resulted in the publication of the Report which we are discussing to-day. The contact that I have had with the Secretary of State at the Third Round Table Conference and later in the Joint Parliamentary Committee deliberations enables me to say without hesitation that he is very sympathetic to the natural aspirations of India and is willing to do everything in his power to advance the cause of Indian self-government within the limitations of conditions existing here and in England. It is a great thing to have such a sincere and determined Secretary of State for India as Sir Samuel Hoare. It is India's good fortune that she has at this time a Viceroy who has very deep sympathy with our aspirations. In any appraisal of political progress of our country, we cannot forget the great contribution of His Excellency Lord Willingdon and it is our duty to acknowledge with thankfulness his resolute efforts to get for India a satisfactory constitution. I might be permitted to refer here to his letter as Governor of Bombay to Mr. Lloyd George, the then Prime Minister of Great Britain, which shows that he visualized about 18 years ago that the natural aspirations of India had to be fulfilled very soon and this has come true. I do not wish to quote his letter to the Prime Minister as I have very little time at my disposal and as every hon. Member of this House must have studied it.

"This task of preparing a constitution for India has engaged the attention of British and Indian politicians for nearly eight years. Commissions, conferences and committees have thoroughly thrashed out the question, examined representatives of every interest and paved the way for the emergence of the Joint Parliamentary Committee Report.

[The Raja of Khallikote]

"The Report has been received with mixed feelings in India and England. Since its publication two months ago, many have spoken and written on it and our brother legislators in some other province have discussed the Report and passed resolutions thereon. In England the Churchill group have criticised it and in India the Liberals and the Congress and the other parties have expressed their views. With all this before us, it will be easy for us to formulate our opinion. We cannot but recognize that there is a wide feeling of dissatisfaction from various points and in my plea for accepting the Joint Parliamentary Committee Report as the basis for the new constitution, I shall endeavour to show how this dissatisfaction is misdirected.

"The most outstanding grievance made out against the recommendations of the Joint Parliamentary Committee is that they nowhere mention the goal of India as Dominion Status. Though, as a statement of fact, this view is correct, yet if we peruse the pronouncements of British statesmen, we will recognize that the goal of Dominion Status is implicit in the announcement of 1917 and I have every faith in the sincerity of British statesmen that they will lead India to that goal, if the co-operation they want is extended. We have already proofs that we have in India Dominion Status in action and it does not matter if the label is there or not, when recognition is given to India as an original Member of the League of Nations. Moreover, those who argue that the goal should be defined now are not insistent that immediately India should have the same constitution as the other Dominions. They recognize a transitory state and I am of the opinion, Sir, that the constitution that we are to have on the basis of the Joint Parliamentary Committee Report is to meet that condition and, therefore, we must accept it and work the new constitution with a view to make it a success and to improve on it as time passes and as world conditions become favourable for such improvement. While I hold that the omission of the word "Dominion Status" is not in itself a sufficient cause for dissatisfaction and rejection of an otherwise acceptable scheme, I think it my duty to urge our Viceroy and Sir Samuel Hoare to see that such a goal is specified in the constitution Bill. This will take away much of the force of the opposition. It will be a statesmanly step worthy of the great Parliament of Great Britain and a new era will dawn on India's relations with England. We all have at heart the good of the Commonwealth of Nations known as the British Empire and as one who is proud to be a citizen thereof, I think India's equality in that Commonwealth should be ensured in accordance with the noble sentiments expressed by our Viceroy, Lord Willingdon.

"The next point of criticism against the Joint Parliamentary Committee Report is, that instead of being an advance it is a retrograde scheme. Sir, I must honestly confess that I have not been able to appreciate this argument. It is well known that the new constitution is based on the three broad principles of Provincial Autonomy, Federation with partial responsibility in the centre, and certain safeguards

[The Raja of Khallikote] [29th January 1935]

for the functioning of the constitution. No one with any sense of truth can deny that the scheme is an advance on the present system. In the provinces, we are to have a Government to be completely manned by elected representatives of the people and almost all the subjects are to be administered by them. If this is not an advance on the present dyarchic system, I wonder what it is. Those that now criticise the Joint Parliamentary Committee Report have been the very individuals who have been inveighing against dyarchy and it is a psychological phenomenon how they have now come to love a system which had been an anathema for the last 15 years. Even at the centre, the inauguration of the Federation and the handing over of some responsibility to the people's representatives, a long forward step is being taken and we cannot scorn at it. It is foolish to reject half a loaf because we have not the full bread. I fear many of the opponents of the Joint Parliamentary Committee Report are deliberately evading the realities of the situation. Sir, I heard with very great interest the eloquent speech yesterday of my hon. Friend, the Leader of the opposition, when he was trying to justify his statement that it is better to struggle under the present constitution than to accept the scheme adumbrated in the Joint Parliamentary Committee Report. I think my hon. Friend overdid his case when he said that we are getting stones instead of bread. If the future constitution is stone perhaps the present constitution is sand and mud, but even this was so attractive to my hon. Friend that until recently he was holding office and responsibility and it remains to be seen what he will do when the stones are given.

"The third point which the opponents raise is the provision of safeguards and special responsibilities of the Governors and Governor-General. On this subject, there is any amount of misunderstanding. The opponents say that these safeguards show distrust of Indian Ministers, Legislators and the people. The best rejoinder is, these very same people show the same distrust in the Government and read into the Joint Parliamentary Committee Report more than is intended. My own reading of the Report has convinced me that these safeguards are necessary for the preservation of the constitution and that they will be judiciously and very carefully exercised by the Governors. I am also convinced that the large portion of these safeguards in the Report was necessary because an attempt was being made to reduce to writing many of the conventions that prevail in England under the system of Parliamentary responsible Government. I am also convinced that the existence of these safeguards will not kill autonomy, nor will they be used in the ordinary course of circumstances.

"With regard to special responsibilities of the Governors and the Governor-General, my view is that many of them exist in other constitutions of even republican character and some have been introduced because of the conditions in India. None of these are, in my opinion, of such a nature as to stifle self-government and should not be irksome to any responsible political party that may be in power.

29th January 1935] [The Raja of Khallikote].

There must be some ultimate power to be exercised by someone in the event of a crisis of a complete breakdown of the machinery of Government and these special powers and safeguards, etc., are only there to serve this purpose and to be exercised only in very extraordinary circumstances. Has not the Secretary of State just the other day said that 'reasonable Indians wanted large extensions of self-government which reasonable people in Britain were willing to concede'? This, in my view, is a true reading of the situation. I believe that goodwill begets goodwill and I am sure that even a Governor armed with plenty of powers is amenable to the powerful influence of hearty co-operation. I submit, Sir, that the opponents of the Joint Parliamentary Committee Report are only overdoing their case when they emphasize more on them than on the corresponding grant of powers to Ministers. With a responsible and strong Ministry and with an equally responsible and powerful party behind it, I feel confident that there will be little or no occasion for a Governor to exercise his special powers or responsibilities.

"These are the broad points of criticism of the Joint Parliamentary Committee Report and how I would meet them. But I wish to bring to the pointed notice of this Hon. House that the scheme depends for its success on the co-operation of all. For the Federation to function well, the co-operation of the Princes of India is necessary. I have every hope that the deliberations of their Chamber will ultimately result in the promise of such a co-operation. I wish to add that to make Federation a success and fully representative, some method should be devised by which the people of the Indian States will be heard and represented instead of leaving it entirely to nominations by the Princes. In the Provinces, co-operation must be the lever to work the two Chambers. I have no doubt whatever that this Hon. House and the Presidency it represents, which has the unique privilege of successfully working even the condemned diarchic scheme, will rise to the occasion and see that the fuller autonomous system of Government is made a stupendous success.

"I do not wish to tax your patience, Sir, by a very close examination of all the details of the report. Yet, with your permission, I shall draw the attention of this Hon. House to a few outstanding details. The first in importance in this category is the recommendation of the Joint Parliamentary Committee to constitute Second Chambers of Legislature in Bengal, Bombay, Madras, United Provinces and Bihar. I cordially welcome the recommendation, for in a large province like Madras where the vested interests are always in danger, such a check is necessary to prevent hasty legislation. I had never any doubts about the need of a Second Chamber for Madras and if any one had, the history of the latest Estates Land Act Amendment Bill is enough to dispel them. That Bill has been pronounced in certain quarters to be expropriatory in character and though only a few inamdars might suffer by it, it shows how great is the danger ahead and how necessary

[The Raja of Khallikote] [29th January 1935]

is a Second Chamber. With all the resources at his command, a Governor may not be able to prevent ill-advised legislation and I am sure, Sir, that the thoughtful among us will agree with the wisdom of the Joint Parliamentary Committee's recommendation. With the steady influence of a Second Chamber, the chances of the Governor exercising his special powers will, I am sure, become more remote.

"While on this subject, let me express our gratefulness to the Joint Parliamentary Committee for having drawn attention of the Parliament to the necessity for the inclusion in the Instrument of Instructions of the Governor a provision about expropriatory legislation. We, landholders, are thankful for this but we feel that the Statutory safeguards should be given to us, in view of the positive indications of a socialist menace in India. When we ask for this, let it not be understood, Sir, that we are against all economic progress of the people. I wish to assert that we, as the natural and true leaders of the people, have every sympathy with the claims of the masses for good living and good Government, and we are prepared to do all that lies in our power to improve their lot, but as to what we can do depends upon the continued existence of our position, and we are entitled to ask that that position is in no way jeopardized. We, therefore, require that there should be a statutory recognition of our existing provision under the Permanent Settlement and that there should be no legislation, whatsoever, in the whole of India to violate or infringe this right, which, we, as a class, have been enjoying for over a century under the British Crown. It should not, of course, be forgotten that we, as the landholders of this country, constitute a very small minority and, therefore, we require this special protection.

"Another point of detail, yet of great importance is the system of indirect election to the Federal Assembly. I have read with great interest the arguments which the Joint Parliamentary Committee have adduced in this behalf, but I am of opinion that direct election even with unwieldy electorates is preferable in the best interests of India to the system of direct election, which will lead to many evils. One special consideration in this matter I would like to place before the Government. If under the extended franchise the electors vote only for the Provincial Assembly and not for the Federal Assembly, they will develop a far too limited provincial outlook which is prejudicial to the best interests of India. The members of the Federal Assembly who will have no direct touch with the masses will cease to be proper representatives of the people; therefore the main purpose of the election will be defeated. Election by the Provincial Assembly will lead to cliques and other undesirable developments and I think that the direct election is the best system for India in the long run. The Report has very thoroughly discussed the advantages and disadvantages of the method of election to the Federal Assembly with special reference to the conditions prevailing in India. It is true that with an extended franchise and with the number of seats already allotted constituencies

29th January 1935] [The Raja of Khallikote]

will be very big and unwieldy and it will be impossible for representatives to be in close touch with their electorate. I feel I must quote here a sentence from paragraph 198 of the Report, which runs as follows:

'Where a single constituency may be more than twice as large in area as the whole of Wales, a candidate for election could not in any event commend or even present his views to the whole body of electors, even if the means of communication were not, as in India, difficult and often non-existent, and quite apart from obstacles presented by differences in language and a widespread illiteracy; nor could a member after election hope to guide or inform opinion in his constituency.'

"In spite of these difficulties I still feel, that the method of direct election to the Central Legislature will be the best and it is interesting to note that the Government of His Excellency Lord Willingdon supported this view. The Report admits that no permanent procedure can be fixed for any long period and has given a scope for this question to be further reviewed in the light of experience gained in the practical working of the Constitution. It is satisfactory to note that the Central Legislature itself will have a chance at some future date of submitting its views before Parliament.

"Then, Sir, a problem that has been raised is that of finance. The new constitution will entail some expenditure at the initial stage but I am sure with experience of the first period of working we shall be able to adjust to the needs of the Provinces and the Centre. I do not approve of any talk that would prefer stagnation to progress, because of the cost. On this question of finance, particular stress is laid in certain quarters on the burden that will be laid on the taxpayers by the creation of two new provinces and the separation of Burma from India. On the latter subject, I have nothing to say. Their case requires special treatment, and I have not the time at my disposal to deal with it.

"A more intimate question to me is the creation of the new Province of Orissa along with Sind, as autonomous units in the Indian Federation. Sir, when the White Paper scheme was discussed by this Honourable House I expressed our delight on the decision of His Majesty's Government to create Orissa as a separate province. The Joint Parliamentary Committee has examined this question again and justified that decision. The Committee has also recommended a fixed subvention from the federal revenues so that the province may not suffer financially. Sir, let me express once again on behalf of the ten million Oriyas our grateful thanks to the Joint Parliamentary Committee and His Majesty's Government for this recommendation on their part of our claim to live as a unit in India, with an identity and interest, all our own. Only those who have suffered from the vivisection of their country, the suppression of their nationality and language can well realize the feelings of joy that are evoked in the hearts of the Oriyas at the creation of a province of their own. Some of the wise men of this country are making bones over the cost of the province. I am sorry for them. They cannot realize that a few lakhs by way of subvention is worth nothing when compared with the new life that will be

[The Raja of Khallikote] [29th January 1935]

given to a nation that had a glorious past. Like the moneylenders they count in only rupees, annas and pies. When such is the attitude of our countrymen what wonder if the Oriyas feel deeply and profoundly grateful to His Majesty's Government and the Joint Parliamentary Committee. The White Paper gave us a tiny province, as I said in my speech then, fixed boundaries excluding some of the tracts where Oriyas predominate and thus gave us no scope for expansion or development. But thanks to the Joint Parliamentary Committee our appeals have been heard and a substantial portion of the country that was demanded by the Oriya delegation which waited on deputation on a Sub-Committee of the Joint Parliamentary Committee, presided over by the Secretary of State, has been granted to us. When the Joint Parliamentary Committee Report was published two months ago, we were pleased to note that the Committee have done the right thing by Orissa. I do not want to trouble the hon. Members of this House with all the details of facts and figures, which will show to any impartial observer that the tracts recommended by the Joint Parliamentary Committee for inclusion in Orissa are preponderantly Oriya, and therefore that recommendation cannot be criticized. Any criticism that may be made on the floor of this House regarding the boundaries of Orissa, I cannot help thinking, is bound to be unfair, one-sided and partial. While discussing the White Paper I said that our cause, just as it was, would receive more favourable consideration in the larger Councils of India and the Empire and I am proud to realize to-day that my prediction has come true and our hopes have been realized. Only justice has been done to the Oriyas and I do not think that anybody should grudge this. I take this opportunity to appeal to His Majesty's Government and the Parliament not only to stick to these just decisions but also to consider the claims of Mandasa, Jalandhara and Budarsingi Estates to be included in Orissa. I also appeal to His Excellency Lord Erskine and the Madras Government to help the Oriyas in expediting the formation of the new Province and for getting the justice that is their due. I have every faith, Sir, that notwithstanding all the counter agitation the Government will stick by the just decision of the Joint Parliamentary Committee on the southern boundary of the Orissa Province.

"While I am glad that we are going to have a separate province for ourselves with enlarged boundaries, I cannot but express a certain amount of regret I feel that after the new province is inaugurated I shall not be here to address this Hon. House. My sphere of activity will be shifted to Orissa, and, though that may not mean the breaking up of the old ties of friendship (personal and political) I will miss the many friends that I have made in Madras in that new sphere. The parting will be sad to me. The experience few of us have gained in the working of this great Presidency, will stand us in good stead to inaugurate and work our infant Province of Orissa. The separation may be near or little distant, that depends upon the speed with which the new province is inaugurated. I see signs that the process will be

29th January 1935] [The Raja of Khallikote]

speeded up, for has not the Viceroy promised to do all he can to speed up the reforms? I hope the Government will quickly enact the new India Bill on the basis of the Joint Parliamentary Committee Report with such modifications as may be rendered absolutely necessary. Defective it may be, but what is perfect in this human world? But provided it is given a fair trial and we all put our shoulders to the wheel we can make it a success. On behalf of the landholders and the Oriyas I assure the Government of our whole-hearted co-operation in the working of the new constitution. We offer this co-operation unstintedly, because we are convinced that in that lies the salvation of our country. We believe in the sanctity and utility of the connexion between India and England. We are convinced that with Britain's co-operation and goodwill we shall become worthy members of the family of nations, of which our beloved Emperor is the head. His message of faith and hope is still fresh in our ears. In the spirit of that message we ought to accept the new constitution, with the sincere hope that in this Silver Jubilee year of His Majesty India will see the dawning of the new era."

* Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR:—"Mr. President, Sir, the motion moved by my Hon. Friend, the Revenue Member, has been subjected to so many amendments—one does not know whether we have reached the end of them yet—has been looked at from so many points of view, that I do not envy my Hon. Friend, Mr. Souter, in the task that he has before him, viz., of summarizing the debate of this Council and deducing from it some well-defined views to be submitted to those above. If His Majesty's Government wanted to know what the feeling of the country is in regard to the Joint Parliamentary Committee Report and the recommendations contained therein, I venture to say, Sir, that they have already in their position ample materials and more than ample materials to know what that view is. Distinguished patriots who have earned a right to speak on behalf of the people as a result of great sacrifices and unremitting labour on their behalf have given their views as to what the recommendations are. All political organizations from the oldest to the youngest organization, organizations holding most extreme views as well as those holding very conservative views, those which are national in their outlook as well as those which are communal, all of them are agreed in saying that the reforms are unworthy of England to offer and unworthy of India to accept. If His Majesty's Government had still any doubt in the matter as to what the general feeling of the country is about the reforms, they have had recently a very clear verdict of the entire country in the recent elections to the Legislative Assembly. I am sure, Sir, that even the debate that has taken place in this Council would tell them how far from satisfactory the contemplated reforms are. Sir, it is undoubtedly going to happen that whatever we may say or do the recommendations contained in the Joint Parliamentary Committee's Report would find a place in the Statute Book. If that is so, what is to be our attitude towards it? I shall not traverse the ground covered by the previous speakers, namely, of discussing the merits of the various

4-15
p.m.

[Mr. A. Ranganatha Mudaliyar] [29th January 1935]

recommendations. But I would submit this for the consideration of the House that even the best of constitutions will leave very much to be desired even if such constitutions have been framed by people who have to work them. If that is so, Sir, what shall we say, of a constitution imposed on us from outside without consideration to our opinions and feelings and which is going to be passed in spite of us. It goes without saying, Sir, that a constitution like that imposed from without can never be satisfactory. But then what shall we do with regard to it? That is the question which is agitating all of us. I would just recall to the mind of the Members of the House what happened in regard to the present reforms under which we are working. At the time of their introduction we criticized them in the strongest language possible. Did not the great national organization say that they were inadequate, disappointing and unsatisfactory and not worthy of being worked. Yet people were not wanting not only in this Province but all over India to work those defective reforms. With what result? Can we say that we are nearer the goal now than we were at the beginning? It is very difficult, Sir, to answer that question in the affirmative. My submission therefore is that it is not now a question of our acceptance or rejection of the Act that is going to be passed for us. The strings are not in our control. The thing is going to happen. But, unsatisfactory as the Act might be, we shall still be justified in using it as far as we can for the benefit of the people and for the achievement of the object we have in view, call it what you like—full self-Government, Dominion Status, Purna Swaraj or anything else you like, the right to control our own destinies. By saying that, Sir, I should not be understood to say we accept the new constitution as satisfactory and shall be content with it. Not a bit, emphatically no. But we feel that we have every right for utilizing everything that comes in our way to advance our country, to achieve our goal. Let me say in all humility, that in all these matters there are many aspects to be borne in mind. You may have a very good measure; but still if you have incompetent people, people without any imagination to work them, not only may they be unable to work it for any good but may do infinite harm to the country. On the other hand, you may have a very bad measure. And, yet, if you have earnest and competent people, men with vision and grit in charge of it, I venture to think that even with very poor weapons, they may be able to achieve something good for the people who are entrusted to their care. So that, for me, it is not a question of rejection or non-acceptance. What we shall be having is a thing for which we have a right; we have a right not only for that but very much more. But the grudging Government beyond the seas do not see the justice of our demands and are not willing to concede what is really our birthright. So that if we get anything it is a thing for which we have a claim and we need not be ashamed to further with the aid of that the cause we have so much at heart. (Hear, hear). Sir, you have amendments, very important amendments, I take it before this House. One says we shall rather struggle under the present constitution than work the new reforms. Another says

29th January 1935] [Mr. A. Ranganatha Mudaliyar]

that they will be found satisfactory if revised or modified in some ways. But, whatever the constitution we may have to work, certain conditions are necessary if any success is to attend our efforts. Assume for a moment that Dr. Subbarayan's motion finds favour and the present Bill before the parliament is dropped and we are allowed to continue to work under the present constitution. If we are going to work it as we have been working it for some years past, I despair of our salvation in any reasonable time. No, Sir, for any useful result to follow we must revise our notion of Ministers and of their duties and privileges. The Ministers, whoever they may be, must be loyal to one another and act as one body. They must share their responsibility together. That I think is a primary condition of any successful administration. Further, these Ministers should sit somewhat lightly in their seats and not allow themselves to be pinned to their places without consideration for the interests of the country. Yet another point I would submit is that the Opposition should not be too covetous of the places on the treasury bench and unduly eager to take their place there, even if that meant a set back to the progress of the country. If we find the Ministers are putting up a fight in the interests of the country and if, in that fight, they have to meet the opposition of the reserved half or of the Governor, then I would say it is up to the Opposition to support the Ministers in office and put up a united front against those who stand in the way of the progress of the country. We have heard of the appeal made by the Labour Leader, Mr. Lansbury, that England does not know what India needs. I am not prepared to agree with him that England does not know what India wants. The main demands have been given expression to more than once from various platforms. Assuming that the British Government did not or does not know what India wants, I cannot bring myself to believe that they took or meant to take such steps as would have certainly given them, in unambiguous terms, an idea of India's needs. For instance, if the Round Table Conference had not been held in England but in India, and our representatives had been chosen with a little attention to their really representative character than to their 'Jo-hukum' tendencies, and they had been left to be more in touch with Indian public opinion than with British influences pulling them in different directions (I would include among Indian representatives men like Mr. Birley who have a stake in the country and Anglo-Indians), I venture to think that the result would have been more satisfactory than it has been. May I just quote what His Imperial Majesty the King Emperor was pleased to say in his Christmas message to the people? These are his words: "May I add very simply and sincerely that if I may be regarded as in some true sense the head of this great and widespread family sharing its life and sustained by its affections, this will be a full reward for the long and sometimes anxious labours of my reign of well nigh five and twenty years." Here is a great person who visualises all the people under his sway as members of one family. It may be so with His Gracious Majesty. But I very much doubt, Sir, whether in the minds of his advisors India has any place in the family

[Mr. A. Ranganatha Mudaliyar] [29th January 1935]

of nations over which His Majesty holds sway. If India is considered to be a member of the family, do you think the head of the family could not appreciate the needs of India, one of the members of the family? Does not the head try his best, Sir, to meet the wants of all the members—specially the weakest of the family. I doubt, Sir, whether the time has yet come for the British statesmanship to realize their responsibility in the matter and do their right duty to the country whom Providence has committed to their care. Sir, there can be no doubt whatsoever that right must win in the end. No matter what obstacles are put in the way we are bound to win and shall win. But the only way in which we shall win is not by depending on the charity of the people outside but by relying on ourselves, setting our house in order reconciling our existing differences and formulate a demand acceptable not only to the majority population but to important minorities as well. We must have a constitution suited to Indian tradition and Indian genius. If that is done nothing shall stand in the way of the achievement of our goal. Sir, it is said in one of our great scriptures that on whatever side there is righteousness that side is bound to succeed. On the field of battle, on Kurukshetra, there was on the one side the large army led by the Kauravas. On the other side, there was a considerably smaller army led by the Pandavas. But the latter had right on their side. Not all the might on the other side was able to extinguish the righteous people or their cause.

4-30
P.m.

"Sir, it may be that some die-hards and others with vested interests may do their best to perpetuate our slavery and bondage to safeguard and advance their selfish end. But success, I am sure, will be ours in the end. The only question is whether this success will be with the co-operation and good-will of the Britishers or whether it will be in spite of them. Well, Sir, if they are friends and help us to win our birthright, the relationship between both of us will be cordial, with the result that none of us will have any reason to regret the association with England which Providence has willed. On the other hand, if England adopts a short-sighted policy and in consideration of her vested interests, like trade, appointments for her sons and things like that, stand in the way of our achieving the goal which we all cherish so much, that can never be, Sir, to her advantage for the Divine Law is no respecter of persons or countries."

* Mr. K. R. VENKATARAMA AYYAR:—"Sir, the speeches that have been made on the floor of this House on the motion that has been raised by the Hon. the Revenue Member, especially the speeches on the other side, those that were directed to show that they differed from the hon. Member Dr. Subbarayan's amendment, I should say, proceeded upon a great misapprehension. The Bill before the Parliament is yet to become law, and there is no question now of any section of Indians or any others concerned either boycotting the Constitution or working it. That question does not arise on any of the motions now before the House. So far as that point is concerned, it has been made amply clear in the country that whether the Constitution is acceptable to us or is only an imposed Constitution which we regard

29th January 1935] [Mr. K. R. Venkatarama Ayyar]

as prejudicial to us, if we do not work it, the Constitution will work us, and therefore there might even arise a rivalry among the various political parties in this country as to which of them should capture such political power as might arise under the Constitution however bad it might be. That question does not arise at all, and in so far as criticisms have been made against the motion of the Leader of the Opposition, as if what was lurking underneath that motion was a general boycott of the Constitution if and when it came, I think it was misdirected. The only question now is whether it is for India now to give its consent to the Joint Parliamentary Scheme so as to give an impression to those concerned in England that we really want this Constitution and want the Parliament to go ahead with it and grant us this Act. That is the real question. In regard to that, our unhesitating attitude—it is not an attitude which falls to the lot of the Members of this House from their place here to define, it is an attitude taken up by the whole country, every section and every interest—the attitude is, if you ask us, whether we would be satisfied with this Constitution and whether we would take to it with good-will, we should say that this is not the Constitution we want. We want various amendments and modifications without which we think it would be very prejudicial to the welfare of India. That is the answer. Therefore, inasmuch as it has been felt on very good grounds, that there is no chance of our obtaining the proposed amendments accepted by Parliament, the only go for us before yet the Bill becomes law is to give a warning to England that "this is not the sort of Constitution for which we were deluded into collaborating with you all these seven years. We do not want it. We expected something very much better and we were deluded into believing that we would get something very much better. You have disappointed us and almost broken faith with us, and therefore, if you impose it, you impose it entirely upon the unilateral responsibility of Parliament and not with the consent of India." That is the position of Dr. Subbarayan's amendment, and that is all that we ask the vote of the House for. It does not mean that if some or all of the amendments proposed by the various sections in this House were engrafted into the Joint Parliamentary Scheme, the mind of India would not change. In fact, there is no section of the House that has actually moved on the floor of this House a motion for the acceptance of the Joint Parliamentary Scheme as it stands. Every section of the House has asked for very substantial modifications, and without it, it is said by the most conservative and stable section, the Justice Party proper, that there will not be the good-will forthcoming which is the *sine qua non* for the successful operation of the Constitution that is threatened to be set up. Sir, therefore all the remarks from the beginning to the end that have been levelled against Dr. Subbarayan by speaker after speaker suffered under this obsession, namely, the obsession that underlying his motion there is the suggestion of boycotting the Constitution when it is imposed upon us. Nothing of that kind. All that we say from our place, when we support that motion, is that we cannot be a consenting party to the passing of such a Constitution by the Parliament. That is all that we

[Mr. K. R. Venkatarama Ayyar] [29th January 1935]

say. You impose it upon us, and like others it will fall to us also to work it, so far as may be, with the utmost good-will that it might possibly evoke, but with the necessary friction which it could not fail to evoke also.

"Now, Sir, why are we going so far as to suggest that it is the duty of this House not to give our consent to the passing of this measure. One ground is, Sir, that we were induced into participating in this great task of building up a Constitution for this country on assurances and pledges which have been absolutely violated. Sir, when the Simon Commission was sent out to this country as an All-White Commission, everybody knows that practically the whole of this country, including the Right Hon'ble Sir Tej Bahadur Sapru and the entire Liberal or Moderate group of politicians of this country, was against it, and the Simon Commission was boycotted by practically the whole of the country. People like my hon. Friend, the Leader of the Opposition, here who then co-operated, co-operated under hopes which have since been blasted, and my hon. Friend, the Leader of the Opposition, is to-day a sadder and a wiser man (hear, hear). Now, Sir, when that All-White Commission came and was boycotted in that fashion almost universally by the politically-minded India, what was the result? There was a great effect produced upon the Government, and Sir John Simon himself in melancholy tone confessed recently in the course of the debate in the House of Commons that his Report did not get even a five minutes chance anywhere in the world for discussion. It was put on one side as no better than any other that anybody else with no authority wrote on the subject. Then, His Majesty's Government thought it fit to attempt to renew their labours in regard to this Constitution building on a better basis, the basis of good-will between Great Britain and India, the basis of common consent of Great Britain and India. Though no doubt no popular legislatures elected representatives to confer with British representatives, the Government themselves nominated persons who in their estimation were fit to be deemed representatives. And there were the First and Second Round Table Conferences. At the end of the First Round Table Conference, when the Prime Minister of England addressed the Conference on the 19th January 1931, he emphasized that the further conferences and consultations would go on on the same basis on which the First Round Table Conference had gone on, the basis of equality and freedom, the basis of consent, consent between Great Britain on the one side and India on the other. Then, agreed conclusions were reached which were all formulated very clearly by the Prime Minister in his closing speech. His Majesty's Government made a declaration, and that declaration was formally read on that occasion by the Prime Minister. That declaration—I am not repeating word for word—that declaration definitely pledged Great Britain to seeing to it that the Constitution that would be set up would be such as would not impede the progress of India to the attainment of full freedom which had already been promised, namely, the freedom of a self-governing dominion. That was the famous pronouncement of His Excellency the Viceroy, the greatest

[29th January 1935] [Mr. K. R. Venkatarama Ayyar]

of modern Viceroy, Lord Irwin as he then was, and that was repeated and reaffirmed by the Prime Minister in his own way. That being so, Sir, the Second Round Table Conference was summoned with the added advantage of an invitation to the Indian National Congress, and this was after the Gandhi-Irwin Pact. In the course of that Pact, the conclusions of the First Round Table Conference and the assurances already made by the Prime Minister were referred to in one short paragraph, and there the kernel of the whole thing is that in so far as safeguards for a period of transition were going to be proposed, they would be safeguards *in the interests of India*. It is on that promise that Mr. Gandhi as the sole representative of the Congress was induced to take part in the Second Round Table Conference. The Second Round Table Conference also confirmed the conclusions of the First Round Table Conference. And then after the Second Round Table Conference was over, His Majesty's Government which had by then changed, took opportunity to get the policy of the British Government in regard to India endorsed by Parliament. It was endorsed once at the end of the First Round Table Conference when the debate was started in the House of Commons on the 26th January 1931, endorsed over again in the debate initiated after the Second Round Table Conference on the 2nd December 1931, and thereafter the new Government, the Conservative Government going under the name of National Government in England, was feeling its way and it was trying to revise its mind.

"After having deliberately promised at the end of the Second Round Table Conference also that the conference and consent method was going to be persisted in and continued to the very last, a deliberate effort was made to strangle that method and to interpose even at that stage a select committee of Parliament. That raised a storm over the whole of India and led not to civil disobedience or non-co-operation on the part of the Congress, which were already there, but to non-co-operation on the part of the Right Hon'ble Sir Tej Bahadur Sapru and Mr. Jayakar and Mr. Joshi. These three eminent invitees and nominees of Government who had taken a very great and responsible part in the task of this constitution building, resigned their seats in the Round Table Conference, and those of them who were members of the Consultative Committee presided over by the Viceroy, resigned their seats on that body also. Then the British Government retraced their steps and said: 'We will continue the conference method; we will reaffirm the consent formula; we will not try in our own way to build constitutions for you and ask you to live in these structures of ours.' That is how the Third Round Table Conference came about. Thereafter the Joint Select Committee was set up and before this body also, we were definitely assured that we would bear a definite part of being consulted as equals so as to ensure that the final constitution that would be recommended by the Joint Parliamentary Committee would rest not upon the decisions of the great parties in England alone but upon the joint decisions based upon the consent of all those parties as well as of India.

[Mr. K. R. Venkatarama Ayyar] [29th January 1935]

"Having said that, Sir, what has been found subsequently to transpire? Whom would you regard as the accredited spokesmen of India from the point of view of the Government here or in England other than the chosen nominees of Government here? A small select set of people were eventually invited to England to participate in the Joint Select Committee's deliberations. These gentlemen headed by His Highness the Aga Khan presented a Joint Memorandum which is called the British Indian Memorandum. What is the effect given to that Memorandum? The effect given to it is that none of its recommendations has been given any weight. I say, Sir, that if there was any sincerity in the pledges and promises on which our great leaders were invited over to England, if there was any sincerity, a hundred per cent weight ought to have been attached to that weighty document, the Joint British Indian Memorandum. It was the minimum conjoint demand of British India. But all the recommendations have been thrown overboard, and to-day where are we? We are face to face with a Constitution which is very much worse than the White Paper Constitution which was sought to be improved in the directions pointed out in the British Indian Memorandum. It is a Constitution attempted to be forced upon this country by Great Britain. What, Sir, is the sanction which encourages them to flout Indian consent and Indian good-will in this extraordinary fashion? What is the sanction which encourages them to deal with us in this strange fashion? Sir, I cannot think of any sanction behind it other than force. It is force, nothing but force. But, even according to Mr. Churchill, force by itself would be no good in the government of this vast country or in the building up of Constitutions for this vast country.

"Now, Sir, let us see how far they have kept faith with us in carrying out the assurance that the Constitution which would be set up would not impede the progress of this country to the point of the realization of the ultimate goal. That was the assurance of the Prime Minister. I can easily satisfy this House that, if this Constitution is passed and it becomes law, the poor people of India who constitute at least 90 per cent of the total population would never get any chance for any legislation which would go to ameliorate their lot; because, vested interests are sought to be placed in such entrenched positions in all the legislatures under this Constitution without any time-limit, without any opportunity for modification, that they will never be a consenting party to the passing of any legislation which would adversely affect the moneyed classes or the landed aristocrats. In the Central sphere, as if special representation for landlords, commerce and industry were not enough, there is the crushing brake introduced in the shape of the enormous weightage, given to the States out of all proportion to what they would be entitled to on their population basis. In the Lower House in the Central sphere, fully a third or 125 out of the 375 seats, and in the Upper House 40 per cent of the 260 seats have been allotted to them. Is that not a monstrously excessive proportion for the States? What is the States' population? It is less than a fourth of the total population of Indian India and British

[29th January 1935] [Mr. K. R. Venkatarama Ayyar]

India. Sir, it may be that there are so many common interests between the States and British India that the ultimate solution of the Indian problem would have to be in the direction of an All-India Federation; but, British India, the dominant partner, certainly cannot be made to pay for such an ultimate solution an unduly heavy price at the start of the Federation. Sir, to insist that as a condition precedent to the setting up of Federation not less than half the number of States from a population point of view and from the point of view of half the seats in the Federal Upper House should initially join, is to put a handicap at the start of the whole of the scheme.

"Sir, until the First Round Table Conference began to sit, all the previous discussions and efforts in Constitution-building for India were, to set up responsibility in the Centre as well as in the Provinces only in regard to British India. Sir, in the Montagu Report in the concluding chapter, the future position was very clearly envisaged as a sisterhood of Indian States (referring to the British Indian provinces) with Central responsibility and Provincial responsibility, in which there would be in the fullness of time a place for the Indian States also in respect of such matters as to which alone they might agree to reach agreed decisions. This was the picture then everybody was going on drawing to solve the question of British Indian responsibility. Then came the Princes, for whatever reasons of their own, who expressed their consent to join an All-India Federation on their own terms. In this tripartite partnership, is British India alone to be denied the right of self-determination and is the right of self-determination to be exercised only by Great Britain and by the States? That is what it has come to mean. The States will not come except on their own terms, except on terms of such excessive weightage which means so much of taking away from what is justly and fairly due to British India which contains more than three quarters of the population and whose interests are really far more valuable interests.

"Sir, similarly in regard to the British partner. No doubt this country owes a very great deal to Great Britain. If hon. Members of this House would turn to the terms in which I have couched the amendment I intended to move, they would see that I want Anglo-Indian good-will to be ensured and it is for ensuring that good-will that I have made my suggestion. For this mutual good-will between Great Britain and British India, even though we owe a deep debt of gratitude to Great Britain for the great blessings of peace and tranquillity that have been conferred upon this country, I think, Sir, we cannot be asked to pay an unduly heavy price to Great Britain. Gratitude by itself cannot be regarded as a sufficient basis for this future partnership. Fairness and equity between partners in regard to the future would be a more enduring basis than mere gratitude for past boons.

"Sir, we have not been very impatient. The promises to India did not date really from the Montagu Declaration of 20th August 1917. These promises, hopes and aspirations have been encouraged almost from the commencement of British rule. I would, with the permis-

[Mr. K. R. Venkatarama Ayyar] [29th January 1935]

sion of the House, read only two extracts, notable extracts, from which there has been a great decadence in the whole century or more which has followed.

"The Marquis of Hastings in his private journal wrote as long ago as the 17th May 1818 this famous passage:

'A time not very remote will arise when England will on some principles of policy wish to relinquish the domination which she has gradually and unintentionally assumed over this country, and from which she cannot at present recede. In that hour it would be her proudest boast and most delightful reflection that she had used her sovereignty towards enlightening her temporary subjects, so as to enable the native communities to walk alone in the paths of justice, and to maintain with probity towards their benefactors that commercial intercourse in which we should *then* find a solid interest.'

"The other passage that I am referring to, is the famous passage in the course of the speech before the House of Lords during the debate in 1833 on the India Bill by Lord Macaulay:

'When the interest of India requires the change, that we ought to refuse to make that change, lest we should endanger our own power, this is a doctrine of which I cannot think without indignation. Governments like men may buy existence too dear. . . . It would be on the most selfish view of the case far better for us, that the people of India were well governed and independent of us, than ill-governed and subject to us, that they were ruled by their own Kings, but wearing our broad cloth and working with our cutlery than that they were performing their salaams to English Collectors and English Magistrates, but were too ignorant to value, or too poor to buy English manufactures. To trade with civilized men is infinitely more profitable than to govern savages. That would indeed be a dotting wisdom, which in order that India might remain a dependency would make it a useless and costly dependency, which would keep a hundred millions of men from being our customers in order that they might continue to be our slaves. . . . We are free, we are civilized, to little purpose, if we grudge to any portion of the human race, an equal measure of freedom and civilization. Are we to keep the people of India ignorant in order that we may keep them submissive, or do we think that we can give them knowledge, without awakening ambition, or do we mean to awaken ambition and to provide it with no legitimate vent? Who will answer any of these questions in the affirmative?'

I ask Mr. Langley and I ask Mr. Metherell, will they answer these questions in the affirmative? Lord Macaulay continued:

'I have no fears. The path of duty is plain before us, and it is also the path of wisdom, of national prosperity, of national honour. . . . It may be that the public mind of India may expand under our system till it has outgrown that system, that by good Government we may educate our subjects into a capacity for better Government, that having become instructed in European knowledge, they may in some future age demand European institutions. Whether such a day will ever come, I know not, but never will I attempt to avert or to retard it. Whenever it comes, it will be the proudest day in English History.'

"Again, in the memorable proclamation . . ."

The Hon. the PRESIDENT:—"Is the hon. Member not concluding now?"

Mr. K. R. VENKATARAMA AYYAR:—"No, Sir; I will take time."

The Hon. the PRESIDENT:—"The hon. Member may continue his speech to-morrow. The House will now adjourn and meet again at 11 a.m. to-morrow."

R. V. KRISHNA AYYAR,
Secretary to the Legislative Council.

THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL OF THE GOVERNOR OF MADRAS.

Wednesday, the 30th January 1935.

The House met at eleven of the clock, Mr. President (the Hon. Mr. B. RAMACHANDRA REDDI) in the Chair.

PRESENT:

Stokes, K.C.I.E., C.S.I., I.C.S., The Hon. Sir Hopetoun.	Natesa Mudaliyar, Rao Bahadur C.
Reddi Nayudu, Kt., The Hon. Rai Bahadur Sir K. V.	Parthasarathi Ayyangar, Mr. C. R.
Pannirselvam, The Hon. Rao Bahadur A. T.	Patnaik Mahasayo, Sriman M. G.
Souter, C.S.I., I.C.S., The Hon. Mr. C. A.	Patro, Kt., Rao Bahadur Sir A. P.
Raja of Bobbili, The Hon. the. Rajan, The Hon. Mr. P. T.	Pocker Sahib Bahadur, B.
Kumaraswami Reddiyar, The Hon. Diwan Bahadur S.	Premayya, Mr. G. R.
Abdul Hameed Khan Sahib Bahadur.	Rajagopala Pillai, Mr. P. V.
Ahmed Meeran Sahib Bahadur.	Raja of Kallikote, The.
Alamelumangathayaramma, Mrs. K.	Ramachandra Padayachi, Mr. P. K.
Annamalai Chettiyar, Mr. S. A. A.	Ramamurti, Rao Sahib Pandit Ganala.
Appadurai Pillai, Diwan Bahadur A. Arasu, Mr. V. T.	Ramaswami Ayyar, Mr. T. S.
Ari Gowder, Mr. H. B.	Ramaswami Mudaliyar, Mr. V. M.
Basheer Ahmed Sayeed Sahib Bahadur.	Rameswara Rao, Mr. G.
Basu Dev, Mr. C.	Raman Menon, Mr. K. P.
Bhanoji Rao, Mr. A. V.	Ranganatha Mudaliyar, Mr. A.
Birley, Mr. F.	Ranganatha Mudaliyar, Mr. G.
Dharmalingam Pillai, Rao Sahib V.	Rangaswami Reddi, Mr. M. B.
Foulkes, Mr. R.	Ratnasabhapatni Mudaliyar, Diwan Bahadur C. S.
Jagannatham, Mr. H. M.	Ratnavelu Thevar, Mr. P.
Jayaram Nayudu, Rao Sahib C.	Russell, I.C.S., Mr. T. B.
Jones, I.C.S., Mr. C. E.	Sahajanandam, Swami A. S.
Kesavaramamurti Nayudu, Mr. K.	Schamnad Sahib Bahadur, Khan Bahadur Mahmud.
Kolanda Reddi, Rai Sahib C.	Scott-Brown, I.C.S., Mr. W.
Koti Reddi, Mr. K.	Shetty, Mr. A. B.
Krishnayya Choudari, Mr. P. V.	Siva Raj, Rao Sahib N.
Krishnamurti, Rao Bahadur D.	Soundara Pandian, Mr. W. P. A.
Kumararaja of Venkatagiri, The.	Sreshta, Mr. M. S.
Madanagopal Nayudu, Mr. R.	Srinivasa Ayyangar, Mr. T. C.
Mahboob Ali Baig Sahib Bahadur.	Srinivasan, Rao Bahadur R.
Manikkavelu Nayakar, Mr. M. A.	Sriramulu, Mr. G.
Metherell, Mr. J. K.	Subbarayan, Dr. P.
Moidoo Sahib Bahadur, Khan Bahadur T. M.	Subrahmanya Chetti, Rao Sahib P.
Muniswami Pillai, Rao Sahib V. I.	Subrahmanya Bhatt, Mr. U. C.
Muthiah Chettiyar, Mr. M. A.	Sundara Rao Nayudu, Mr. T.
Muthu Chettiyar, Rao Bahadur P. O.	Syed Tajuddin Sahib Bahadur, Khan Sahib.
Nachiyappa Gounder, Mr. K. A.	Uzielli, C.I.E., I.C.S., Mr. H. R.
Nanjappa Bahadur, Subadar-Major S. A.	Vasudeva Pillai, Mr. V. G.
Narasa Reddi, Mr. T.	Venkatarama Ayyar, Mr. K. R.
Narasimhaswami, Rao Sahib D. V.	Venugopala Nayudu, Rao Bahadur R. K.
Narayanan Nambiyar, Mr. V. P.	Viswanatha Rao, Diwan Bahadur V. N.
	Yahya Ali Sahib Bahadur, Khan Bahadur.
	Yakub Hasan Sahib Bahadur.
	Zamindar of Kirlampudi, The.

[30th January 1935]

[Note.—An asterisk (*) at the commencement of a speech indicates revision by the Member.]

I.—CONDOLENCE RESOLUTION ON THE DEATH OF DR. B. S. MALLAYYA.

* The Hon. Sir HOPETOUN STOKES:—“ Mr. President, Sir, I have once again the sad duty of proposing with your permission and the permission of the House a resolution of condolence on the death of one who has only recently entered the Legislative Council in the by-election which arose from the resignation of his seat by Mr. Sami Venkatachalam Chettiyar. Dr. Mallayya, whose death we have to deplore, was educated at the Government College, Mangalore, and after acquiring himself brilliantly in the Medical College, he joined the medical service of Government as Health Officer of Madura. He served on the staff of the Government Maternity Hospital and also as Assistant Professor of Surgery in the Medical College. In 1922, he resigned Government service and took up private practice.

“ He was for a number of years a member of the Madras Corporation and he took a keen interest in questions of public health and water-supply. In politics he was a consistent supporter of the Congress and was elected to the Third Legislative Council as one of the representatives of the City. Once again, as I have stated, he was returned to the Legislative Council only, as it seems, a few days back. The Council has suffered by his death, the loss of one who, by his keen interest in public affairs, might have proved, if he had been spared, of the highest value. Sir, I move the following resolution:—

‘ That an expression of the sincere regret of this Council at the death of Dr. Bantwal Srinivasa Mallayya, M.L.C., and of deep sympathy with his bereaved family be placed on record and conveyed to them ’.”

* Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN:—“ Mr. President, Sir, I associate myself with all that has been said by the Hon. the Leader of the House. I am sure we all regret the death of Dr. Mallayya because his career as a legislator was only just beginning once again. As the Hon. the Leader of the House has mentioned, Dr. Mallayya was very much interested in all questions connected with public health and sanitation and he was no mean authority on these matters. I am sure his help on the floor of this House would have been most valuable to Members in charge of the administration of medical and sanitary subjects. I am sure every one deplores that Dr. Mallayya was not destined to play the part which he would have played on the floor of this House. I am sure the sympathy of every Member of this House goes out to the bereaved family in the great loss that they have suffered.”

* The Hon. the RAJA OF BOBBILI:—“ Sir, it is my sad and painful duty to associate myself with the resolution moved by the Hon. the Leader of the House. The late Dr. Mallayya was a well-known doctor in the City. He was very popular both with the rich and the poor. He was one of the oldest members of the Madras Corporation and he always took a leading part in the affairs of that body. He has also served as

[30th January 1935]

a Member of the Legislative Council previously. He has always taken a keen and lively interest in matters connected with medical administration. It is a great calamity that he should be snatched away from us so shortly after his re-entry into this House a few days back. With these words, I beg to associate myself with the sentiments expressed by the Hon. the Leader of the House and the Leader of the Opposition.”

* Diwan Bahadur C. S. RATNASABHAPATI MUDALIYAR:—“ Mr. President, Sir, on behalf of the Justice Democratic Party, it is my melancholy duty to associate myself with the Hon. the Leader of the House, the Leader of the Opposition and the Hon. the Chief Minister to express our sorrow on the demise of Dr. Mallayya. Of late, the cruel hand of death has been taking away a number of the Members of this Council from our midst and let us pray that Dr. Mallayya will be the last. We all know that Dr. Mallayya had a jovial temperament. Especially at question time in this Council he was very sharp and doing useful work. With these few words I associate myself with the sentiments expressed by the other Hon. Members.”

* Mr. J. K. METHERELL:—“ With sincere regret, on behalf of the European Group, I associate myself with the resolution that has been proposed by the Hon. the Leader of the House.”

* Rao Sahib N. SIVA RAJ:—“ Sir, on behalf of the group of Members representing the Depressed Classes to which I have the honour to belong, I beg to associate myself with the sentiments that have been expressed by the previous speakers at the passing away of one of our old friends. The death of Dr. Mallayya has removed from the public life of this Presidency and of this City in particular a very genial personality and a good fighter. I have been Dr. Mallayya's colleague in more than one institution outside this Council. Both of us have been members of the Madras Corporation and some other institutions too. Wherever he was, he was a factor in bringing about good relationships amongst various members. I feel particularly bound to express our sense of admiration at the way in which the late Dr. Mallayya fought the recent election. We, the members of the Depressed Classes, on the one hand and Dr. Mallayya on the other—both of us fought the recent by-election in a sporting spirit, exactly as players do on a football field.”

The resolution was put and carried *nem con* all the Members standing.

II.—QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

STARRED QUESTIONS

Commerce

Import of rice from Siam.

* 587 Q.—MR. K. A. NACHIYAPPA GOUNDER: Will the Hon. the Member for Finance be pleased to state whether the imports of rice from Siam have been stopped or whether they are still continuing?

[30th January 1935]

A.—The imports have not yet been stopped.

Five thousand seven hundred and thirty-five tons of rice valued at Rs. 4,07,507 were imported into this Presidency from Siam during the fortnight ending 15th January 1935.

Mr. P. V. KRISHNAYYA CHOUDARI:—" May I ask whether the Government are aware that Siamese rice is imported into Tenali in Guntur district? "

The Hon. Sir HOPETOUN STOKES:—" I am not aware of it."

Irrigation

Invitees from outside the province to witness the inauguration of the Cauvery-Mettur Project.

* 588 Q.—Mr. G. R. PREMAYYA: Will the Hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) how many persons were invited from outside this Presidency and outside India to witness the inaugural ceremony of the Mettur Project held in last August;

(b) who they are;

(c) why they were invited; and

(d) what amount of money was spent under travelling allowance in the case of each such person?

A.—The following statement gives the information required in the case of those who attended the inauguration:—

	Amount of travelling allowance.
I. From outside India—	
Sir Clement Mullings and Miss Mullings, Cheltenham, England— (Sir Clement Mullings was invited as he was connected with the project as Chief Engineer for Irrigation, Engineer-in-Chief and Consulting Engineer.)	Rs. 104 from Madras to Mettur and back. The amount paid by the High Commissioner for India for the journey from London to Madras and back is not yet known.
II. From outside the Presidency—	
(1) Sir Charles and Lady Todhunter, Private Secretary to His Highness the Maharaja of Mysore. (Invited as an ex-Member of Council who took an important part in the negotiations leading to the Mysore-Madras Agreement of 1924 which removed the bar to the consideration of the Cauvery-Mettur Project by the Government of India.)	Nil.

[30th January 1935]

Amount of travelling allowance.

(2) Mr. J. Caulderwood of Messrs. Glanfield and Kennedy, Bombay.

Nil.

(Invited as the representative of the firm in which was entrusted the work of supply and erection of the hydro-electric pipes and irrigation sluices in the dam as well as the surplus gates, the two emergency gates and the 50-ton Goliath cranes by means of which they were placed in position.)

(3) Colonel A. J. H. Russell, I.M.S., Public Health Commissioner, for India.

Nil.

(Invited as a distinguished visitor who was connected with public health and sanitary measures from the commencement of the Project work as Director of Public Health, Madras.)

Mr. G. R. PREMAYYA:—" May I ask how much of the travelling allowance paid to Sir Clement Mullings will be debited to the Madras Government? "

The Hon. Mr. C. A. SOUTER:—" The whole of it."

Mr. G. R. PREMAYYA:—" May I ask how much it will come to? "

The Hon. Mr. C. A. SOUTER:—" I cannot say, Sir, without notice."

Diwan Bahadur C. S. RATNASABHAPATI MUDALIYAR:—" May I ask whether Colonel Ellis was one of the Chief Engineers in charge of the work after the scheme was started? "

The Hon. Mr. C. A. SOUTER:—" No, Sir, not after the scheme was started."

Land Revenue Administration

Levy of re-survey charges in Kasaragod, South Kanara.

* 589 Q.—Mr. A. B. SHETTY: Will the Hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether Government have ordered the levy of re-survey charges in Kasaragod taluk in South Kanara; and

(b) if so, whether a copy of the order will be placed on the table of the House?

A.—(a) & (b) The re-survey of the old Kasaragod taluk was ordered in 1924. Charges connected with that re-survey are levied under section 8 of the Madras Survey and Boundaries Act, 1923. No specific orders of the Government are required or have been issued in the matter.

Mr. A. B. SHETTY:—" May I ask what the total cost of re-survey charges will be and whether it will be collected now? "

[30th January 1935]

The Hon. Mr. C. A. SOUTER:—"I am informed by my Secretary that it is Rs. 57,000."

Mr. U. C. SUBRAHMANYA BHATT:—"May I ask whether the Government will consider the advisability of putting off the collection of these charges till better times come up, especially in view of the hard conditions now prevailing?"

The Hon. Mr. C. A. SOUTER:—"I will consider the suggestion."

Famine condition in the western taluks of the Bellary district.

* 590 Q.—Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR: Will the Hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government have received reports that the crops of the western taluks of the Bellary district have proved a failure this year; and

(b) if so, the measures taken by Government to relieve distress by starting suitable works for execution?

A.—(a) The hon. Member is referred to the answer given to question No. 309 answered at the meeting on 25th October 1934. Since then, the Commissioner for Land Revenue and Settlement has inspected the area and found that the crops in the Harpanahalli taluk have improved.

(b) The earlier stages of distress were dealt with by the expansion of ordinary local fund and Minor Irrigation works. A sum of Rs. 25,000 was granted to the District Board, and the District Board was also permitted to divert the unspent balance of the current year's grant on trunk roads and second-class roads, in the district to an extent of Rs. 18,000.

As the distress continued and as a larger number of labourers attended the local fund and other works started to provide employment, it was decided that the test works under the provisions of the Famine Code should be opened to ascertain whether the labouring classes were in such a state of distress that 'relief works' should be opened to save them from starvation. It is now nearly three weeks since the test works were started and the attendance of the labourers at the works continues to be considerable. The Commissioner for Land Revenue and Settlement has just toured in the district and the Government await proposals regarding the starting of relief works.

Mr. G. RAMESWARA RAO:—"May I ask whether any report has been received from the Famine Commissioner who has been touring in the district?"

The Hon. Mr. C. A. SOUTER:—"We have recently received a report from the Commissioner of Land Revenue and Settlement and I understand that the Board of Revenue have sanctioned the conversion of three test works into relief works in Bellary."

[30th January 1935]

Mr. K. KOTI REDDI:—"May I request the Hon. the Revenue Member to see that in future not more than 14 days elapse between the starting of test works and the converting of them into relief works as the Famine Code mentions that ordinarily a fortnight will be taken?"

The Hon. Mr. C. A. SOUTER:—"This period of 14 days is the minimum period. It does not necessarily follow that after 14 days the test works should be transformed into relief works. It depends on the situation at the time."

Mr. P. V. KRISHNAYYA CHOUDARI:—"May I ask whether the Government are aware that the same sort of conditions prevails in the Penukonda taluk of the Guntur district also?"

The Hon. Mr. C. A. SOUTER:—"The Government have no information."

Mr. P. V. KRISHNAYYA CHOUDARI:—"Will the Hon. Member be pleased to call for a report from the Collector of Guntur?"

The Hon. Mr. C. A. SOUTER:—"I have no objection, Sir."

Famine relief measures in the Bellary district.

* 591 Q.—Diwan Bahadur M. GOPALASWAMI MUDALIYAR: Will the Hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state what steps have been taken to relieve famine distress in the district of Bellary?

A.—The attention of the hon. Member is invited to the answer to question No. 590 which gives particulars of the works undertaken for the relief of distress among agricultural labourers.

The Board of Revenue has postponed to April 1935 the collection of the January kist of 8 annas in the Hospet, Hadagalli, Harpanahalli, Kudligi and Rayadrug taluks.

To meet the scarcity of fodder prevailing in this district as well as in Anantapur district the Government have sanctioned a special scheme for the collection and supply of hill grass from the forests in the Bellary, Cuddapah and Kurnool districts through the departmental agencies. An officer of the grade of Extra Assistant Conservator of Forests together with the necessary staff has been appointed to supervise the collection, pressing and baling of hill grass and its despatch to the places selected by the Collectors as centres for distribution to the ryots. The Government have also sanctioned a sum of Rs. 10,000 to meet the costs of collection and distribution. Forests reserves have also been thrown open, wherever necessary, for free grazing.

Mr. K. KOTI REDDI:—"May I ask that the fodder that is now collected will be supplied to the famine-stricken parts of Cuddapah district also? The answer refers only to Anantapur and Bellary."

[30th January 1935]

The Hon. Mr. C. A. SOUTER:—"The answer says that grass is being collected from the forests of Bellary, Cuddapah and Kurnool and that the Government have sanctioned a sum of Rs. 10,000 to meet the costs of collection and distribution. If Cuddapah requires any particular relief in this way and if the Collector reports so, the Government will certainly take that matter into consideration."

Failure of crops in the North Arcot district.

* 592 Q.—Mr. V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR: Will the Hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) the state of the agricultural crops in various taluks in the North Arcot district;

(b) whether in several taluks the crops have suffered on account of inadequate water-supply and ultimately rains;

(c) if so, the steps taken to relieve the distress so caused; and

(d) whether the crops have also suffered from pests and, if so, the extent of the damage caused to certain crops and the taluks where such damage has been caused?

A.—(a) to (d) The Government have no information other than what is contained in the weekly season reports which are published in the *Fort St. George Gazette*.

Protection of Wild Birds and Animals

Number of human beings killed by man-eaters in South Kanara in the year 1933 and 1934.

* 593 Q.—Mr. A. B. SHETTY: Will the Hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) the number of human beings killed by man-eaters (tigers) in South Kanara in 1933 and 1934; and

(b) the measures taken to destroy such man-eaters?

A.—(a) The Government have not the information, but have called for a report.

(b) The attention of the hon. Member is invited to Board's Standing Order No. 196. A maximum reward of Rs. 50 is prescribed in this Standing Order for the destruction of each tiger in certain districts, of which the South Kanara district is one. There is also a special instruction to disbursing officers that they should deal liberally in regard to the killing of tigers and panthers in localities where those animals are exceptionally destructive of human life. Special rewards in excess of the maximum may be offered for the destruction of man-eaters.

Mr. A. B. SHETTY:—"May I ask whether the Government have taken note of the large destruction of animal life and the destruction of human life in South Kanara by tigers and man-eaters and whether they propose to take any special measures in this matter?"

[30th January 1935]

The Hon. Mr. C. A. SOUTER:—"This question refers to the number of human beings killed. So far as animals are concerned, a question has already been answered in this Council."

Co-operation

Community of the members of the establishment of the Office of the Deputy Registrar of Co-operative Societies, Ganjam.

* 594 Q.—Sir A. P. PATRO: Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

(a) the number of Sub-Deputy Registrars in the Ganjam district and to what community they belong; and

(b) to what community the following belong in the Deputy Registrar's Office:—

- (1) Non-Credit Senior Inspector;
- (2) Head clerk of the Deputy Registrar's Office;
- (3) the Establishment clerk;
- (4) the Audit clerk;
- (5) Arbitration clerk;
- (6) Execution clerk;
- (7) Despatch clerk;
- (8) Execution officer; and
- (9) Audit Inspectors?

A.—(a) There is one post. The present incumbent is a Brahman (Oriya).

(b) (1) Brahman (Telugu).

(2) Do. do.

(3) Do. (Vaishnavite).

(4) Do. (Telugu).

(5) Do. do.

(6) Non-Brahman (Telugu).

(7) Brahman (Vaishnavite).

(8) Do. (Oriya).

(9) There are eleven Audit Inspectors of whom three are Brahmans, seven are Non-Brahmans and one is an Indian Christian.

The Inspector for execution work and the Inspectors for audit are not working in the Deputy Registrar's Office; they are on executive duty.

Public Works

Construction of a bridge in Kallikavu, Malabar.

* 595 Q.—Mr. P. M. THANGAL: Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government have ordered that a bridge in or near Kallikavu in Malabar should be built immediately;

[30th January 1935]

(b) if so, whether before arriving at that decision the Government considered the comparative importance of this bridge as well as of the Koduvalli bridge (between Tellicherry and Cannanore) and of the Puthur bridge north of Kottakal; and

(c) whether the Government have consulted the District Board or the Collector as to the respective importance of these bridges; if so, whether they will be pleased to lay their opinions on the table; if not, what are the special reasons for ordering that this bridge should be so urgently built?

A.—(a) Yes.

(b) No.

(c) The District Magistrate submitted plans and estimates for the reconstruction of the bridge across the Kallikavu thodu. As this is on a road of strategic importance and as the wooden bridge on the road has collapsed its reconstruction has become essential.

The Government have under consideration a proposal to sanction half grants for the construction of the Puthur bridge near Kottakal at mile 9/6 of Road No. 57 II (Kottakal-Malappuram) and the strengthening of the Koduvalli bridge on Road No. 1 section VI (Tellicherry-Koodakadavu).

Registration

Re-employment of the permanent clerks of the Registration department in Malabar, thrown out of service consequent on the introduction of the Photo-Stat system.

* 596 Q.—Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED: Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

(a) the number of permanent clerks that were thrown out of employment as a result of the introduction of the Photo-Stat system of copying documents in Malabar district;

(b) the number of such permanent clerks that have been absorbed in service and of those that still remain to be absorbed; and

(c) the period within which the remaining permanent clerks are expected to be absorbed?

A.—(a), (b) & (c) As a result of the introduction of the Photo-Stat system, the Government directed that 68 posts of clerks should be abolished gradually, the incumbents of these posts being absorbed in vacancies in the registration offices of the districts of South and North Malabar and, if qualified, in the ministerial service of other departments of Government in the Malabar district which may arise within a period of two years from 1st March 1934. It was also ordered that surplus posts the incumbents of which may be unprovided for on 1st March 1936 should be abolished.

[30th January 1935]

Mr. K. A. NACHIYAPPA GOUNDER:—“ May I ask whether there is any proposal to extend this Photo-Stat system?”

The Hon. Mr. P. T. RAJAN:—“ At present there is no proposal.”

Mr. V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—“ May I ask the Hon. Minister to give us an idea of the number of clerks thrown out on account of the introduction of this system and who have now been absorbed?”

The Hon. Mr. P. T. RAJAN:—“ The Government have no information.”

Re-employment of the acting clerks of the Registration department in Malabar, thrown out of service consequent on the introduction of the Photo-Stat system.

* 597 Q.—Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED: Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

(a) the number of acting clerks that had been thrown out of employment as a result of the introduction of the Photo-Stat system of copying documents in the Malabar district;

(b) the services put in by each one of the said acting clerks thrown out of employment;

(c) whether any orders have been passed by the Government in regard to the absorption in service of such acting clerks;

(d) whether a copy of the same will be placed on the table;

(e) the number of the said acting clerks already absorbed in the various departments and the number that has yet to be absorbed; and

(f) the period within which the remaining clerks are expected to be absorbed?

A.—(a) & (b) The Government have not the information.

(c) & (d) No orders were passed as the acting clerks were already exempted by the Madras Services Commission from appearing for the competitive examination and are eligible for appointment as clerks in any office without the intervention of the Madras Services Commission or the Collector. On a memorial from these acting clerks the Inspector-General was informed that he may himself forward the list of such clerks to the various appointing authorities in the district of Malabar.

(e) & (f) The Government have not the information.

Enforcement of the order for the re-employment of the permanent and acting clerks of the Registration department in Malabar, thrown out of service consequent on the introduction of the Photo-Stat system.

* 598 Q.—Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED: Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that the several Government departments in Malabar have not chosen to employ the permanent and acting clerks

[30th January 1935]

of the Registration department who were thrown out of employment as a result of the introduction of the Photo Stat system of copying documents in Malabar district;

(b) whether it is a fact that preference is shown by the heads of the departments in Malabar to men entered in the list compiled by the Service Commission as against the permanent and acting clerks of the Registration department thrown out of employment;

(c) if so, the reasons why preference is not shown to the permanent and acting clerks of the Registration department of Malabar, thrown out of employment;

(d) whether the Government will place on the table the orders already passed in regard to the re-absorption of the acting clerks of the Registration department thrown out of employment; and

(e) how the Government propose to get the remaining acting clerks thrown out of employment re-employed and re-absorbed in Government service?

A.—(a) to (c) The Government have not the information.

(d) & (e) The attention of the hon. Member is invited to the answer to question No. 597.

Industries

Magnesite mining operations in Salem district.

* 599 Q.—Mr. M. B. RANGASWAMI REDDI: Will the Hon. the Minister for Education and Excise be pleased to state—

(a) how many tons of 'Magnesite' were mined for the last ten years in the Salem district;

(b) whether the Madras Government derived any income from this source and, if so, how much;

(c) how the 'Magnesite' is disposed of and where it is being exported;

(d) whether the Government have any proposal to undertake this work departmentally;

(e) whether there is any proposal to use electricity from Mettur Dam for this work; and

(f) if the answers to clauses (d) and (e) are in the affirmative, when the Government propose to commence this work?

A.—(a) 189,529 tons during 1924 to 1933.

(b) Rs. 51,850.

(c) Most of the magnesite produced in the Salem district is exported in a calcined state. The principal countries importing it are—

United Kingdom,
United States of America,
Netherlands,
Belgium, and
Germany.

[30th January 1935]

Its uses in India appear to be in the manufacture of epsom salts, mabor cupels for gold and silver assays and in making magnesite composition floorings but such uses appear to be limited.

(d) to (f) A suggestion has been made by the Chief Engineer for Electricity that when power is available from Mettur the magnesite deposits at Salem might be exploited. It has not yet been considered by the Government.

Mr. K. A. NACHIYAPPA GOUNDER:—"May I know in what way the Government propose to exploit the deposits?"

The Hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR:—"By way of oil."

III.—MOTION *RE* REPORT OF THE JOINT PARLIAMENTARY COMMITTEE—cont.

* The Hon. the PRESIDENT:—"As several hon. Members are waiting to speak, the hon. Member (Mr. K. R. Venkatarama Ayyar) will be as brief as possible."

* Mr. K. R. VENKATARAMA AYYAR:—"Mr. President, Sir, yesterday I was giving an extract to the House from the Private Journal of the Marquis of Hastings. He wrote of a time not very remote when England will wish to relinquish her domination over this country. It is now 117 years since then. Is England anywhere near wishing to relinquish her domination? May I at this stage recall the famous passage in the memorable proclamation of Queen Victoria?

'In their prosperity will be our strength, in their contentment our security, and in their gratitude our best reward.'

"It is long after these ancient pronouncements that we reach the declaration of the 20th August 1917 and the many subsequent pledges and promises that have followed it. I do not want to take up the time of the House by quoting Mr. Churchill's pronouncements of 1921. They will stand out as monumental statements of British policy, but the Churchill of 1934-35 is not the Churchill of 1921. The Montague policy was appreciated in 1921 as one of enormous utility and service from the view point of the national interests of the British Empire. In 1934, the Montague policy is appreciated as the policy of danger. The full and complete Dominion Status of the Indian Government and people which England owed to India as a deep debt according to the Churchill of 1921 is now something very far below that of Australia and Canada.

"Sir, the Prime Minister of England in speaking to his motion in the House of Commons at the end of the second Round Table Conference asked for and obtained the approval of Parliament to the Government's Indian policy, according to which the British Cabinet was carrying on and had to continue to carry on negotiations with India

[Mr. K. R. Venkatarama Ayyar] [30th January 1935]

through the Round Table Conference method until the stage arrived when the proposed agreement was initiated—a very well-known stage in the negotiation of treaties. He said that thereafter the House of Commons was to be asked whether it agreed. If it did not, most Governments would regard the disagreement as a vote of no-confidence and take steps accordingly. That was in December 1931. The National Government has since been feeling very much stronger on the saddle. The Conservative majority in Parliament is taking far too great an advantage of its strength. It is doing so because one of two things was sure to happen. The situation in India after these seven years of equivocation and struggle would so get out of hand that England was sure to lose India by the irresistible pressure of facts in not more than two generations. That was what the Right Hon'ble Stanley Baldwin said in his recent Queen's Hall speech. The other contingency was that if the Socialist Party meanwhile came into power in England, by no means an unlikely event, they would or might allow India to exercise self-determination and grant her the constitution she wanted, giving the substance of freedom. These dangers had to be averted in advance. If the Joint Parliamentary Committee constitution were now imposed, it would be more than difficult for the Labour Government to scrap it, and it would be impossible for India to emerge out of it with sufficient strength to wrest her freedom within any time that human ingenuity can foresee.

"Sir, it is important to see how far the proposed Constitution is an advance towards our promised goal as it is claimed to be, and how far it prejudices the advance of India to full responsibility for her own Government. The declaration of the British Government read by the Prime Minister at the end of the first Round Table Conference announced the placing of responsibility for the Government of India on Central and Provincial Legislatures with transitional safeguards and reserve power so framed as not to prejudice the advance of India through the new Constitution to full responsibility for her own Government. The Prime Minister pointed out that the purpose of the Round Table Conference was '*to achieve the self-government of India.*' It was not merely to take incomplete or doubtful steps for the time being, leaving the uncertain future to take care of itself. Sir, it followed that the Constitution Act should itself provide for the automatic disappearance or extinction of the reserve power and safeguards at the end of the period of transition, which period should be specified in the Constitution Act. It further followed that the safeguards and reserve power should be no more than what was strictly necessary to the development of a free constitution. They must merely lie in the reserve and ultimate background, and not defeat the development of responsible Government.

"Sir, all sides of this House have very properly tried to view the opinions of Sir Tej Bahadur Sapru as affording the safest guidance. Let us therefore clearly realize what his opinions are. His feeling is that the spirit of the first Round Table Conference was no longer there,

[30th January 1935] [Mr. K. R. Venkatarama Ayyar]

and that the Conservatives have been given a heavy price for their support. The following are among his main points: Dominion Status must be pledged definitely, especially in view of the attempts in Parliament to disown the Prime Minister's and Viceroy's declarations. The Secretary of State for India in Council should be abolished and the powers of the Secretary of State under the new Constitution should vest in the Dominions Secretary. A definite programme of Indianization of the Army within 30 years should be handed over to responsible Ministers. The Army Member should be elected from the Legislature and he and the Federal Ministers should together settle the Military budget. In case of disagreement between them, the Instrument of Instructions should provide a final appeal to the Governor-General. Reduction of military expenditure is essential. The Director of the Reserve Bank should nominate a panel out of which the Governor-General should nominate the Governor and the Deputy Governor of the bank in consultation with his Ministers, and 75 per cent of the capital of the bank should be raised in India. The High Courts should be under the Central Government. There should be no indirect election at the centre. The Lothian Report's arguments against indirect elections are convincing and conclusive. The Joint Parliamentary Committee recommendations regarding commercial safeguards and fiscal autonomy constitute a serious limitation on the powers of the legislatures. India must be allowed to develop freely her industries and fiscal policy, leaving it to the two countries to come to mutual agreements. The only safeguard for British trade and commerce is Indian goodwill and nothing will foster that goodwill so much and so quickly as a complete Dominion Status Constitution, with no more than the minimum transitional reserve power and safeguards. Regarding public services, the Governor-General should recruit and not the Secretary of State. Fundamental rights must be declared in the Constitution Act. Regarding constituent powers, our fortunes should no longer be dependent upon Parliament or His Majesty's Government. Without resort to Parliament, prescribed majorities of Central and Provincial Legislatures should be made competent to evolve full freedom for India in accordance with the time-table to be now fixed. There is no justification for safeguards relating to Police legislation in the Provinces. This and other safeguards in the Provinces constitute serious deductions from the promised full provincial responsibility. Terrorism must be dealt with by Indian Ministers. Then alone there will be a healthy public opinion created, which would result in the eradication of the evil. Second Chambers for Provinces are undesirable. They would give undue weightage to landlords and monied classes and block social and economic legislation and thus create conflict.

"These are the opinions of the Right Honourable Sir Tej Bahadur Sapru. It is no wonder that when the scheme is found to require so many vital amendments, the other esteemed Right Honourable gentleman Mr. V. S. Srinivasa Sastri on behalf of the Liberal Party of this country has emphatically refused even an atom of co-operation to the British Parliament for the promulgation of so retrograde a constitution.

[Mr. K. R. Venkatarama Ayyar] [30th January 1935]

Sir, we naturally turn with equal confidence for guidance to our esteemed citizen, Sir P. S. Sivaswami Ayyar. He has propounded five tests and declared that the Joint Parliamentary Committee scheme does not satisfy any of them. They are:—‘Does the scheme hold out any prospect of attaining Dominion Status even within a generation or a period of thirty years? Does it hold out any prospect of the assumption by India of the responsibility for her own defence? Does it provide India with the power and the means of utilizing her slender financial resources for the development of her nation-building services? Does it confer upon India sufficient freedom for the development of her industries and economic life to the fullest limit of her resources? Does it tend to prolong or practically perpetuate the dictation of administrative policy by the Secretary of State and his control and interference in Indian administration?’

“Sir, it would be impertinent on my part to try to state my opinions in my own words after such weighty pronouncements by our accredited leaders. This, however, I must mention, that when Sir Tej Bahadur Sapru wrote his article for the *Twentieth Century*, he expected a greater division of opinion in India than has since manifested itself. Sir, the Right Honourable Sir Tej Bahadur Sapru must now feel greatly disillusioned. The Joint Parliamentary Committee proposals have welded together the various communities, interests, and political organizations in this country to an extent which must now set not only Sir Sapru but also the Governments in India and England and Parliament itself to seriously consider whether the Joint Parliamentary Committee scheme should not be thrown aside as the Simon Report was thrown aside, and whether a far better and really genuine scheme should not be drafted afresh with India's good-will and consent.

“Sir, everybody knows now that the Servants of India Society, the National Liberal Federation, Mr. Walchand Hirachand, Sir Nalini Ranjen Sarkar, the Committee of the Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce, the Committee of the Indian Merchants, Bombay, Mr. Joshi, on behalf of Labour, the All-India Muslim Unity Board's Working Committee, the All-India Muslim League, the recent meeting of the Council of the All-India Muslim League under Mr. Jinnah's chairmanship, Sir Abdur Rahim, the present President of the Indian Legislative Assembly, and above all, the All-India Women's Conference held at Karachi, all these have now unanimously and with one voice condemned the Joint Parliamentary Committee scheme as absolutely unacceptable.

“Sir, it may be acceptable to Sir Patro who was chained as an auxiliary to the hind-wheel of Sir John Simon's chariot throughout the black flag processions. Sir Patro who was never high in the estimation of his countrymen almost fell into an abyss in 1928. He has since been repeating time and again his fruitless endeavour to catch the foreign eye by detracting his countrymen and underrating their opinions and rendering homage to the three great fountain-heads of all that

[Mr. K. R. Venkatarama Ayyar]

30th January 1935] matters in his view, the Secretary of State, the Governor-General and the Governor for the time being. (The Hon. Rao Bahadur A. T. Pannirselvam: ‘Question.’) But, though Governors come and Governors go, every Governor has a continuous directory which keeps him from being misled by interested intriguers. Sir, the Justice Party of whom Sir Patro is so stout, strong and tall a pillar, met at Coimbatore in confederation under the presidency of the third Minister, Diwan Bahadur S. Kumaraswami Reddiyar—I do not find him here in his seat—about eight years ago and passed resolutions of great importance. They resolved to censure the then Governor, Lord Goschen.

Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. PATRO:—“Is there any sense in the hon. Member referring to all these matters, irrelevant as they are?”

Mr. K. R. VENKATARAMA AYYAR:—“That is not a point of order, Sir.

“They resolved to censure the then Governor, Lord Goschen, to abjure Ministerial office for ever and ever so long as the Montagu scheme held the field, and to give the members of the South Indian Liberal Federation liberty to enter the Congress as the only way to obtain for this country the freedom that it required and deserved.”

Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. PATRO:—“As a matter of personal explanation, Mr. President. My friend must have known that the resolution was a protest against the way in which the administration of this province was carried on at that time.”

Mr. K. R. VENKATARAMA AYYAR:—“Sir, the temptation of office was too luring for the Justice Party to adhere to their solemn vows. They sent their drummer-boy Diwan Bahadur A. Ramaswami Mudaliyar soon after to Bombay to propagate and vindicate their pledges and conclusions before the Bombay Non-Brahmans' Conference. These are the credentials of the party whose shining lights of to-day want England to be led into believing that they voice the public opinion of India.”

Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. PATRO:—“What are you to-day?”

Mr. K. R. VENKATARAMA AYYAR:—“I am voicing the opinion of the whole country. (Cries of ‘Oh, oh.’) (Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. Patro: Woe to the country.)

“Sir, Sir Patro criticized the speech of my hon. Friend the venerable Muslim Leader, Mr. Yakub Hasan, as if it was worth no attention and contained nothing but words without matter. Sir, without offence to other speakers, may I say that Mr. Yakub Hasan's speech was the speech in the whole of this debate and Sir Patro's carried no conviction.”

Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. PATRO:—“Beach oratory.”

Mr. F. BIRLEY:—“Mr. President, Sir, on a point of order. Is this a discussion on Sir Patro or the Joint Select Committee Report? (Laughter).”

[30th January 1935]

* The Hon. the PRESIDENT:—"On both, because Sir A. P. Patro made certain observations, and the hon. Member is at perfect liberty to refer to them."

Mr. K. R. VENKATARAMA AYYAR:—"Sir, the All-India Federation, if it is to serve as an instrument for the welfare of the whole of India, the welfare of the people of British India and Indian India, should be constituted in our Central Legislatures quite differently, because the Princes are in a sense but the counterparts of the representatives of British vested interests. In his article in the *Daily Telegraph*, Sir Austin Chamberlain brought this out quite clearly. He said:

"In all that concerns us most, the interests of the Princes of India are the same as ours; the presence of their representatives in the two Chambers of the Legislature will be a conservative and stabilizing element which would further be fortified by the recommendations of the Joint Parliamentary Committee in regard to the method of election of the two Chambers and the indissolubility of the Upper House."

"Major Graham Pole has therefore rightly pointed out in his recent article in the *Modern Review* that, difficult as it may be to get Labour legislation through the present Central Legislature, it will be infinitely more difficult under the proposed new constitution.

"Sir, several years ago in the course of the discussions in Parliament, Mr. Wedgwood Benn very properly laid great emphasis upon sincerity and speed as the essential conditions of a successful solution of the Indian constitutional problem. I have already addressed the House in regard to British speed. The British have been moving very fast indeed from the time of the Marquis of Hastings and of Sir Thomas Munro to the days of Lord Birkenhead and Sir Samuel Hoare. Now, Sir, as to sincerity, Parliament having conceded the goal of British policy in India to be Dominion Status, that being the authoritative interpretation of the preamble to the Statute of 1919, where is the sincerity in the refusal to recite that goal again in terms of Dominion Status after all the wrangle that has been going on these several years? With the goal enunciated in the forefront of the Constitution Act, every provision in the constitution would fall to be tested in the light of its advancing or retarding the attainment of the goal. Without it, the provisions of the constitution would be attempted to be justified, as indeed they have been by the Secretary of State in his New Year's Broadcast speech as mere steps for the better government of India by Britain. That is formulated as the final test of British policy, better government by Britain and not self-government by India.

"Sir, the sentence in the Joint Parliamentary Committee Report that the 'preamble to the Act of 1919 stands' and no subsequent pledge has added to it has been easily allowed even by Lord Halifax to influence him. Sir, that sentence cannot be left to go unchallenged. The preamble of 1919 subjected India to repeated doles to be thrown into the begging bowl of India by Parliament as and when Parliament thought fit. But there was a pledge far more sweeping in character by Parliament in 1931, namely, that the policy of the British Government and the common purpose common to the British Parliament and to

[30th January 1935] [Mr. K. R. Venkatarama Ayyar]

India was by means of the Round Table Conference 'to achieve the self-government of India,' so as to leave no future power in the British Parliament to grant or to withhold at will. That was why they went forward to pledge that at the end of the transition period the reservations and safeguards should automatically disappear. But now while the Constitution Act is to be an Act in final form, there is no time-limit fixed for the removal of the reserve power and no constituent powers are conferred upon the Indian Legislatures enabling them to evolve full freedom for India.

"Now, Sir, the safeguards have afforded an effective test of British sincerity. The Joint Parliamentary Committee's modifications of the White Paper which was sufficiently bad in itself, have made the safeguards, as Lord Reading has pointed out in the House of Lords, as effective as they possibly could be to set at rest all fears and apprehensions on the part of the British Diehards. Mr. Birley says that the safeguards are likely to be as inoperative as the small type printed conditions in merchants' contract forms. His Excellency the Governor assures us almost to the same effect in his own choice language. But Lord Eustace Percy has assured the British public quite recently that the so-called safeguards were not attempts to prevent misuse by Ministers of the powers vested in them by law but that they were frontiers beyond which the Governor-General or the Governor might not share with his Ministers the powers which the law vested solely in him. On this secure basis, he says, rested the Joint Parliamentary Committee recommendations for strengthening the powers of the Governor-General and the Governor in all matters which affected Law and Order, the Judiciary and the Public Services, especially the Police Service. The Joint Parliamentary Committee report itself says that the safeguards 'represent a retention of power, as substantial and as fully endorsed by the law, as that vested by the constitution of the United States in the President as Commander-in-Chief of the Army, but more extensive both in respect of their scope and in respect of the circumstances in which they can be brought into play.' The condolence offered to us in the succeeding sentences of the Report is that the safeguards are not inconsistent with some form of Responsible Government, and that more will depend upon the manner and spirit in which the constitution is worked, rather than its formal provisions.

"Sir, when Sir Samuel Hoare was giving evidence before the Joint Select Committee, Conservatives of all shades pulled together to extract out of him all that they wanted to make sure that the responsibility of Ministers, whether in the provinces or in the Centre, was effectively counteracted by the arbitrary overriding powers conferred upon the Governor-General and the Governor.

"As Sir Austin Chamberlain has pointed out, some services have been reserved indefinitely. The combined effect of reservations and safeguards, indirect elections to the Centre, Second Chambers in the Centre and the provinces with co-equal powers with the Lower House, representation of special interests, and weightage to the States in the

[Mr. K. R. Venkatarama Ayyar] [30th January 1935]

Federal Houses, is to withhold political power from the bulk of our people, the masses, for whose welfare Great Britain professes so much solicitude. The economic deterioration of this country and the strengthening and expansion of British commercial interests will soon be so manifest that it will become more and more difficult under the proposed Constitution, with the passage of time, for this country to assert or obtain the full measure of freedom to which she is entitled. There is a mere political structure set up without provisions for preventing the economic exploitation of the masses.

"Sir, the trusteeship of far-off Parliament for the welfare of the Indian masses of which so much is made in England had better not be audibly asserted on this side of the waters. We have become sick of the repetition *ad nauseum* of this obsolete anachronism. Do the illiterate masses of our countrymen look to us and trust us or do they look to Churchills and Pargacrafts or even Austin Chamberlains and Samuel Hoares for the amelioration of their lot? Sir, one of the conditions laid down by the Statutory Commission and adopted by the Joint Parliamentary Committee is that the Constitution now made should contain within itself the seeds of further growth and full development. This condition has not been fulfilled. There is no constituent power given to the Indian Legislatures in regard to the removal of the reserve or getting rid of the limitations in due time. There is no fixing of any time-limit for the full development.

"Sir, the whole Report breathes distrust and suspicion. Would there be an Indian Governor under the Constitution? If so, he should be a super-Indian among Indians to deserve to be entrusted with the special powers and responsibilities of the Governor. The British answer to this question would test the sincerity of the scheme which provides fetters and frontiers for Ministers. As Lord Lytton has pointed out: 'If you give responsibility, you must give full responsibility; or else, do not transfer power at all.' The whole scheme bristles with safeguards, reservations, special and discretionary powers, and it is impossible to say that what is given with one hand is not taken away with the other.

"Sir, the British Government have shown an extraordinary change of front. They were saying till the other day that the Constitution now to be passed must rest upon common consent, the consent of Great Britain as well as of India; but now, Sir, that condition has gone; they are formulating now the other thing as the condition—would there be anybody in India to work this Constitution, if imposed on India? This is now deemed enough, but would it be working with minimum or maximum goodwill, with more or less opportunities for friction, conflict and breakdown?

"What is the sanction behind this change of front? Force and nothing but force.

"One final word, Sir. We stood by Britain during the Great War in her hour of sorest trial. We feel now that she is hampering our progress towards our promised destiny, by the offer of this odious Constitution. No doubt, the ablest men in England have concentrated all

30th January 1935] [Mr. K. R. Venkatarama Ayyar]

their talents and energies to devise it. But their concentration has been not as to how much of freedom to confer but on how much could be safely withheld in the face of impending danger and how best to ward off further or future danger by preventing the growth of freedom in India. Sir, this Constitution has been drafted for the benefit of England and not of India, as if it concerned only the Conservative Party, as if India were part of British territory and as if we Indians were a nation of slaves with no right to determine our lot. His Majesty's Opposition in Parliament have during the stages, when the Constitution was being drafted, shown a more scrupulous regard for Indian interests and British pledges. We owe them a deep debt of gratitude.

"Sir, we are not by this resolution drafting a Constitution ourselves. We are only stating our deliberate opinion and sincere feeling in regard to the proposed Constitution. Sir, we have been asked, where is the alternative Constitution? I say, Sir, to Sir Samuel Hoare 'You are enamoured of your ugly child and you won't look at the other beautiful poor and helpless child challenging a comparison.' If you drafted your Bill on the basis of the White Paper as modified by the British-Indian Memorandum or as modified by the Labour Party's draft with 'direct' substituted for 'indirect' election, would it or would it not be a workable alternative? Sir Samuel Hoare's answer is that such a Constitution goes too far, not that it is in its nature unworkable. We are entitled with equal conviction to say in turn that it would be the best basis that would meet immediate requirements and that it would be a workable Constitution. If Parliament cares to give us anything worth having, it is yet open to it to proceed along such lines, but the way to proceed is not by ignoring the other man's view or evading it, but by meeting it—meeting argument by argument—so as to make sure of an unchallengeable decision out of the clash of arguments. Sir, Mr. Baldwin repeatedly declined the invitation of Mr. Lansbury in the House of Commons to answer and satisfy the Labour Party. Similarly, Lord Ponsonby pointed out in the House of Lords that His Majesty's Government thought that all they had to do was to appease their rebellious partymen and that the attention due was not paid to the views of those who would form the next Labour Government.

"Sir, they talk of disunion in India among Indians. Are they, in Great Britain, united in their attitude towards India; even men of the same party? It looks as if the bulk of the English people would unite to do justice to India only if they were again in the throes of a Great World War or paralysed by a more effective, sustained and widespread campaign of civil disobedience. Sir, that would be a very sad reflection on British character and a great detraction to British statesmanship.

"Sir, we are not asking for the moon. We do not want the Governor-General and the army to pack out at once, nor do we want Indian capitalists and landlords to make a prey of the cultivators and industrial labourers. We want at once the largest measure of Responsible Self-Government that is possible in the present circumstances, with automatic provision for the full development of the Constitution in the

[Mr. K. R. Venkatarama Ayyar] [30th January 1935]

shortest possible time under which the majority of Indian citizens on an eventual scheme of adult suffrage would govern the country through directly elected representatives in our own Parliaments.

"Sir, I hope that whatever the result, the Labour Party would move its amendments, and press them to a division. I hope that Lord Lothian would press for direct election. I hope and trust that everybody in Great Britain who yet cares to carry on commerce with this country, will do his utmost not to alienate our goodwill on which must depend all commerce.

"Sir, I am not going to conclude my speech as Sir Samuel Hoare once did in tones of triumph. I am not going to say "Let the dogs in England bark, the Indian caravan passes on." On the other hand, I hope and pray that to the same extent as we desire to be friendly, they in England will also be inspired by a desire to return our friendliness, and being the stronger side, by a readiness to give way more than ask us to yield, so that, we may move hand in hand, helping each other and advancing our mutual interests as equal partners in the Great British Commonwealth of free nations.

"Now, Sir, consistently with these opinions, sentiments and feelings, I can only beg of the House to discharge its duty fearlessly and conscientiously by rejecting the proposed Constitution, and making substantial suggestions for a sound and stable Constitution for the good of our great country, so that there might be no difficulty felt in England as to what it is that India really wants."

* The Hon. Sir K. V. REDDI NAYUDU:—"Mr. President, Sir, the Member in charge of the motion, my Hon. Colleague, told the House at the very commencement of these proceedings that the Government will not interfere in this debate and that the Members of the Government will not vote if it comes to a question of vote on this motion; and, if I rise to speak in spite of that statement, I do so entirely on my own responsibility and I speak for myself. I, therefore, request the Hon. House not to interpret in any way what I might say, as the views of the Government of Madras. I rise, Sir, because I feel I owe a duty to myself and to my country in which I have long been, according to my humble capacity, trying, and endeavouring, to render such services as I am capable of. When the destinies of India are in a balance I feel that the occasion is too great and too momentous to sit silent without giving expression to what I feel in a matter like this. In doing so, Sir, I do not propose to enter into details and I do not propose to question the right of the people of this country to ask for such changes as they deem fit and necessary for the political progress of this country. For instance, when they ask for Dominion Status, whatever that might mean, I do not in the least object to their appealing to England that if she could not grant Dominion Status immediately, it ought to be possible for her to make it the goal of India. Let it be given whenever it pleases the British Parliament, but some day let it be the goal of India. I do not object to that. Nor do I object to those others who plead for direct elections and though I do not base my plea on the grounds on which they

30th January 1935] [Sir K. V. Reddi Nayudu]

have based theirs; I feel, personally speaking, that direct elections have an advantage of their own in that they will furnish the best political education to the voters of this country, who are illiterate and ignorant (Voices from the Opposition: "Hear, hear"). There are many other amendments, incorporating all these demands, such as for instance, the one that has been moved by my hon. Friend, Mr. Siva Raj, and others, with which I have no quarrel. But, when I come to the motion tabled in the name of the Leader of the Opposition I feel, Sir, that instead of rendering a service to the country, if that motion is carried, positive injury will be done to the people of this land. (Mr. Basheer Ahmed Sayeed: "Question.")

Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED:—"May I rise to a point of order, Sir? Has the Hon. Member, speaking as an ex-officio member, not as an elected member, the right to canvass for a certain position, when the Government Member in charge of the motion

* The Hon. the PRESIDENT:—"There is no point of order in that."

* The Hon. Sir K. V. REDDI NAYUDU:—"Sir, I have, at the very outset, submitted that I am speaking for myself. Now, Sir, on the floor of this House so many sins of the Government in England, of commission and omission, so many sins of the Party in Power to which I had the honour to belong for a long time, have been mentioned and even references of a personal nature were made. I hope I will not descend to that level. It is just possible that while you find any number of deficiencies in the formation of the Government of this country, any number of acts of commission, which may not be accepted by the people of this land—for, which Government is there which can satisfy the entire population in its own country—at the same time, however, are we to forget what has been done in our own generation? I see some of my friends opposite to me are quite young, compared with a man of my age, and it may not be possible for them to realize in all prominence what has taken place within the last thirty or forty years. Mr. President, Sir, I hope you will not take it that I am striking a personal note when I refer to events of the last thirty or forty years, but it has been my lot to go through them as it must have been the lot of a few others in this House; but all members may not be aware of these events, or at any rate may not be capable of keeping them in their view. That reminds me of what I have been able to notice in England. When in 1919 I visited England, I found everybody talking of the War and the horrible atrocities that were perpetrated during the Great War. Not a single voice could be heard of joy and not a single man or woman was happy. But in 1933 when I visited the place again, the old generation has almost passed away and the younger generation knew nothing of the War or its horrors. Something of that kind evidently is passing through the minds of the members of the younger generation here in these days. It is only right on their part to ask for more, but they are now placed in better circumstances than some of us who had to toil through various phases. We had to struggle for the freedom of this country, such as we have been able to get during the last thirty or forty

[Sir K. V. Reddi Nayudu] [30th January 1935]

years. (Mr. Basheer Ahmed Sayeed: 'Gained by experience'). Certainly we must all gain by experience. Yes, you must use that experience in the right way and not in the wrong way. Experience can be two-fold; it may be an experience that will lead you on to the right way or it may lead you on and drown you in the sea."

Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED:—"Exactly, it is a matter of opinion."

* The Hon. Sir K. V. REDDI NAYUDU:—"Yes, it is a matter of opinion and I am giving expression to my opinion."

"Let me tell you something about what I have seen in one generation in our own country. I have known the days when there was no Legislative Council in this place and I have known Legislative Councils filled entirely by officials; I have known Houses of Legislation in this country which were filled by officials assisted occasionally by one or two non-official members who had no voice; I have known Houses where there were non-official members but all of whom were nominated; I have known Houses where there were non-official members, but who had no voice even for asking supplementary questions; I have known Houses in which members could not discuss the Budget. Where are we to-day? Is there not within the last thirty or forty years such a great change in the Legislative Councils of our country, and is it right to speak of sincerity and speed in the progress, quoting Major Graham Pole for sincerity and speed? But you have not really and honestly considered that there has been in reality sincerity and speed in the action of the Government at Home in giving these Reforms to the Legislative Councils within a single generation. Examine the history of Canada; examine the history of Australia—South Africa is a new country and so is Ireland—and when you come to older countries or older colonies, you will notice how long it took them to come to the present position that they enjoy to-day. In England itself, how long did it take, how many centuries did it take for the British people to acquire rights and privileges which they are now enjoying. Never mind about the Legislative Councils. What about the international position which India has acquired within the last ten or fifteen years? Did not our members sit in the Conferences, in the Imperial Conferences in London? Did not our citizens sign Peace Treaties? Is not India a Member of the League of Nations? (Mr. Basheer Ahmed Sayeed: 'In what capacity?') Is that not, I ask, a good that has been acquired by India?"

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—"Dummies may be there."

12
noon.

* The Hon. Sir K. V. REDDI NAYUDU:—"Well, dummies can be there, if one feels a dummy. I have no objection to leave it to my hon. Friend to take that credit. Do you call a man like the Rt. Hon. Mr. V. S. Srinivasa Sastri a dummy, who has been quoted in season and out of season in this House, quoted by leaders of opposition when it suited their purpose, who has sat in the Imperial Conference and exchanged swords with no less a statesman than General Smuts."

* Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—"Will you take his place?"

30th January 1935]

* The Hon. Sir K. V. REDDI NAYUDU:—"Yes, I succeeded him in South Africa and I believe I succeeded him well. (A voice: 'Question.') You are at perfect liberty to question what you like."

"I may refer to another circumstance. Take the Executive Councils. In season and out of season, we have been told in this House and elsewhere that Indians were not admitted into the Executive Councils. But in 1911, when that old scion of the Bobbili house was chosen as a Member of the Executive Council, do hon. Members forget the joy that swept over the country? Do hon. Members forget within their own generation, within 15 or 20 years, that an Indian was made Governor of a province, that an Indian was made a Member of the House of Lords, and that an Indian was made a Member of the Ministry of Great Britain? These are all small changes to men who do not see behind them. But to those who have gone through the old period, and to those who have taken part in the struggle for gaining these, it is impossible to understand either the criticism or the reasons on which such criticisms are based."

"Let us go a step further. What does the main amendment say? It says that the Reforms that were offered, as contained in the Joint Parliamentary Committee Report, are unsatisfactory and unacceptable, and my hon. Friend, the Leader of the Opposition, would be content with the existing state of circumstances. He would rather continue in the diarchy which is in existence to-day, rather than accept the Reforms. Well, Sir, I ask if this is a service to this country? What have you been doing all these years since diarchy has been introduced? Within two years of the introduction of diarchy resolutions were moved in the Assembly. (A voice: 'Question.') There is no question about it and it has been referred to. After introduction, it was in 1922, within two years after the system was introduced a motion was made to repeal the diarchic system. We have been told that we the Executive Councillors, are an irresponsible and irremovable body of bureaucrats, white bureaucrats to my right, and brown bureaucrats ourselves. (Cries of: 'Oh!') Yes, and you wanted the removal of this diarchic system and the removal of these Executive Councillors. And what are you doing now, when a scheme is presented to you abolishing these Executive Councillors and replacing them by Ministers chosen by the Governor from the elected members of the Legislative Council? (Voices: 'Not necessarily.') You will have the old system because you must be moving amendments. Is it sense, is it service to the country? I ask, is it consistent with your character all these days?"

"There are three main points, fundamental points in these Reforms. One is the replacement of diarchic system by complete autonomy. (Voice: 'Worse, worse.') Worse for those who have no conception of what they have done before. Let me leave it at that. Then in the Centre, we are being given responsibility over certain subjects. As regards subjects over which responsibility is not to be given, Hon. Members of the Opposition themselves admitted that they had no

[Sir K. V. Reddi Nayudu] [30th January 1935]

objection so far as Defence, Ecclesiastical and Foreign matters are concerned; as regards the rest, they are going to have responsibility. When they were charged with irresponsibility in the Assembly, hon. Members of the Opposition were not slow to tell the House that they would have been more responsible if they had been allowed to go into office. Such an opportunity is given now in the Reforms and yet you do not want to take that opportunity.

"Another thing, and that is more important than what I have been speaking of. Sir, Federation is a new conception. I want to lay some emphasis, personally, on this. To me, it means the birth of a nation, which can have no succeeding parallel. (A voice: 'Still-born.') Still-born, my friend says. Those that do not deserve it, are still-born themselves. Well, Sir, here is the birth of a nation. When, in the history of India, I ask, was there a time when from the snowy heights of the Himalayas right down to Cape Comorin, which is washed by three seas, there was the conception of a single nation of 350 millions living under one rule, and under one law? From the time of Asoka, from the time of Harsha and Vikramaditya down to the period of the Moghuls and our own Krishna Deva Raya, did any one rule the whole country? Did they speak one language? Did they call themselves one nation? There must be some relation to facts. If facts irritate my friends, I will not be responsible. (Voices: 'No, no. It amuses us.') It will not be the monopoly of one alone, I will be equally amused at you. It is difficult to amuse some people. It is the monopoly of some not to see things in the right spirit but always to complain this is not done or that is not done, ignoring altogether everything that has been done.

"I should like to refer to one of the objections which has been raised. One objection is that there is no constituent power in the Council. Another objection is that there have been too many checks and special powers and responsibilities invested in the Governor. A third is that whereas in countries like Canada, Australia and South Africa, the wish of the people was taken into account and the constitution was actually drawn up by those people and the British Parliament served only as an instrument to pass those laws without the slightest amendment, that has not been the case in India. I do not deny that in the last charge there is a substratum of truth. It is true that the Australians and the South Africans did prepare their own Bills and took them to England by an agreed system. Now, may I in all earnestness ask, where is the analogy between India and those three countries which you have mentioned? Have you got any Hindu-Muslim problem there? Have you got that wonderful institution of which every citizen should be ashamed, the system of Depressed Classes and Untouchables, in those countries? I suppose they have no such problems to hinder their rights, which to our shame, we must own. But we venture to claim equality with those countries which know nothing of these things. (Voices: 'What about Indians who are there?') They are the penalty of our sins. It is you that made them the slaves of this land and drove

[30th January 1935] [Sir K. V. Reddi Nayudu]

them away from this country in search of food. How can you expect better treatment when you yourselves do not give them a good treatment here?"

* Mr. T. C. SRINIVASA AYYANGAR:—"Was it this gospel that you preached there?"

* The Hon. Sir K. V. REDDI NAYUDU:—"Next, Sir, I have carefully gone through as many books as I could to find out, if there were any country in which those circumstances were to be found. Those institutions of which I have just spoken are not to be found there. That is not all. There are other and important circumstances which impelled those countries to form into a federation, a federation of those states which enjoyed Self-Government for a time and even Responsible Government to a large extent. Mr. Ramalinga Chettiyar observed the other day that it is to be a federation of provinces in which representative institutions have come into existence long ago and in which Responsible Government is enjoyed at least in Diarchic form, and of those states where no such things obtain. The very basic principle and foundation of federation in those countries was the consent of each self-governing country to part with some of its rights and privileges and to confer them upon a central body, known as Federation. Where is the analogy to this country? What is the good of comparing things which have not been in touch with similar circumstances, either in the nature of the population or culture or civilization or forms of government they have been enjoying? There are other circumstances also which induced Canada, Australia and South Africa to federate; the fear of war in South Africa, and civil war in Canada were the main and important reasons which induced those countries to federate because they found defence a matter of great difficulty. There have been various other circumstances which necessitated one federation, as it was considered feasible to have inter-provincial communication brought into existence. Federation also facilitated defence as union was strength. In fact, it was the scheme of Murray in preparing a plan of railway communications in South Africa and Canada which facilitated matters. It was those circumstances that induced them to come near each other. In our country, we are having political difficulties, not because we had any difficulties in the finance of India, not because we are lacking in communications, not because there was a war which compelled us to come together to form a strong body. Without any of these difficulties certainly the analogy does not hold good. Next, assuming for argument's sake that there is a comparison between those countries and our own, where is the harm in giving the choice to the people of this country? I, for one, would not object. If only my friends opposite would undertake and would pledge their word to say within one year and six months that they would come to an agreement between themselves on any agreed scheme, it would be a different matter. Will Muslims agree to give up their claims? If not, how can the agreement be arrived at? Will the Hindu Sabhites agree to give seats to the Depressed Classes or to the Muslims? What is the good of talking of

[Sir K. V. Reddi Nayudu] [30th January 1935]

an agreed scheme and of the will of the people, when they cannot come together, even after three and a half years have been wasted and still they could not come to an agreement? (A voice: 'They were not intended to come to an agreement.') Is it not necessary that others should intend to? What have our people done to come to an agreement? Have not the All-Parties Conferences been dissolved to our utter shame? What is the good of complaining against things which are impossible in our nature to correct?

12-15 p.m. "So much about the comparison between the countries concerned. I wish to say one word more about these checks. These checks have existed in all constitutions. They are intended not to be operative, but there must be some rule, especially under the British constitution, somebody will have to say the last word. When a conflict arises, and when a deadlock is foreseen and cannot be avoided, somebody will have to step into the arena and say what is right and what is wrong. When such constitutions become impossible, anybody with the slightest knowledge of Constitutional History will realize that there have been persistent, numerous checks in all Constitutions including the Constitution of England. Now, Sir, in Canada, has there been equality in the Constitution? I should like to read just a passage from Mr. A. B. Keith's book, and this refers to a period of ten years after the Canadian Parliament was constituted, and the Canadian Dominion was formed. He says:

'The Parliament of Canada has a mere scintilla of constituent power. It cannot amend the provisions as to the executive Government, including the vesting of authority in the Crown and in the representative of the Crown. It cannot touch any of the provisions affecting the Senate save its quorum. It cannot even alter the quorum of the House of Commons, it can regulate its franchise, but it can only change the numbers of the House subject to the rule that Quebec must have 65 members and the other provinces must have proportional representation varied with the decennial census. It required an Imperial Act to enable it to appoint a Deputy Speaker and to enlarge its privileges as to giving to Committees powers to take evidence on oath. It is helpless to improve relations between the Senate and the lower House, and, when it became imperative to provide for an increase in the numbers of the Senate and the groupings of Senators on a slightly changed basis, Imperial legislation had to be invoked. More than that it cannot alter a single clause of the distribution of powers between the provinces and the central power; however urgent some change may be, and however little objectionable it is in principle, it is impotent. When its laws necessary in the interests of the Dominion are ruled invalid, the legislature cannot, as in England, step in and validate the matter. Nor are the provisions in much better state. True that unlike the Dominion, they can alter the Constitution freely in all points save those affecting the position of the Lieutenant-Governor as head of the provincial Government. But what is really important is the question of relations between the provinces and the federation, and here they are as impotent as the federation.'

"I can cite, Sir, passages both from the History of Australia and of South Africa showing that these restrictions do exist there. To give you one instance, in the year 1907, the Australian Commonwealth wanted to pass a Bill for the purpose of helping their commerce, and they said that if imports are sent from England to Australia it should be on only one condition, namely, that no Asiatic labour should be employed on the ships. England at once set her foot on that and said, 'whatever advantage such an agreement or Bill might give to the

[30th January 1935] [Sir K. V. Reddi Nayudu]

British public or the British nation, England for one would never consent to make such a discrimination amongst its own subjects.' Turning to South Africa, I can call another instance. There is a section of the South Africa Act with which I am very familiar, and that is section 152. That section says that whenever the franchise of the Cape Indians has to be changed the House of Assembly in South Africa has no power, and a restriction has been placed that it must be changed by a resolution of both the Houses with a two-thirds majority, and if it is by a Bill it has to be reserved for the pleasure of His Majesty the King Emperor. Now, the checks and other things existed there, not because that they should curtail every power that is to be given to India but that they might be of some use at some time when a crisis arose. I am perfectly confident that my Friends may look upon me as a Member of Government and as speaking like one. But you will agree with me or at least you will admit that I have done something in the cause of the country, however humble and insignificant my own services may be. But to look at everything with a jaundiced eye, to suspect everything and charge everybody with suspicion is in my humble opinion not charitable. Leave that alone, Sir. I think, Mr. President, I must bring my speech to a close. Before doing so, however, I should like to refer once more to that stalwart politician, in whose footsteps I followed to some extent. Reference has been made to what he is reported to have said in a paper or in a public meeting. We are told that the Right Hon'ble V. S. Sastri is an undoubted patriot who has rendered immense service to the country, who has been chosen as an Ambassador of India to Australia and to Canada. We are told that he saw nothing but flood and fire in the scheme of the Joint Parliamentary Committee's Report, flood and fire which we are told, one could only try to escape from; or save something from it and by trying to save everything would either be drowned in the flood or get burnt in the conflagration. My own humble opinion, Sir, is to the contrary. I too have, and I would like to give, my vision of this Bill. Hon' Members are at perfect liberty to judge it for themselves. I do not ask them to accept my statement of the vision without criticism, without introspection and inspection, but do not throw it away simply because it comes from one on the Treasury Bench. My vision, Sir, is something akin to it but altogether different in other respects. I see before me in this Bill or in this Joint Committee's Report, the Himalyas, that mountain for which there is no parallel or equal in the whole world. I too see some water flowing down from it; I too see some fire. But, I believe that these waters which are rushing down the Himalyas are rushing down not to drown this village or that, this man or that man, but to supply water to the plains of the United Provinces and of Bengal, to enrich and to irrigate them, so that the people of this country might be fed. I too, Sir, see a fire on the Himalyas. But it is not the fire which my Right Hon'ble Friend sees. That is a fire which I interpret as the bonfire of the hillmen who are celebrating the coming event, the birth of a Nation (hear, hear). I go a little step further, Sir. I look higher up and see a temple there, the Temple of Liberty. There I see the Goddess of Liberty, Gowri herself dancing

[Sir K. V. Reddi Nayudu] [30th January 1935]

in ecstasy with Nataraja, but holding in her hand the Golden Key, the Key of Liberty, for this country. The doors of the temple are open. Let me implore my countrymen not to refuse, not to hesitate, to go into that temple. Let me appeal to my countrymen in the words of Burke, 'Don't scuffle on the steps of the temple.' (Cheers)."

* Mr. C. BASU DEV:—"Mr. President, Sir, after I saw the imposing array of amendments to the Report and heard the flood of eloquence on the floor of this House declaiming against the iniquitous inadequacy of the proposed Reforms, I am rather nervous, Sir, to intrude on this atmosphere of offended pride and indignant protest with my humble suggestions for the betterment of the 90 per cent of the population whose sole anxiety, not a sentimental one, but a live and real anxiety day in and day out, is to find work and thereby to earn their daily morsel of food. Sir, before I refer to those suggestions, I would with your indulgence like to make a few observations. The spokesmen of the three big parties in this House tabled and spoke on the amendments, claiming to speak on behalf of the peoples of this country, with what justification I shall presently examine. Dr. Subbarayan followed by his lieutenants went furthest and declared that the present Diarchic system is better than the proposed Reforms. I heard him patiently and closely but found not a word said in support of his contention. I expected to find some arguments drawn from his experience as the Chief Minister of this province for over four years. I was sadly disappointed. He and his friends relied upon the verdict of the country in the recent Assembly Elections. I do not know, Sir, to the verdict on what issue they referred; if it is the Joint Parliamentary Committee Report, allow me to remind them that the Report was published twelve days after the elections were fought. It cannot be the White Paper because Dr. Subbarayan had given his blessings to it on a previous occasion on this very floor. Dr. Subbarayan admitted that the electorate for the Assembly Constituencies consisted of masses also. Does the Hon. Member seriously suggest that the masses could read or understand the various difficult and complex recommendations of either the White Paper or the Report and that they gave considered judgment on them. It is to say the least, Sir, an irresponsible and incorrect statement worthy of the Tilak Ghat orator. Mr. Venkatarama Ayyar of Madura made an ungenerous and uncalled for personal attack on my esteemed friend Sir A. P. Patro. Sir, he referred to the diaries kept in the Government Houses to warn the Governors against the intriguers; if only the notes of interviews at the Government House are available to the public they would disclose to what extent these protagonists of nationalism urge the cause of the country and to what extent they were asking for official favours like titles, offices, etc.

"The hon. the Leader of the Opposition referred in uncomplimentary manner to the personnel of the Round Table Conference. Sir, nothing is more unjust than to reflect upon the intelligence, the honour and the integrity of the men and women who went to England to represent the cause of India. Sir Tej Bahadur Sapru when he was invited to serve on the Nehru Committee by the accredited leader

[30th January 1935] [Mr. C. Basu Dev]

of the Indian National Congress, was a highly estimable person, representing Indian public opinion but when he was nominated by the Government to the Round Table Conference he lost colour and his contribution to the Round Table Conference had no weight in the opinion of our Congress friends. Sir, this is a method of argument which my humble intelligence cannot follow.

"Sir, Gentlemen on the other side of this House referred to the verdict of the country at the recent Assembly elections on those who participated at the Round Table Conferences. In the matter of public opinion and politics in this country there are two distinct Indias: the Hindu India and the Muslim India. Whatever may be the interpretation of the verdict of the Hindu India, Muslim India had given its verdict in an unequivocal manner when it elected almost all the Round Tablers who sought election to the Assembly. Mr. A. H. Ghuznavi, Mr. M. A. Jinnah, Sir Abdur Rahim (Member of the British Indian Delegation), Mr. Ghulam Hidayatullah and others were returned with great majorities. Perhaps with the exception of Dr. Shafat Ahmad Khan, no Round Tabler was defeated. This, Sir, is the verdict of Muslim India. Whatever my hon. Friend, Mr. Yakub Hasan, Leader of the Muslim Council Party, may say here, the Indian representatives of the Round Table Conference spoke with sincerity and urged with energy and conviction what was good for India. I doubt if India could have got a better and an abler set to advocate her cause if she was asked to elect her representatives. It was ungenerous to attack the personnel of the Round Table Conference and my surprise was great indeed when I heard Dr. Subbarayan utter his indictment against his own political mentor, Sir Tej Bahadur Sapru.

"Sir, with regard to the verdict of the Hindu India in the recent Assembly elections, may I ask my hon. Friends at what cost that verdict was obtained? Have they asked their Congress candidates what they had to spend to obtain success at the polls? Enormous sums of money were spent and, even in the case of one of the most popular Congressmen, Mr. Nageswara Rao Pantulu, in the districts of Kistna and West and East Godavari against a very insignificant opponent, over Rs. 40,000 were spent. The verdict obtained at such an enormous cost especially when the opponents could not spend or work with the same vigour as the Congress candidates, I submit is worth nothing and the less said of it the better. I leave the matter at that.

"Sir, I was referring to the amendments, tabled by the spokesmen of the three big parties in this House. They were rather imposing and the parties chafed at the checks which the Report recommended, and wanted uncontrolled power or responsibility, as they called it. Sir, speaking from my experience of the conditions of people who have to struggle for their daily bread and who form over 90 per cent of the population of this Presidency, I beg to say, with all the emphasis at my command, that the claim of these parties to speak on behalf of the people of India is not justified in the least. During the last

[Mr. C. Basu Dev] [30th January 1935]

14 years the Montford Scheme has been in operation, I ask what these parties have done to ameliorate the conditions of the masses. Under the cloak of communalism and communal justice in certain quarters and with a magic word of patriotism and nationalism in other quarters, politicians and political parties have imposed upon the innocent and credulous men and women only to conserve their personal interest and the interest of the wealthy and not for doing anything to protect and promote the welfare of the people. Recently at Coimbatore; in Bombay and now in Ahmedabad, thousands of workers have been thrown into difficulties and into miserable hardships. What have these public men in their parties done to help them out of their misery? Middlemen are ruining agriculture. What has been done to protect the poor ryot? I submit that nothing has been done or even seriously attempted to alleviate human misery. It is therefore political dishonesty of the worst type to claim to speak on behalf of the people. The European employer and the European generally is more liberal and sympathetic towards the masses and the masses, having as at present no voice in the administration of their country, are reluctant that the trusteeship of their interest should be transferred without adequate safeguards, like the Declaration of Fundamental Rights and other items indicated in the amendment that I have given notice of. Sir, a Declaration of Fundamental Rights has been an invariable feature in the post-war Constitutions but I was surprised that the Members of the Joint Parliamentary Committee did not recommend but disposed it of with scant courtesy in about half a paragraph. They say:

'The Statutory Commission observe with reference to this subject: "We are aware that such provisions have been inserted in many Constitutions notably in those of the European States formed after the War. Experience, however, has not shown them to be of any great practical value. Abstract declarations are useless unless there exist the will and the means to make them effective."'

Further on, they say:

'... its legal effect will be to impose an embarrassing restriction on the powers of the legislature and to create a grave risk that a large number of laws may be declared invalid by the courts, because inconsistent with one or other of the rights so declared.'

Again, they say:

'There is this further objection that the States have made it abundantly clear that no declaration of fundamental rights is to apply in State territories; and it would be altogether anomalous if such a declaration had legal force in part only of the area of the Federation.'

These rights are of two kinds—justifiable and non-justifiable. With regard to these rights, whatever sanctity may be attached to them, on occasions of State emergency, every one is agreed that they may be abrogated. But, these rights will act as a check upon legislators and warn them in time that they should proceed with caution. With regard to non-justifiable rights, it is not proper to dismiss them as being abstract declarations and therefore useless. I would, with your permission, like to refer to the opinion of my talented friend and author Mr. A. Krishnaswami, son of our distinguished public man

30th January 1935] [Mr. C. Basu Dev]

Diwan Bahadur Ramaswami Mudaliyar, expressed in his 'New Indian Constitution' in support of my contention that it is necessary to include a Declaration of Rights. He says:

'The positive assistance which these rights render in realizing social aspirations may now be dealt with. It has been aptly pointed out that law is the result of a "process of action between constitutionally organized initiative and spontaneous social forces." By incorporating such rights, the Constitution serves as a constant reminder of the direction in which legislation must proceed. Like the Laputan flapper, it draws the gentle attention of its august master to the task that lies ahead. A clause that "every German has the right to work," or that "youth shall be protected against exploitation as well as against neglect of their moral, mental, or physical welfare," will contribute its quota to the social forces at work. It is true that aspirations of the type quoted above cannot be immediately realized. But the path leading to the Holy Grail is bound to be straight and narrow, and the quest for it long and wearisome. The framers of constitutions are therefore content with having blazed the trail, leaving it to succeeding generations to follow it up.'

He goes on to say further:

'There are certain special and additional reasons for the incorporation of some fundamental rights in the Indian Constitution. It has been affirmed that in democracies, "power springs from the people." This statement may be justified where democracies are based on adult franchise, and where every individual has an indirect share in the administration of the country. The Indian Constitution does not purport to base its institutions so widely on popular will. It has been shown in another chapter why immediate adult franchise has been discarded as impracticable, and the suffrage has been extended to a limited set of men and women. The need for guaranteeing fundamental rights to individuals and sections are denied the opportunity of influencing the political administration in the country.'

'Moreover, there is another limitation imposed on democracy in the Indian Constitution. Certain positive functions are vested in Governors of Provinces and in the Governor-General, who can either by overruling or even without reference to the legislature enact laws. Even if it be admitted that a popular legislature need not guarantee to itself or to the people on whose behalf it functions certain inalienable rights, it cannot be denied that where an individual is entrusted with these special powers their exercise should be hedged in by a declaration of fundamental rights. There must be a guarantee to the citizen or group, not only against legislature, but also against "supreme executive" violation of his or its minimum rights.'

'I do not think I should pursue this question of Fundamental Rights any further. I think I have made out a strong case for the inclusion of a declaration of Fundamental Rights in the Constitution itself.'

'I have one or two other observations to make, Sir, and I shall be 12-4 very brief. I have said in the amendment tabled by me that the proposed representation of labour is inadequate. Compared with the representation of the vested interests like landholders and the commercial interests, the representation given to labour has been very tardy and ungenerous. The Joint Parliamentary Committee have advanced the argument that the representatives of the depressed classes would also to some extent reflect the labour point of view and that the Labour strength therefore is more than the exact number which have been reserved for labour. With regard to this argument, if separate electorates had been the feature of the representation of the depressed classes, probably it would have been acceptable to me. But as long as the representatives of the depressed classes have to be elected by joint

[Mr. C. Basu Dev] [30th January 1935]

electorates, I submit with all the emphasis at my command that the representatives of the depressed classes will not have the labour outlook which the Joint Parliamentary Committee have presumed.

"I raised another point. I said that persons elected to the special seats reserved for labour should themselves be workers and that it is not safe to entrust representation of labour to trade unions in their present unsatisfactory state. Sir, there is a move on the part of interested persons to confine the constituencies for the special labour seats to unions. That might satisfy public opinion or help certain persons who want to impose upon the workers and say that they are doing everything to help the labourers and advance their interests. Trade unions are not the organizations which could properly represent the actual workers. Trade unions in this Presidency are about 31 or 32 in number and they have a total strength of about 30,000, but the actual industrial population is certainly very, very much more and it is not proper or just to form constituencies for the special seats reserved for labour at this juncture. With regard to outsiders posing themselves as representatives of labour, I submit, Sir, the time has now come when the workers themselves should be trained to take up the task of representing their interests. Hon. Members who are interested in the welfare of labour and who are sympathetic to labour have ample scope to help the actual workers to take their legitimate and natural place as their own representatives. I do not know, Sir, what exactly the Government are now doing with regard to the question of fixing the constituencies for the special labour seats. I hope that the Government would, before they come to any decision on the matter, consult the people who are interested in the workers, and also the workers and see that the workers get their proper and true representatives.

"Sir, I associate myself with my hon. Friend Mr. Siva Raj in his demand for adequate representation of his community in the Upper House and ask for adequate representation of labouring class so that the labour point of view also may be properly represented there.

"Sir, much has been said with regard to the necessity for a direct form of election to the Federal Assembly and I do not want to repeat the arguments. But I take this opportunity of associating myself with all that has been said on this matter.

"With regard to the franchise in the urban and industrial areas, I submit that wage-earners should be given the franchise and also it is necessary to enfranchise persons who not merely live in whole houses but also in portions of houses. In the matter of the qualification of the voters, the Joint Parliamentary Committee have made an unjust distinction between Province and Province. Whereas in Madras a person will have to occupy a whole house for the whole of the periods before he can be enfranchised, in Bombay and Bengal any tenant of a house or a portion of a house has been given the privilege of voting. I respectfully request His Majesty's Government to enfranchise tenants, whether they are tenants of whole houses or portions of houses. One word more and I am done. I must impress upon His Majesty's Government the great

[30th January 1935] [Mr. C. Basu Dev]

necessity to give the masses adequate representation in the governance of this country and also to add adequate safeguards to protect them. The apprehension of Major Attlee about the dangers of the rural population and the wage-earners being placed at the mercy of a dominant political class is not imaginary but very, very real."

* Mr. H. B. ARI GOWDER:—"Mr. President, Sir, I would not have been anxious to add to the volume of literature on this subject, if I had not been told that my amendment^a requires some elucidation. First of all, I should say that the proposed Constitution falls far short of the hopes raised in India, hopes with regard to the grant of equality of status with the other Dominions. These hopes were raised during and just before the Round Table Conferences. I have said in my amendment that to the extent to which that equality of status is withheld by England, to that extent will the movement for separation grow in strength. This is not a mere warning; this is merely a restatement of the facts as they are. Anyone who critically observes the trend of political events in the country will see that there are two schools of thought—the Congress and the non-Congress. The Congress stands for Independence whereas the other parties stand for Dominion Status. But Dominion Status presumes the right to separation, and therefore means Independence in the near future. I hope the Hon. the Law Member also is for Independence inasmuch as he is for Dominion Status. The question arises whether it is better to give Independence to India or Dominion Status. There are many difficulties in the grant of independence from the point of view of the Diehards in England. We are asked, "How is it possible for England alone to give up India when so many other Imperial nations have their sway over numerous coloured peoples who are very useful to them in times of war and peace?" We are told that unless those nations give up their possessions, England alone could not possibly relax her control over India. There is yet another argument. India is weak and if she is left free she will simply change her masters. Or, on the other hand, if India grows in strength, she would probably be a menace to the peace of Europe, because India has sympathy with the pan-Islamic movement and Japan has her designs in Asia. These two combined, will be a tremendous power and if this combination knocks at the eastern gate of Europe, Europe cannot escape from the danger unless all the European countries federate themselves at Geneva or Vienna and combine to meet the eastern menace. These are some of the difficulties which stand in the way of the Diehards in England seeing eye to eye with us. What is the solution of the difficulty? The Diehard has got one and only one view and that is to keep India under subjection for ever. Keeping that in mind, he has proposed a Constitution in such a way that it is impossible for India to get away from

^a The amendment runs thus:—

Mr. H. B. ARI GOWDER:—

Add the following at the end:—

"and on such consideration this House feels profoundly disappointed with the Report, constituting, as it does, a clear set-back to the progress of the country. This House is deeply concerned to think that, unless equality is made the basis of an Indo-British partnership, the movement for complete independence will receive the support of the country at large."

[Mr. H. B. Ari Gowder] [30th January 1935]

the Empire. On the other hand, there is the growing national consciousness of India, a consciousness which is encouraged by the moral support of the world and the active sympathy and support of a large section of Britishers themselves. An India growing in strength like that can never be kept under subjection for ever. If therefore India is to be granted equality of status, what form should that status take? In what way should it be translated in the Constitution? I know it is too much to expect the Britishers to amend the constitution very much, but if one or two provisions are added to the Constitution, I think it will be a good thing. I think, Sir, that there should be a provision that the Secretary of State, the Governor-General and the Governors should be elected by the people. If that provision is made, the safeguards proposed now may all be there. The Houses of Parliament also should be so constituted as to give adequate representation to Indians. If these changes are made in the proposed Constitution, I am sure responsible Indians will have no objection to the Constitution.

"In this connexion, I should like to say a word with regard to the speech made by the Hon. the Law Member this morning. Let me assure him that the public have no use for the kind of speech that he has made now. He has evidently and admittedly lost touch with the younger generation. Every time he or Sir Patro speaks, I am sure there are hundreds of people who go from the right to the left. This is the greatest compliment that could be paid to the eloquence with which they make their speeches. If they really want to serve the cause for which they expect the co-operation of the people, they should not make any more speeches of the kind that the Hon. the Law Member has made just now."

* MR. P. V. RAJAGOPAL PILLAI:—"Mr. President, Sir, as the time at my disposal is so short, I shall confine myself to the amendment of which I have given notice and which affects the vital interests of the depressed classes. I shall not weary the House by reiterating the origin of the Poona Pact. But suffice it to say that the leaders of the depressed classes who were invited to Poona in their eagerness and anxiety to save the life of Mr. Gandhi signed the Pact without closely studying its implications. Under the Premier's Award, we were given 18 seats in this Council under a separate electorate with a right to vote for and contest other seats in the general electorate. Under the Poona Pact, although we are allowed 30 seats, yet we have to face two elections, a primary election in which we have to choose a panel of four candidates and then a subsequent election in a joint electorate in which the candidate getting the highest number of votes will be declared elected. Sir, this would create several factions and disruptions amongst the depressed classes themselves, because the mentality of the people is such that those who vote for a certain candidate will form themselves into a separate group and this trouble will be going on for years to come. Besides this, it is well known that several influential, rich and educated Hindus have lost their all in election campaigns. When such is the case, is it possible for poor depressed class candidates to face two elections? We are already suffering on account of the reservation of seats in a joint

[30th January 1935] [Mr. P. V. Rajagopal Pillai]

electorate with regard to elections to local bodies and we therefore do not want such a thing to be repeated in the matter of elections to the Legislative Councils. If the arrangements proposed under the Poona Pact are put into force, the real representatives of the depressed classes will not be elected. It is therefore our earnest desire that the arrangements for the election of our representatives should be such that there will be no room for undue influence from outside. With your permission, Sir, I shall read one or two sentences from the Census Report of 1931:—

"Despite their lowly status, these communities play a large and important part in the life of the Presidency. It is they who furnish the backbone of agricultural labour in the chief rice-growing districts. In one form or another, they have been the victims of an agrestic serfdom wherever they have been. This generally took and still takes the form of compulsory advances from their employers which could never be repaid in full and thus tied the borrower to the soil. This was most noticeable in Tanjore. But a parallel system of advances produced the same effect in South Kanara. It must be laid to the credit of Ceylon and other estates that they have done more to raise the self-respect of the South Indian depressed classes worker than any other single circumstance." (Pages 342-343 of the Census of India, 1931.)

"In another place, the Census report says:—

"Government activities in aid of these unfortunates have met with some lip sympathy but a good deal more practical opposition, as the treatment of the Labour Department budgets in the earlier years of the decade shows. The department had practically to fight for its life and Tanjore mirasidars led deputations to Governors protesting against activities designed to benefit the pre-dial serfs of the district."

"It would be admitted by all that the masses are steeped in ignorance and poverty. It is not an easy task to stir up the political sense in them; it will take some years. We also consider that there is no chance of our obtaining social rights without political rights. I am not unaware of the fact that sooner or later there should be joint electorates. But I think the time is not ripe for the depressed classes to have joint electorates. In these circumstances, I think, it is very essential that our interests should be protected until such time as the members of the depressed classes are sufficiently educated, and there should be separate electorate for at least 10 years, if not for 20 years. I, therefore, commend for the acceptance of the House the amendment that was so ably moved by my hon. Friend, Mr. Siva Raj."

"Before I resume my seat, I wish to say a few words in reply to the uncharitable observations made by Mr. Ratnavelu Thevar. He said that Mr. Siva Raj did not represent anybody but himself. I think the recent transplantation of Mr. Thevar to the other side, has affected his memory. He seems to have forgotten that Mr. Siva Raj, as one of the leaders, was invited to Poona to sign the Pact, in order to save the life of Mahatma Gandhi. I wish to impress on Mr. Ratnavelu Thevar that the Members of the depressed classes in this Council are the real leaders of the depressed classes and this fact has been recognized not only by this Government but also by Mahatma Gandhi, Pandit Malavaiya, Mr. Birla and other eminent men of the country."

* MR. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED:—"Mr. President, Sir, after so much of discussion on the report of the Joint Parliamentary Committee,

[Mr. Basheer Ahmed Sayeed] [30th January 1935]

I do not think it is worth while indulging in any long speech. I find there is impatience on the face of several of my hon. Colleagues who are now here. But I wish to submit a few observations on points which I think have not been touched by any of the previous speakers. My points will be very brief and I shall not tire the House. The simple question, after all that is said and done, that still remains unanswered, is this: whether the Joint Parliamentary Committee Report has proposed any real transfer of power from the British voter to the Indian voter. This is the fundamental issue so far as I am concerned. A thorough study and even a re-study of the whole Report and the various proposals made therein, do not leave one with the conviction that there has been any substantial transfer of power from the British voter to the Indian voter. No doubt, Sir, in response to the agitation that was carried on for years in this country, franchise is sought to be enlarged. This is a great advance. No doubt, the irremovable Executive is being transformed into the Ministry. Leaving those two points of improvement, and some minor advances here and there, if we search for anything further that has been done in the Provincial sphere, we are to search in vain for any other improvement. If the agitation, the sacrifice and the loyalty that has been shown by this country from year to year for decades, is to be rewarded only with that little extended franchise and conversion of the Executive Councillors into Ministers, only my hon. Friends on the other side could be satisfied. We on this side are not at all satisfied with the little pittance that has been very grudgingly given. We on this side say that the report and the proposals have to undergo very many drastic changes and serious modifications, if it is going to give any substance of provincial autonomy or responsible government to this country. This country has been demanding Dominion Status by which is meant no other than full responsible government. It is too late now in the day to say that the Government of His Majesty did not promise or make any pledge in that direction. It was stated by His Majesty's Government and British statesmen that the ideal was a self-governing India by development and in progressive stages. This is enough to convince any constitutionalist that there was a definite promise of the grant of Dominion Status in an increasing and progressive manner. Even in the year 1919 the proclamation of His Majesty also stated that India would be a self-governing dominion very soon. I shall repeat the words of the proclamation of 23rd December 1919; His Majesty said that the Act of 1919 is opening the way to full responsible government hereafter and the right of her (Indian) people to direct her affairs and safeguard her interests. Speaking of the elections to the Indian Legislative bodies at the end of the year 1920, Professor Keith said that it heralds the time when India will desire full autonomy and will rank as an equal partner with the Dominions and the United Kingdom itself as a Member of the British Commonwealth. Therefore, the test is whether there is the grant of real advance and whether the substance of self-government or full responsible government has been given to this country. That is the real test. If we only apply this test, we are

[30th January 1935] [Mr. Basheer Ahmed Sayeed]

driven to the irresistible conclusion that apart from tinkering here and tinkering there, nothing substantial has been given to us by the proposals of the Joint Parliamentary Committee. The opinion that the proposals do not satisfy the people has been expressed all over the country. It is not for me to repeat that opinion. What do we really find? What is the measure of self-government that has now been given to us in these proposals? Let us examine a little. The Ministers' salaries are, to-day, under the present Constitution, votable. If we refuse the salaries of Ministers, they have to leave office and they have to go unless they are thick-skinned. But according to the proposals that have been made by the Joint Committee, the salaries of Ministers will be non-votable. The question of joint responsibility has been repeatedly emphasized by this House and by the Madras Government Memorandum; but it is surprising to find that the Committee have not mentioned a word about joint responsibility; they have hedged the very idea with so many reservations and restrictions that no one is able to find where exactly this joint responsibility of Ministers is provided for. The memorandum submitted by the Madras Government to the Statutory Commission as well as the recommendations made by the Committee appointed by the Legislative Council, stated that 'the Government of the Province should vest in the Governor acting with the Ministers.' The proposed Constitution says that the whole Executive Government should vest in the Governor and he shall have only advisers in the Ministers. In fairness, I ask whether this is progress or regress. If it is progress, how is it? No one has told us that the Executive Government vesting in the Governor solely is an improvement upon the Executive Government vesting in the Governor acting with the Ministers. Even such a fair and moderate proposal made by the Government of Madras when the Simon Commission enquiry was going on, does not find a place in the proposals of the Joint Committee. Again, we say, that the safeguards and the reserve powers are too wide and are detrimental to the growth of responsible Government in this country. It has been stated ad nauseam and His Excellency the Governor also referred to it in his speech the other day, that safeguards always existed in all constitutions in the world. It is true that in the absence of indigenous and full-grown self-governing institutions in this country, we are trying to model ourselves on the British institutions as best as possible. The reading of the British Constitution, of British History and of the development of the British Constitution, leaves us only with the conviction that all through, the British Parliament has claimed superiority and supremacy over the Crown. If kings have been beheaded, if Charles lost his head and if James lost his throne, it was because they exercised powers which really vested in the people and in the Parliament. I repeat that if there had been depositions and beheadings in the history of England, it was because the ultimate power did not vest in His Majesty the King, but in the British Parliament. The king has been repeatedly told by the British Parliament that he was a mere figure-head; that he had no powers practically; that if it all there were any powers they were only

[Mr. Basheer Ahmed Sayeed] [30th January 1935]

theoretical, never to be exercised; that Parliament was supreme over the Crown and Parliament was the real sovereign power. It was contended that if those reserve powers and if those safeguards are to be written down, they will look more hideous and far-reaching than those that are now laid down in the proposals of the Joint Committee. But it cannot be denied that because the king was shorn of his powers of despotism, and powers of supremacy, that England calls itself a free country. But for that, where is the justification for us to call England a free country? That is exactly what has been asserted by all the dominions and what is wanted by those people who are trying to follow the British model and the British example. We, in this country, want that there should be absolute freedom, absolute liberty, substance of it at least—if not the whole of it—substance of freedom and substance of full responsible government is all that this country aspires for. It has been trotted out that we are going to enjoy full responsible government under the present reform proposals. May I ask whether the responsible powers that we are going to enjoy, are not much less than those that are now being enjoyed by the irresponsible executive? To-day the Legislature can, with a month's notice of a Bill, amend the existing Police Acts and amend the Police orders and regulations. We shall not be able to do so hereafter, as this subject has been vested in the Governor as special powers. I ask where, in this, is progress and where, in this, is the transfer of power to the Legislature? Where is the real transfer of power and full responsibility to the people and their chosen representatives? We have not been given any power really, except in the very few matters which I have already referred to, enfranchisement of a larger number of Indians and a larger number of Ministers in the place of the present Executive Councillors, but clearly with less powers and less responsibilities. Beyond these, there seems to be little or no advance envisaged in the Report. Of course, I agree that nomination has been abolished; there, of course, has been some progress; and there will be no ex-officio Members too hereafter. I do not know if these are all the improvements that we wanted and fought for. I ask whether these complete the ideals that we looked up to. We, in this House, who represent the large mass of electorates, look for far greater things, for the real transfer of power and responsibility into our own hands, larger powers to the people, larger powers to the Legislatures and larger powers to the Ministers elected by the people.

1-15
p.m.

"Let us take another aspect. Now, Sir, the present position is that the Governor-General alone can have ordinances enacted in emergencies; but what do the advanced proposals suggest? The advanced proposals say that the Governor also shall have the right to issue ordinances; he will issue ordinances not merely in exercise of his discretionary powers which is supposed to cover his 'special responsibilities'; but he will issue ordinances on the Ministers' advice as well. Is this an advance, I want to know? Is this 'responsibility'? Are the Ministers going to be empowered to advise the Governor to issue ordinances? Is this going to be the discharge of their 'responsibility'?

[30th January 1935] [Mr. Basheer Ahmed Sayeed]

to the House? Sir, Dominion Status meant and always means that the executive should be responsible to the Legislature. This has been amply and fully defined by the Imperial Conference of 1926. If even the Legislature is to have some restrictions placed on its powers, then it cannot be called 'full responsible Government' though that was the interpretation that was sought to be put upon it by Members of the Government of India some time ago. Sir Malcolm Hailey said that 'full responsible Government' was conceivable with restricted powers and restricted rights for the Legislature; but that is not the sense in which 'Dominion Status' or 'full responsible Government' is understood in any part of the world. In fact, Sir, constitutionalists and able statesmen of His Majesty's Government have stated that 'full responsibility' means full responsibility of the executive to the elected Legislature.

"In the Central Government, Sir, what is sought to be done is claimed to be an advance; but in what respect is it an advance? If it is going to be 'full responsibility' at the centre and if there is going to be any real 'autonomy' in the provincial sphere, then how could that autonomy be consistent with the proposed diarchy in the centre? The Central Government is sought to be converted into a diarchic system of Government. The Madras Government Memorandum which was submitted to the Statutory Commission stated clearly that the diarchic system had proved a failure and it ought not to be extended, and, therefore, there was no question of the diarchic system being brought into the centre. In spite of that, what is sought to be done is to introduce a modified or restricted form of diarchy which is not liked by any person, constitutionalist or politician in this country.

"Sir, we have often been told—and the Hon. the Law Member has told us—that we are a disunited people, that we cannot be called one nation, that we ought to suffer in this state for ages and ages and that what has been sought to be done is the utmost that we deserve. I consider that this is a counsel of despair and despondency. It is quite in fitness with his age and with his growing years; but for us who are yet to see life, who are yet to take upon ourselves the responsibilities of the future, for us who are going to be the persons that will govern this country—the older generation is really passing away now—we must cherish a hope for the better. It is not a counsel of contentment or a counsel of satisfaction that is needed at the present hour. We want that the legitimate aspirations of our countrymen should be realized and fulfilled at no distant time. As Mr. Ari Gowder very rightly pointed out, the Hon. the Law Member has really outlived the age and the time. I do not think he has kept in view the aspirations of modern India, much less the aspirations of political India; and above all, he seems to have forgotten the very lessons which he claims to have studied when he said he followed in the footsteps of that great person, the Right Honourable Mr. Sastri. My hon. Friend counselled us that we ought to be satisfied with these proposals. Human nature is not that; we shall make no progress if we are to act upon his counsel.

[Mr. Basheer Ahmed Sayeed] [30th January 1935]

"Then, Sir, the question of the recruitment of the services has been repeatedly emphasized by several statesmen, politicians and political organizations in this country. To-day, most of the services—central as well as provincial—except the subordinate services, are recruited by the Secretary of State. The rules and regulations for recruitment are all framed with his consent, and he is the supreme authority so far as these services are concerned. The proposals of the Joint Select Committee say that this system should continue. The Madras Government, in their memorandum, stated that there should be recruitment made by the Provincial Government and provincialization of the services; that the whole of the question of services should be transferred to the Local Government who would constitute a Services Commission and that the Services Commission should be saddled with the responsibility of recruitment to the various services. The Joint Committee, however, say that the *status quo* should prevail; and if this is to be called 'advance,' I can only say that it is difficult for us to be satisfied with this 'advance.' But if it is to them satisfactory we can have no quarrel; we shall not be satisfied, and I am sure we cannot be reasonably expected to be.

"Sir, agitation has been going on for ages that there is no point in the Government spending from public revenues on the Ecclesiastical department. No proposals are to be found in the report regarding the Ecclesiastical department, which ought to find no place in the policy of this country. But it has to be continued; why? No reason is forthcoming.

"With regard to the question of indirect elections, much has been said already, and I do not, therefore, wish to say anything further on this issue.

"The reserve powers of the Governor-General, we submit, are too wide and the safeguards to be imposed, are not in the best interests of India. There has been no proof, no convincing argument, that the safeguards now sought to be imposed and vested in the Governor-General are in the best interests of India. A challenge has been thrown on this point time and again, but that challenge has yet to be accepted.

"With reference to fiscal autonomy, I must say it is all moonshine. There is no fiscal autonomy vouchsafed in the Joint Parliamentary Committee Report. We have been fighting for it for a long time now and there is no sign of it in the Report. And yet, the Government claim that the proposals are an 'advance' on the present constitution. Where is real 'advance' to be found except in very trivial things?

"Sir, there are supporters in this House of the idea of having second chambers. My Friend, Mr. Khalif-ul-lah, from Trichinopoly seems to be also a supporter of the second chamber idea. He seems to have stated that a second chamber would be a safeguard against minority interests being overridden. I do not understand that argument. The Joint Select Committee has stated nothing in favour of a

30th January 1935] [Mr. Basheer Ahmed Sayeed]

second chamber, beyond saying that they recommend it for this Province as well. They have not had the courtesy of referring to the resolution which was passed by this Council or even the memorandum of this Government submitted to the Statutory Commission which said that this Government were not in favour of a second chamber. I submit that the Select Committee have not bestowed any thought on these two points. If the lower House is to be representative of all the stable elements in the country, of the vested interests, of all sections, divisions and classifications and communities of the people of this country, what are the other interests or persons that are left to be represented in the second chamber, I ask. The second chamber may, no doubt, be a necessity if the lower House is to be constituted wholly on a territorial basis and contains only territorial representatives. If the lower House is going to be a sort of museum, as some would call it, or a menagerie, as others would call it, of all the interests and elements in the country, where is the place for a second chamber? I do not understand it, unless it be that it will be a safeguard against the exercise by the lower House of even the little powers that are to be given to it. I submit that unless Parliament is going to amend the Bill in the light of the discussion in this House and in the light of the opinions expressed all over the country, it will be very impossible for the proposed constitution to be worked. I do not think there will be contentment or peace and order in the country unless and until the legitimate aspirations of the people are satisfied. But we know at the same time that all that is said or done in this country falls on deaf ears so far as British statesmen and Parliament are concerned. So long as National Government intend to keep to their present office and do all that will keep them in power there is absolutely no chance of any reform or change or modification being made in the proposed Constitution. It is under the impression that nothing is going to be done in spite of what may be said or done here, that we are discussing the Report here to-day. It may legitimately be asked what purpose is served by this discussion? The whole thing, I consider, is a farce; and yet we are forced to take part and do what best we can in this big farce.

"Sir, my friend, the nominated Member for the depressed classes, stated that he signed the Poona Pact under coercion, and duress and that the Pact is not legal or binding. Very strange theory, Sir. The fact that it was signed under duress of coercion is yet to be proved. My friend and those who think with him now seem to carry a hang for Mahatma Gandhi or anybody for the matter of that. Even then it was quite open to them to say of Mahatma Gandhi whom they call the enemy of the depressed classes and who, they say, has done nothing for them, that he was not sincere, that they would not accept his advice, and to have refused to sign the Pact. It mattered little to them whether he lived or died. But I venture to suggest that my friend has now changed sides. It suits him now to say that the Poona Pact is not to his interests and he has lost all sense of propriety and has taken to abuse, in the vilest manner, Mahatma Gandhi and his followers. May I remind him, Sir, that but for the movement started

[Mr. Basheer Ahmed Sayeed] [30th January 1935]

by Mahatma Gandhi against untouchability, the attitude of the orthodox Sanatanists would not have changed, as it has done to-day, and instead of having attained to their present position, which is a great advance on the past, they would still have been relegated to the cherris and paracheris in the remote corners of villages. Their present position, it cannot be denied, they owe to the movement against untouchability started by Mahatma Gandhi. But, may I ask, what is the part that Mr. Siva Raj, the nominated Member of the Depressed Classes, played, when he was on the Committee of this Council appointed to submit a memorandum to the Statutory Commission? He was a party to the recommendation—I shall read the relevant portion of the same:—

‘We have considered whether special electorates can be formed for these classes. The number of electors belonging to them is only 4 per cent of the total number of electors on the existing franchise. It may be possible to form some urban constituencies—a possibility which requires investigation. But considering the seats that can be allotted to the depressed classes, their constituencies are generally bound to be unduly large. With the low level of education and wealth among them it will be very difficult for candidates to get into touch with their constituencies. Representatives of the depressed classes are in favour of an element of election at some stage.’

That is what Mahatma Gandhi has provided for them and even more than that.

‘We, therefore, propose that panels of candidates to the extent of twice the number of members required may be elected by recognized associations of the depressed classes in the different districts and that the members to be returned to the Council should be selected by the Governor from the panels.’

If he wanted their representatives to be chosen by the Governor, Mahatma Gandhi has given them a greater privilege; and he has given a further privilege also, viz., that the panel can be elected by their own community instead of by ‘recognized associations.’ In addition to that, the depressed classes to-day enjoy 30 seats under the Poona Pact, whereas there were only 18 seats allotted to them under the old arrangement, i.e., in the Communal Award.

“Sir, Mr. Siva Raj who to-day waxes eloquent, has stated, according to that Report that he was of ‘opinion that the number of seats to be allotted to the depressed classes should be on the population basis and that their members should be eligible for places in the ministry.’ If instead of giving the number of seats on the population basis, Mahatma Gandhi has given twice the number, has he committed any sin against them? I do not think that it was a wrong on his part to have given the depressed classes the right to represent their people instead of being the Governor’s nominees.

“On the whole, Sir, I would only say that so far as the present proposals are concerned, it is difficult for the country to accept the recommendations of the Joint Parliamentary Committee Report as they are framed and it will not be possible for them, even if they are thrust on the country, as it is going to be, to work them in any contented spirit or with any satisfaction. I say that unless and until the Government of the day brings influence to bear upon Parliament and unless the British Parliament is going to modify substantially in very

30th January 1935] [Mr. Basheer Ahmed Sayeed]

many respects the proposals as they now obtain, there is very little hope or chance of this system working with any great success. I hope Government will take a warning from this.”

The House then adjourned for lunch.

After Lunch (2-30 p.m.)

* Rao Bahadur C. NATESA MUDALIYAR:—“Mr. President, Sir, I thank you very much for having given me an opportunity to say a few words on the Joint Parliamentary Committee’s Report. I am also thankful to you for having extended the sittings of this Council by a day for giving opportunities to many of our Members to speak.

“Sir, I and some of the members of the Justice Party gave notice of some amendments to the motion on the Report of the Joint Parliamentary Committee to the effect that Provincial Autonomy and Central responsibility should be granted immediately. We agree that the Joint Parliamentary Committee Report is not an improvement upon the White Paper proposals. On the other hand, it is a set back. While we are not blind to all the defects enumerated by the Leader of the Opposition, we said that for the peaceful working of the Constitution, the Report requires modifications, the minimum number of which we suggested. The Justice Party expect to work the Constitution, however unpopular it may be, because the Justice Party stands for co-operation. Sir, Dr. Subbarayan referred to the Justice Party non-co-operating with the Simon Commission. He forgot perhaps that some of the stalwart members of the Justice Party co-operated with the Simon Commission. Mr. Venkatarama Ayyar was telling yesterday that the Simon Commission was not co-operated with by anybody in this country. No, I assure him that the Justice Party followers all over this Presidency co-operated with the Simon Commission. It may be, here and there, some Justicites did not do so; a wing of the Justice Party took up that attitude for the moment; but the Justice Party as a whole co-operated with the Simon Commission, as according to the creed of the Party they cannot but do so.

“Then, Sir, the Justice Party has got the prestige and the boldness to take up any unpopular measure and work it up successfully. As Mr. A. Ranganatha Mudaliyar stated yesterday, there is no measure which will be agreeable to all. Yet, the Justice Party took up and worked the system of Diarchy, against which there was so much opposition and Councils were boycotted by some political parties; but the Justice Party thought, as constitutionalists and co-operators, that they must work the constitution and have in fact worked it successfully. Of course, I do not want to leave out of consideration in this connexion Dr. Subbarayan who also worked it successfully and who, I may say, is only an offshoot of the Justice Party. It was said that we, the Justicites, passed a resolution to take in the Congress people. It was not because that we were weak, but because the Justice movement comprises all phases of political opinion; and it is an ocean into which the Congress and the Nationalist rivers may flow. That is the idea

[Dr. C. Natesa Mudaliyar] [30th January 1935]

with which we are inviting all people who are fighting for communal representation to come into our fold. The opposition to-day is stronger for communal claims than the Justicites themselves. They also said that we passed a no-confidence motion on the then Governor. Sir, the same Justice Party people took the lead in entertaining the very Governor to bid him farewell, an entertainment unknown most probably for many years in the history of the city of Madras when a departing Governor was given an entertainment by all the citizens. As Sir Patro said, the then existing conditions might have been such as to incite a no-confidence motion, but everyone knows that we are co-operators and that the Justice Party could work any Constitution however unpopular it may be. Even those political parties who want to reject the Report, including Dr. Subbarayan's party, know that the Justice Party accepts the proposals in the Report with the minimum number of modifications suggested, because they are sure when Dr. Subbarayan comes into this Council with a large number of his followers, and also if the Congress Party come into this Council in large numbers, they will certainly accept office and work this very Constitution that will evolve from this Report, however unpopular it may be. So, Sir, the Justice Party or Dr. Subbarayan's Party, whichever party comes into the Council with a large majority—or even the Congress Party—is going to accept it and work it, though not now, at least a year or two afterwards when the Reforms are introduced. Thus, Sir, I have made the position of Justice Party clear in this respect. I do not want anybody to say that the Justice Party accepted to work the Constitution contained in the Report as it is and without any modifications. The modifications suggested by the Justice Party in the amendments, are almost as many as the defects enumerated by Dr. Subbarayan. In the recent elections somebody spread the rumour that, because some magistrate who came within the portfolio of the Law Member, who was drafted from the Justice Party, ordered the removal of the thali of a lady, the Justice Candidate, Mr. Ramaswami Mudaliyar removed it. (Laughter.) I request all politicians to think that we, whether we are sitting on this side or on the other side, have the same ideals. The party as a whole wants communal representation and the elevation of all the communities and advancement of our country, though communal claims are stronger on the opposite side than on this side. It will be very good if Dr. Subbarayan comes to a compromise and if a common formula which would be acceptable to the whole Council is arrived at. The modifications made by the Justice Party proper and our wing, the Justice Democrats, are almost identical. So far for the Justice Party to which I belong.

“Then, Sir, coming to the Report proper, I have my own views in regard to it. It savours of humiliation, ingratitude, breach of promise to and distrust of the people of India. Let not the British people think that they have come down here to give a barbarous and uncivilized people some privileges little by little. Let them know that we Indians, with high culture and civilization even extending back to ten thousand years ago, carried our

[30th January 1935] [Dr. C. Natesa Mudaliyar]

civilization to ancient Egypt, Babylonia, and to the ancient Rome and Greece. About five thousand years ago, even in our own land, during the time of Bhishma, we had Legislative Assemblies, we had Council of Ministers; and even the system of our village self-government shows that we are capable of governing our own country. At one time, the countries in Europe competed with one another to have a sight of India because of her wealth and perhaps of her culture and civilization. The Spanish, the Dutch and the Portuguese, all travelled, travelled and travelled over all the seas merely to have a sight of India; and one traveller when he had hopes of seeing India, thought the object of his life was very nearly finished. That was their idea about India. I may also state that ten thousand years ago, we carried our civilization even to ancient Britain, and the Welsh people there may be considered as South Indians and nobody else. That is so far as our civilization is concerned.

“Coming to recent times, what about the Empire of Vijayanagar, whose splendours and grandeur are so well described by the foreign travellers, not to speak of Muslim civilization which carried light to far off Europe where, as historians say, there was darkness for a century before it. If only the British people and their representatives in Parliament know about the Hindu and Muslim civilizations, I am sure they will give us full self-government immediately. The pity is, they do not know much about us. It is indeed a humiliation to us that we are treated like this.

“Then, Sir, at the time of the seige of Arcot, our Indian soldiers wanted nothing for themselves except kanji and gave the best part of their food to their British brethren. I may say, with my limited study of Indian History—I mean British Indian History—it is our Indian soldiers that won India for England. Even in the recent Great War, India contributed one hundred million pounds for defraying the expenses of the War. Indians suspended all their political agitations; Indian soldiers fought for England in France, Flanders, Palestine, Mesopotamia and where not. Now to grudge to give us self-government savours of ingratitude.

“Recently, Sir, in appreciation of the services rendered by Indians in the Great War, promises were made for the political progress of India leading to Dominion Status. From time to time, even from the time when our beloved Queen Victoria made her Proclamation, promises were being made for the political advancement of India.

“Then Sir, Lord Irwin (now Lord Halifax) referring to the promise of 1919 said: ‘It is His Majesty's will and pleasure that the plan laid down by Parliament in 1919 should be the means by which British India may attain its due place among his Dominions’; and then he goes on to say, ‘I am authorized on behalf of His Majesty's Government to state clearly, that in their judgment it is implicit in the Declaration of 1917, that the natural issue of India's constitutional progress, as there stated, is the attainment of Dominion Status.’

[Dr. C. Natesa Mudaliyar] [30th January 1935]

"Again, Sir, in His Majesty the King's Message to the Legislature in 1921, the following is stated: 'For years, it may be for generations, patriotic and loyal Indians have dreamt of Swaraj for their Motherland. To-day you have the beginnings of Swaraj within my Empire, and widest scope and ample opportunity for progress to liberty which my other Dominions enjoy.' That is the Message from the King Emperor. No doubt we are determined not to go out of the British Empire and we want all the highest privileges under the British Empire under the suzerainty of the King-Emperor. Recently also, after the Round Table Conferences, the Prime Minister of England has stated: 'Finally I hope and trust and pray that by our labours together India will come to possess the only thing which she now lacks, to give her status of a Dominion among the British Commonwealth of Nations.'

"Sir, how is it that they forgot all these promises which were made only recently? The words 'Dominion Status' seem to be a red-rag to the British politicians to-day. As Sir K. V. Reddi Nayudu said this morning, the old generation in England is now gone and a new generation has come; most probably the new generation has forgotten all the promises which the old generation made. It cannot be so, for, most of the statesmen who made the promises are yet holding good positions in the State.

45 m. "Coming to the question of the distrust shown in the present Joint Parliamentary Committee Report, probably they forgot that there are so many loyalists in this country. Even the Civil Disobedience people—I do not belong to them, but I belong to another school of politics and I condemn civil disobedience—with all their disobedience, what did they do? Sir, even when the civil disobedience movement was at its highest pitch, was there one act of violence in this country? Again, Sir, all the people and the parties, whether they are Congressmen, Nationalists, or Justicites, all will combine together to put down terrorism. India is not for terrorism. India cannot tolerate terrorism. No one will be allowed by the people of India to raise one finger against the British Crown. I want India to be permanently connected with England. Why then this distrust?

"Sir, in the proposed legislation, according to the Report, the Governor is everything; the Ministers are nothing and the people are nothing. The Governor can make his own rules about business and procedure without the advice of the Ministers. Services are completely under the control of the Governor and the Ministers cannot post them or promote them even. Without this power the Ministers cannot carry on the administration. Let us come to the police. The Report says that there is meaning in Provincial Autonomy without Police being handed over to the Ministers. Now, Sir, the safeguards are so many that the Ministers are nothing; the Home Member is nothing; but the Inspector-General of Police is everything. Then, Sir, the Governor can prevent the Ministers from introducing any Bill into the Council. He may also compel the Ministers to withdraw a Bill that has been

[30th January 1935] [Dr. C. Natesa Mudaliyar]

already introduced. He can make ordinances without the advice of the Ministers; he can make Acts without consulting the Legislature. The Governor becomes the Dictator, and the Ministers become dummies. I hope the suggested changes will be made for the peaceful working of the Constitution. Even with some defects, we have to work it. Justice Party means co-operation. (Laughter.) Now, Sir, under the present Diarchy there are three Ministers at least with a semblance of power and four Executive Council Members, two of whom are Indians drafted from the people and the other two European Civilian who must have developed sympathy for Indians; all the four have full powers. These seven persons forming the Cabinet are more useful to the people than the eight dummy Ministers that are proposed, perhaps for a show. (Laughter.) Why should we be against Dr. Subbarayan when he says: rather than having this kind of Provincial Autonomy, we can struggle under the present Constitution? The present Constitution is somewhat of a semi-potent diarchy. (Laughter.) This will be better than a set of impotent dummies. Then again, even these dummies have no joint action. They have only separate action. The Governor can ask Ministers separately to remain or go. He can even dispense with them all, and take over the administration. So far for the Provincial Government.

"Then, Sir, coming to the Central Government, the whole administration, whether it is Finance, Exchange, Currency, or Railway, and in fact, everything, is under the control of the Legislative Assembly. The Minto-Morley Scheme proposed to have an Indian in the Council so that he may have a voice in the inner council. Now, there are three Indian Members in the Governor-General's Council; but the three Indian Members will cease to exist when the Ministry is formed in the Centre. Now, they are having the military budget placed before the Legislative Assembly. Whether they succeed or not in carrying out their motions on it, they can make their observations. But hereafter, no Indian will have any voice in the inner councils of the Government. In the military budget, they have no voice. Completely, Defence goes out of their control. Then with regard to the Railway Board, the Railway budget is now placed before the Assembly. In future, the statutorily appointed railway authority will come to govern the railways. Currency and Exchange will be in the hands of the Reserve Bank. The financial adviser may so manipulate the currency question that India will be depleted of crores of rupees. (Hear, hear.) I say 'may.' What I say is, at least, let there be a Defence Member. Other Central transferred subjects are Education, Health, Agriculture and Posts and Telegraphs. The rest are taken care of in the Provinces. The Ministers are to levy taxes; but they have no control over 80 per cent of the taxes, because these should go to the Governor-General to support the Defence, Pensions, Public Debt, etc. When we wanted a powerful Provincial Autonomy, we are threatened to be given an absolutely impotent one. When we want a responsible Centre we are threatened with an even more powerful one. If the Centre is to be what it is, let us be left where we are, for India's sake. Then, Commerce

[Dr. C. Natesa Mudaliyar] [30th January 1935]

and Trade are in the hands of Ministers. They are hedged in with so many safeguards that it is impossible for India to develop her industry. Unless she is industrially developed there is no hope for her in the commerce of the world. No, Mr. President, let us stay where we are. I do not mean that Dr. Subbarayan's resolution should be passed. Let a common formula be arrived at which will be acceptable to the whole Council. All that I say is that we should pass one unanimous amendment. Sir, we have got at the head of the administration a very great statesman. I mean our Viceroy. Let him study the speeches we have made in this Legislature, all loyalists, and interfere so that modifications are brought in such a way that the Constitution that is coming will be workable in a peaceful manner. I do not want to say more because there is no time. I thank you, Mr. President, very much for giving me an opportunity of having my say on the Report. I will only conclude my speech with the words in the proclamation of Her Majesty, the late Queen Victoria the Good, referring to Her Majesty's British Indian subjects:—

'In their prosperity, lies our strength, in their contentment, our security.'

* Diwan Bahadur C. S. RATNASABHAPATI MUDALIYAR:—"Mr. President, Sir, we have before this House a number of amendments containing a number of recommendations voicing the main defects of every section of the House. The main defect, voiced forth by every section of the House on the Report, is that the Report and probably the Bill are silent on Dominion Status as the goal of India. Responsible Parliamentarians and statesmen like the Archbishop of Canterbury have said:—

'I noticed that Lord Snell complained that no mention was proposed of what is called Dominion Status. I think it is time we get rid of such a misleading phrase. It has proved itself capable of infinite misunderstandings, both in this Country and in India. No one knows whether it is constitution or position. If it is to mean constitution, is it conceivable, considering the circumstances of India and the necessary relations with the Imperial Parliament which these circumstances involve, that, in any time which any of us can contemplate, India should have a constitution similar to those which have been achieved in countries so entirely different as South Africa and Canada? Therefore it is no use thinking there can ever be a constitution in India identical with the constitution of the Dominions.'

"In the face of this and in the absence of any definite objective defined in the Bill, how can we rely on the statements made by Sir Samuel Hoare or anybody else? Unfortunately Sir, like the Archbishop of Canterbury, the Hon. the Law Member also has given expression to similar ideas."

The Hon. Sir K. V. REDDI NAYUDU:—"On a point of order, Sir, I never said that. I said that Dominion Status is the goal for India. I left it at that."

* Diwan Bahadur C. S. RATNASABHAPATI MUDALIYAR:—"With all due respect to the Hon. the Law Member, I may say that we have been having the British connexion for the last one and a half centuries and in spite of it, the caste system and other disabilities have existed. Can anyone expect them to vanish on a wave of a magic wand? Sir, I do not suppose that the Hon. the Law Member expects that under

[30th January 1935] [Mr. C. S. Ratnasabhupati Mudaliyar]

a deluge or Pralayam, India will be wiped out of existence. As long as India exists, the Hindus will exist and the Muslims will also exist. Both will be there as long as the country continues to exist. On that ground, are we to be denied our birth right? I think the Hon. the Law Member was under some illusion when he made that speech. He was referring to the flood and fire alluded to by Mr. Srinivasa Sastri, to the Himalayas and to Gowri Devi with her torch. He spoke about Nataraja dancing in ecstasy and he referred to the President and Members sitting with the Press reporters on either side. I think all this must be an illusion, in the judgment of Hon. the Law Member. I say it with all respect due to him and I hope he will not misunderstand me. (Laughter.)

"Coming to the question of Second Chamber it is unfortunate that even though this Council by a resolution decided against the constitution of Second Chamber it is proposed to be thrust upon us. The amendment of the Justice Party is discreetly silent about this. However I am sure I am voicing the opinion of the other sections of this House when I say that the House still adheres to its original verdict. This I am sure goes without saying so long as that resolution remains part of the Council proceedings without its being rescinded. The Ministerial amendment, besides pleading for the recognition of joint responsibility among the Ministers, says that no additional restrictions and further safeguards than those already provided for in the White Paper should be made, that the Governor's powers to make ordinances should be limited to cases where he can do so on the advice of Ministers and that the Governor should not be vested with discretionary powers in regard to the services since it would make it impossible for the Ministers to effectively carry on the administration. So I do not propose to deal with these.

"Coming to the Central Legislature, I strongly feel that there is no justification for indirect elections. His Excellency the Governor the other day remarked that the extension of franchise would result in unwieldy constituencies and hence preferred indirect elections to the Assembly. Perhaps, he is not aware that twelve Members who are now returned from this province represent 25 districts. They have to work up two or three districts, and in some cases four, for their seats. Under the proposed Constitution, we are to have 30 seats for the same area, and therefore the constituencies would become smaller than what they are at present. So, I do not in the least feel that it would be more difficult than at present to seek election on the direct system. Hence I am opposed to indirect elections.

"As a commercial man myself, let me next take up the question of safeguards in regard to commercial discrimination. The Britisher's connexion with India began with the East India Company. So he is still very much concerned with trade, and wants to perpetuate the same for ever to the detriment and ruin of this country. But on our part, whatever may be the form of Government, we cannot any longer allow

[Mr. C. S. Ratnasabhapatil Mudaliyar] [30th January 1935]

ourselves to be exploited. Hence the safeguards in regard to commercial discrimination are totally unacceptable and the right of India for full autonomy in fiscal matters should be recognized.

"Perusing the Report as a whole, one cannot but draw the conclusion that it is conceived in a spirit of distrust of us, as my hon. Friend from the City, Dr. Natesa Mudaliyar himself said. Hence, in conclusion, I would urge, as my hon. Friend the Member for the Nilgiris said, that unless mutual confidence and equality are made the basis of Indo-British partnership, the movement for complete independence will receive the support of the country at large."

* Mr. V. P. NARAYANAN NAMBIYAR:—"Mr. President, Sir, rising to speak on the recommendations made by the Joint Parliamentary Committee, I feel that Hon. Members have been called upon to discharge a special responsibility. But it is not special responsibility of the kind embodied in the Report, for we have also to take note of the feelings in the districts about the Reform Proposals. Perhaps, the discussion here will not achieve anything, but let it not be said that Indian opinion was not stated, sufficiently stated. Moreover, at this hour of supreme importance in the history of our country, we owe to ourselves to frankly interpret the true feelings in the province. Now, fully realizing the greatness of the occasion and my position as a Member privileged to represent one of the most enlightened districts in the Presidency, I say, and say with all the emphasis that I can command, that any constitution based on the lines of the Report will be wholly unacceptable to all shades of Indian political opinion and will, far from allaying, very much intensify the present political discontent in the country. The Congress has rejected the proposals, the Liberals have shunned them, and the numerous amendments of the Justice Party on matters of vital importance prove that that Party too is not satisfied with the Report. Why then impose upon the people of India such a Constitution? If it is for the benefit of the Indians, Indians must agree to it. The Hon. the Leader of the Opposition has, if I may say so, rightly pointed out that the recent Assembly elections, which were fought on the definite issue of the White Paper, prove that the country is not for the proposed Constitution. I thought that that position would not be disputed. But it was given to the Hon. Member from Ganjam to say that those were 'emotional elections.' Has the Hon. Gentleman done anything anywhere in the matter of the Assembly elections? Did he go to the villages for the purpose? I had been to the villages, dozens of villages, scores of villages; and I have witnessed the spectacle of hundreds of villagers, men and women, going and recording their votes in favour of congress. I am free to own that the voters did not understand all the details contained in the White Paper. But they went with a determination to strive for power, real power. What amused me most was the Gallant Knight from Ganjam exclaiming, 'for correct verdict, look to the districts boards, look to the municipalities, and look again to the panchayats.' Sir, a dying man clings to a straw. I always thought that it was a well recognized sound

30th January 1935] [Mr. V. P. Narayanan Nambiyar]

rule that local bodies ought to be free from politics. Their interest lay in civic rights and amenities. The hon. Gentleman, Mr. Basudev, is another speaker who did not read anything in the Assembly elections. He said that Congress candidates won because they lavishly spent money and cited in particular the return of Mr. Nageswara Rao Pantulu. I am sorry he referred to the name of a gentleman who is not here to defend himself. All that I say to the hon. Gentleman, Mr. Basudev, is that when the pistol misses fire don't knock down with the butt end of it. I am not in the confidence of Mr. Nageswara Rao in the matter of his finances. But the return of election expenses made by Mr. Nageswara Rao does not justify the statement of the hon. Gentleman, Mr. Basudev. However that be, the main test to be applied is whether the Constitution is on the lines indicated by Indians. The Round Table Conference met specially for the purpose, and the Indians who were invited to it were chosen, and not elected, representatives. Yet what followed? In the words of the Rt. Hon. Srinivasa Sastri, who played a great part in the deliberations of the Conference:

'The ability and wisdom of Indian Delegates the Joint Committee commended, but not a single change they suggested was accepted, nor anything they objected to dropped.'

"The hon. Member from Ganjam had a cheap gibe against the distinguished patriot referring to his exclusion from the Third Round Table Conference. But the importance that eminent statesmen attach to the utterances of the Rt. Hon. Sastri would be clear from the speech of the Prime Minister of England at the Second plenary meeting of the Second Session of the Round Table Conference. Just after the speech of the Rt. Hon. Sastri at the meeting this was what the Prime Minister said:

'We now come to the end of these sittings, and it only remains for me to-morrow to make the Government Statement and to say you *au revoir*. Although it is after 2 o'clock in the morning I cannot leave this Chair without one word of tribute to that magnificent statement to which we have just listened (referring to the statement of the Rt. Hon. Mr. Sastri). That statement shows an insight into the heart of India; but, my friends, it does more than that; it shows an insight into the heart of Great Britain, and approached in that way, your approach is bound to be irresistible.'

"Never mind the experience of the gallant band of Round Tablers. What was the fate of the modest amendments this House adopted when the opportunity to discuss the White Paper was given? Not only have our suggestions been ignored, but, Second Chamber, against the introduction of which this House had on a former occasion voted, has now sprung up. The speakers who have been at pains to support the Joint Parliamentary Report have but denounced the Congress and the Congress cry of 'reject the proposals.' But not one has shown that any shade of Indian political opinion has fully agreed to the Constitution outlined in the Report. I was glad to find the hon. Gentleman from Ganjam placing reliance upon the words of Sir Tej Bahadur Sapru. But with reference to the proposed Constitution, what Sir Tej Bahadur has said is as follows:—

'As I have said before, it would be wrong to suggest that the Constitution foreshadowed in the Report has been received with any degree of enthusiasm or even approval in any quarter in India.'

[Mr. V. P. Narayanan Nambiyar] [30th January 1935]

"Sir, again the Constitution foreshadowed in the Report does not contain the seeds of growth. It is as anti-national and anti-democratic as possible. The Royal Message delivered in 1921 to the Legislature was in the following words:

'For years, it may be for generations, patriotic and loyal Indians have dreamt of Swaraj within My Empire. To-day you have the beginnings of Swaraj within My Empire, and widest scope and ample opportunity for progress to liberty which My other Dominions enjoy.'

"This inspiring Message filled the heart of every Indian with pride and joy. But with the dawn of 1935 Dominion Status has disappeared. There is nothing in a word, but why has it been abandoned? The answer is furnished in the following sentence in the speech of the Prime Minister at the Final Session of the First Round Table Conference. The sentence is:

'You have spoken here subject to reconsideration, subject to the reaction which your public opinion will show to your work; we, Government and Parliamentary representatives alike, have spoken in the same way, and we must also listen to reactions.'

"The disappearance of Dominion Status marks the triumph of Winston Churchill. And if the reactionary elements in England should be the guiding factors in determining the ultimate goal of our country, any constitution in pursuance of that is not worth having and is indeed anti-national. But one word to the Britishers. Whatever be your intentions, India is determined to have Swaraj. We will have it.

"Sir, after having said so much I shall now refer to some particularly objectionable features which render the proposed Constitution undemocratic. Though in the provinces powers have been transferred to the Ministers, the transfer does not carry us a great way. Instead of Reserved Subjects becoming Transferred Subjects, Transferred Subjects, in effect, have become Reserved Subjects (Hear, hear). As the Government exists to-day the Governor has no power of interference with the Transferred Subjects. The will of the Legislature is supreme. But hereafter it is not to be so. Again, how about the Governor's Acts? The Simon Commission did not provide for them as put forward now. However all these be, I thought that the power for the King to make laws and to tax had ended with the days of the Stuarts. But it is not so with reference to India, for in paragraph 109 of the Report we find the following statement of position:—

'Lastly, it is proposed to give the Governor power at his discretion, if at any time he is satisfied that a situation has arisen which for the time being renders it impossible for the Government of the Province to be carried on in accordance with the provisions of the Constitution Act, to assume to himself by proclamation all such powers vested in any Provincial authority as appear to him to be necessary for the purpose of securing that the Government of the Province shall be carried on effectively. This proclamation will have the same effect as an Act of Parliament, and will cease to be in force at the expiration of six months unless previously approved by resolutions of both Houses of Parliament, though it may be at any time revoked by similar resolutions.'

1.15 p.m. "Much has been said about the transfer of Law and Order. But a careful reading of the paragraphs devoted to the subject leaves the impression that the Minister is only a figure head. His Excellency

[Mr. V. P. Narayanan Nambiyar] 30th January 1935]

the Viceroy assured the Inspectors-General who met in Conference at Delhi that though Law and Order was to be transferred to Ministers the Police would be sufficiently protected. I have not the time to go into details, but I must invite attention of this House to paragraph 95 of the Report where it is said as follows:—

'We have no reason to suppose that Indian Ministers will not adopt the same convention; but the difficulty arises, not because Indian Ministers are likely to demand or disclose the names of informants or agents, but because the informants or agents themselves would not feel secure that their identity might not be revealed. So long as this doubt exists, the consequences are the same, whether it is ill-founded or not. We therefore, recommend that the Instrument of Instructions of the Governors should specifically require them to give directions that no records relating to intelligence affecting terrorism should be disclosed to any one other than such persons within the Provincial Police Force as the Inspector-General may direct or such other public officers outside that Force as the Governor may direct.'

"When from convention it has been found necessary to move on to Instrument of Instructions, certainly, there is in it something more than meets the ear. Sir, with such provisions, with joint responsibility in a nebulous state, with safeguards which at the time of the Gandhi-Irwin Pact were demonstrably meant for the interests of India becoming now in the interests of India and England, with commercial discrimination, and without control of services, where do we get the democratic institutions that would work out a Free India? The real interests of the people do not occupy the first place, nor the second place, nor even the third place on the slate of the Government. And why is that so? The speech made by the hon. Member, Mr. Birley, does furnish the answer, because there is no escaping out of the fact that the Parliament in England must control the destinies of India.

"To-day a small island at one end of the earth governs a great country at the other end, but for all times it will not be possible to lay down that the principles governing the free institutions in the West are not applicable to the East of Suez. Even if it were possible to perpetuate the present monopoly of power the national honour of Great Britain demands that such an attempt should not be made. The people of India are an ancient race who had attained a high degree of civilization long before the ancestors of European Nations. Also some of the best troops that fought the battles of the Empire were drawn from the Indians themselves. Though it is 150 years since the destinies of the two countries came to be linked together, Indians are still a disarmed race and the frightful poverty of India is admitted by all, including the most inveterate official optimist. There is no good blaming Mahatma Gandhi and the Congress. At the Final Plenary Meeting of the Second Round Table Conference the Prime Minister spoke, addressing Mahatma Gandhi particularly, as follows:—

'But look at the effect of the two of you coming together in order to co-operate and express your gratitude to a Scotsman. My dear Mahatma, let us go in this way; it is the best way; you may find it will be the only way.'

"Though these words were spoken just before Mahatma Gandhi left England, the Mahatma, who to-day represents the honour of India and the glory of India, was almost with his landing on Indian soil

[Mr. V. P. Narayanan Nambiyar] [30th January 1935]

lodged within prison walls. Already great harm has been done. The faith of Indians in British Rule, so strong at one time, has been seriously weakened and large numbers of young men are coming forward who do not believe in it at all. The situation is one that must fill all thoughtful minds with serious apprehensions about the future; and unless Great Britain realizes it properly it is difficult to see how it is to mend. The earlier race of statesmen in Great Britain contemplated with pride the birth of a Free India. For, Lord Macaulay, speaking about the possibility of Indians demanding Western institutions, said—

‘Whether such a day will ever come I know not; but never will I attempt to avert or retard it, whenever it comes, it will be the proudest day in English history.’

‘The day has come and what is the answer of England? We shall wait and see. His Excellency the Governor during the course of his first address to this Council said—

‘I see no reason why the shining example already set to the rest of India by this historic Presidency should not even be improved upon.’

‘Sir, I fervently pray that the shining example set to the rest of India by his historic Presidency by the complete return of Congress candidates will result in the birth of an emancipated people on the banks of the Jumna. Then and only then, will there be, as Lord Sankey wanted, ‘Peace on earth and goodwill among men.’ Finally, may I appeal to Great Britain to make it possible for Indians to tell MOTHER INDIA—

‘Thy future calls thee with a manifold sound,

To crescent honours, splendours, victories vast;

Waken, Oh! Slumbering mother, and be crowned,

Who once wert Empress of the Sovereign past.’ (Applause.)

3-30
p.m.

Rao Bahadur P. C. MUTHU CHETTIYAR spoke in Tamil as follows:—

‘ஜாமிண்டு பார்லிமெண்டு கமிட்டி ரிபோர்ட்டில் சில விஷயத்தை சொல்ல எண்ணுகிறேன்.

1. ‘கிராமாந்திரமோ அதின் விருத்தியாம்சமோ ஜனங்களின் பிழைப்புக் கான கெதிமோகாமோ இதில் ஒன்றும் வந்ததாயில்லை.

2. ‘எக்கானமியான இந்தியா கேஷமத்திக்கு ஒரு புத்திமதியும் காட்டிய தாயில்லை. மடக்கை பிடிப்பது முதல் கொண்டு இன்னதென்று வரையரை செய்திருப்பது பெரிய அவசியமா.

3. ‘அக்ரிகல்சர் உலகத்துக்கு முக்கியமானது. அதில் சம பங்கையுடையவர்கள் கவர்ன்மெண்டு அவர்களுக்கு கட்டும் கப்பத்துக்கே நிண்டாடி போராடியிருக்கும் இத்தருணத்தில் அதற்கும் இன்கம்டாக்ஸ் ஏற்படுத்தலாமென இந்த ரிப்போர்ட்டு வந்திருப்பது கொடுமையல்லவா. அக்ரிகல்சர் இனதை அதின் உபயோகத்துக்கேயல்லாது பல உபயோகம் செய்து வருவது நியாயமல்ல.

‘பர்மா பிரிவினையில் அங்குள்ள இந்தியர்களை வித்தியாசமா எண்ணியிருப்பதைப்பார்க்க இந்தியாவில் இந்தியர்களிடத்திலும் தப்பு அபிப்பிராயம் வரப்படுதே.

[Mr. P. C. Muthu Chettiyar]

4. ‘பர்மாவைப் பிரிப்பது இந்தியாவில் எப்படி ஐரோப்பியர்களுக்கும் இந்தியர்களுக்கும் கவனித்திருப்பதை யோசித்து அவ்விதம் பிரிட்டிஷ் பர்மாவில் இந்தியர்களுக்கு சரியான சுதந்திரமோ பாதுகாப்போ குடியிருக்கவேர் வியாபாரத்துக்கோ அவர்கள் பூமிக்கோ வித்தியாசமில்லாது’ பாதுகாப்பு சொல்லாது பிரிக்கப்படாது.

5. ‘செருக்காயுள்ள பர்மீசுள்ள பர்மாவில் இந்தியர்கள் ஏராளமான தங்கள் சுயதேசத்தையிழந்து குடியேறி தங்கள் பூர்வீக பிராச்சிதங்களை எல்லாம் அங்கு கொண்டு போய் ஏராளமான பணங்களை சிலவு செய்து பார்ஸ்டு காராரம்பமான தேசத்தை தேக பிரயாசையுடன் செழிப்புற்ற விவசாய தேசமாக்கியிருக்கிறார்கள்.

6. ‘சீனர்கள் குடியேறியிருப்பவர்களுக்கும் சரியே ஐரோப்பியர்களுக்கும் சரியே பர்மீசுகளுக்கும் சரியே ‘சேபஸ்டு சொல்ப கூலீசுகளாக தாங்கள் உழைத்து ஏராளமான லாபத்தை பர்மா அடைய இந்தியர்கள் காரணமாயிருக்கிறார்கள்.

7. ‘பாறு 473-ல் முதலாவது ரவுண் டேபிள் கான்பரன்ஸில் நடந்த தீர்மானத்துக்கு விரோதமாக பர்மா லெஜிஸ்லேட்டிவ் கவுன்சிலுக்கு இந்தியர்கள் வருவதைப்பற்றி கணக்கிட பவர் சொல்லியிருப்பது பிசகு.

8. ‘இன்னும் இந்தியாவிலிருந்து வந்திருக்கிற மணி லெண்டர்களைப் பற்றி பாங்கர்களை ரொம்ப கேவலமாக சொல்லியிருப்பது ஆறுமையாயுள்ளது. அத்தொழில் கேவலமான தொழிலா? இங்கிலிஷ் பாங்கி சீன பாங்கிகளைப்பற்றி ஒன்றும் சொல்லவில்லை.

9. ‘விவசாயமோ வியாபாரங்களோ முன்னேற்றத்துக்குவர மணி லெண்டரோ பாங்கிகளோ இல்லாவிடில் எப்படி முன்னேற்றமடையும்.

10. ‘நாட்டுக்கோட்டை நகரத்தார் மட்டும் குறிப்பிடப்பட்டது. எங்கள் சம மந்தமான அநேக ஜில்லாக்களிலிருந்து அநேக ஆயிரக்கணக்கான இந்திய குடும்பங்கள் அங்கு வசித்து வருகிறார்கள். 1,500 கிராமங்களில் செட்டிகள் வசிக்கிறார்கள்.

11. ‘இன்னும் அநேக இடங்களிலும் மற்ற இந்தியர்கள் வசிக்கிறார்கள். இந்தியர்களுடைய பிரயாசையும் பணசிலவும் எண்ண முடியாத காரியம். அங்குள்ள அநேக விளைபொருள்களோடு ஆவா, சிகப்பு முதலிய இரத்தினங்களும் இந்தியாவுக்கு விற்பனையாகி வருகிறது.

12. ‘பூமியில் சுமார் ஆறில் ஒரு பங்கு நாட்டுக்கோட்டை செட்டி பிள்ளைகளிடமிருக்கிறது. அவர்கள் எப்பது கோடி திரவியம் விட்டிருக்கிறார்கள். 25 லக்ஷம் ஏக்கர் வரை அதில் 40 கோடி திரவியத்தை அதில் பொருத்திருக்கிறது. அவர்கள் பூமி வேண்டியவர்களல்ல. அதை விரும்பினவர்களல்ல. 1900-ம் ஆண்டில் 70 லக்ஷம் ஏக்கர்; இப்போது சுமார் 186 லக்ஷம் ஏக்கராவாயிருக்கிறது. இந்தியர்களே காரணம். இந்தியர்களுடைய பூமி விற்பனையில் எந்த வித நிர்பந்தமும் ஏற்படமாட்டாது. இந்தியர்களும் சீனர்களும் இல்லாவிட்டால் டவுனில் லாபகரமாக தொழில் நடக்காது.

13. ‘இதுவரை இந்தியர்கள் செய்துள்ள உயர்வை உணர்ந்த பர்மீசுகள் நன்றி மதித்ததை பர்மாவை பிரிக்கப்படுதென்று சொல்வதை கொஞ்சமும் கவனிக்கவில்லை. அவர்களது ஒற்றுமையை கெடுக்கலாமா?

14. ‘பர்மாவுக்கு இந்தியர்கள் இதுவரை செய்திருக்கிற அரிய பெரிய சேவைகள் என்ன? பர்மாவை முன்னுக்கு வருவதற்கே ஆதரவாயிருந்து வந்திருக்கிற உண்மைகளை கொஞ்சமும் பாராட்டாது அடியோடு ஒழிக்க எண்ணுவது தகுதியாகாது.

15. ‘பர்மாவுக்கே தங்கள் வாழ்நாளையெல்லாம் அர்ப்பணம் செய்து பர்மீசுகளுக்கும் திருப்தியாக அவர்களும் பிரபுக்களாக வரும்படி சம்பாதிப்பதற்கு

[Mr. P. C. Muthu Chettiyar] [30th January 1935]

தாங்கள் லேபராகயிருந்து உழைத்து அர்ப்பணம் செய்தும் பூர்வ பணங்களை யெல்லாம் பர்மாவில் நிலங்களாக ஆக்கி நிலுவையாக இருக்கும் இத்தருணம் விலைவாசி எல்லாவற்றிற்கு குறைந்திருக்கும் சந்தர்ப்பத்தில் அவைகளை அடியோடு ஒழித்து அவர்கள் பூமிக்கும் ஒருவித வகையற்று அவர்கள் பூர்வீக பரம்பரையாய் சுயதேசத்திலிருந்து கொண்டு வந்த பணங்களை யெல்லாம் பறிமுதலாக்க இத்தருணம் விலைவாசியில்லாத பிரிவினையில் மோசமாக்கிவிடுவது நமது ராஜாங்கத்து வழக்கமில்லாது இதுவரை நடத்திவந்துள்ள பிரிட்டிஷ் ராஜாங்கத்துக்கு துரோகமான சித்தம் வருவதற்கு யாதொரு காரணமும் இல்லாதிருக்கிறது.

16. “வாரிலோ மற்ற எந்த விதத்திலும் இந்தியர்களோ நாட்டுடோட்டை நகரத்தார்களோ மற்றும் வியாபாரிகளோ வைசிய வகுப்பினவர்களுடைய இதுவரை ராஜாங்கமன்னியில் அவர்களையே தெய்வமாக கொண்டாடி இந்தியர்கள் சரீரத்தையும் ஒப்படைத்து இருக்கும்போது இவர்களை கைதவிரலிடுவதற்கு எந்தவித நியாயமுமில்லை. இதுவரை நமது பிரிட்டிஷ் ராஜாங்கத்தாருடைய கருணையான பாதுகாப்பில்தான் இந்தியர்கள் அங்கு உழைத்தார்கள்.

17. “ஒரே காரியம் லோகம் எப்படி இருப்பினும் நமது ராஜாங்கத்தை இந்தியர்கள் மறந்து குறைகூறுங்கள். வேண்டியதை தெரிவிப்பது குறையாக ராஜாங்கத்தார் நினைக்கப்படாது. இந்தியர்களிடத்தும் சரியே பிணைகளாயுள்ளவர்களிடத்து பூர்ண நம்பிக்கை வைக்கவேண்டும்.

18. “எனது அபிப்பிராயம் மிண்டோ-மார்லியின் 1909-ம் ஆண்டு ரிபாரம் சிஸ்டம் ரொம்ப மேலானது.

19. “அதைத் திருத்தியமைக்க எண்ணிய 1920-ம் ஆண்டுத்திய ஜேம்ஸ் போர்டு ரிபாரம் நல்லதாக கருதியதேயானாலும் அனேகவிதமாக அன்னியோனியும் பண நஷ்டங்களும் ராஜ விலைவாசத்தை எதிர்ப்பதற்கும் இடமாயின.

20. “அதை மாற்றி இந்த ப்ராவின்சுக்கு இரண்டு சேம்பர் ஏற்பாடு செய்ய வந்திருப்பது கூடாது. இப்பொழுதே ஒற்றுமை குறைவு பண நஷ்டமும் ஏற்பட்டுவிட்டது. இரண்டு சேம்பர்கள் உண்டாகி அதிக மெம்பர்களும் உண்டாகி தில் இந்த மாகாணம் தாங்காது.

21. “ஒரு சேம்பர் சொல்வதை வைத்து அப்பர் சேம்பர் அதே காபி செய்வதை பார்க்கிலும் லோயர் சேம்பர் இரண்டு ஏற்படுத்தி அதிலிருந்து ஹையர் சேம்பர் ஆனாலுமே வைத்தால் அதையும் ஓர் காரணமாவது சொல்லாம். நியாயம் அதிகமாக அறியலாமெனலாம்.

22. “ஆனரபிள் லாமெம்பர் மிஸ்டர் டொட்டியாரவர்கள் தயாராகக்கின சிலவிடத்தில் கேட்க மெம்பர்கள் இடங்கள் ஏற்பட்டதென சொல்கிறார்கள். அதினால் என்ன பயன் உண்டாயிற்றென்பது தெரியவில்லை.

23. “1909-ம் ஆண்டுத்திய மிண்டோ-மார்லியின் சிஸ்டத்தில் அறிவேன். ரொம்ப விலையுள்ளவர்களும் கற்றறிந்தவர்களின் ராமசுப்பாயர், சீனிவாச ராவ், குருசாப் அய்யர் முதலியவர்கள் இருந்த காலத்தில் அவர்கள் சொல்வதையும் கவர்னர்வர்கள் கூடுமானவரையில் மதிப்பு கொடுத்திருக்கிறார்கள் என்பதை அறிவேன்.

“இப்போதைய மாதிரி பிடிக்கவில்லையென்றால் புதிய ரிபாரம் வேண்டாம்.

24. “1909-ம் ஆண்டு மிண்டோ-மார்லியின் ரிபாரத்தை திரும்பி யோசிப்பார்களேயானால் உசிதமான நியாயமாகும்.”

* Mr. S. A. A. ANNAMALAI CHETTIYAR:—“Mr. President, Sir, if I take part in this debate it is with a view to draw the attention of the House to certain questions relating to the proposals of the Joint Parliamentary Committee in regard to the separation of Burma, questions

[30th January 1935] [Mr. S. A. A. Annamalai Chettiyar]

which have been dealt with only by a few members so far. I may state at the outset that I do not propose to question the wisdom of the proposal to separate Burma. But accepting that position, I must point out that the position of Indians in Burma according to the proposals of the Report will be very precarious and that is the reason why so many protests have been made by them. Anyone who has followed the development of Burma must admit that the contribution made by Indians in a number of ways for this development can hardly be exaggerated. Without their financial help, Burma would not to-day be one of the foremost agricultural provinces of India. Without Indian labour, the millions of acres would not have been brought under cultivation and so much prosperity would not have come to Burma. Indians however do not desire to rest their case merely on their past contributions. They merely suggest that the considerations which have prevailed with the Government of Great Britain and the Joint Select Committee in providing safeguards should be equitably and impartially applied to Indians and Britishers alike in Burma. Nor is this demand against Burmese wishes as expressed at the various sessions of the Round Table Conference. In the first Conference relating to Burma, it was laid down that the 'legitimate interests of Indians and other minorities must be safeguarded' and that 'adequate attention should be paid to the question of immigration of Indian labour and provision should be made for the regulation of the conditions of both work and life of immigrants.' They further say:

'They also especially stress the importance of there being no discrimination as regards Indians entering Burma.'

"It was further agreed at the Burma Round Table Conference that 'the Act should provide that there should be no discrimination, legislative or administrative, against any existing commercial interests carrying on business or trading in Burma.' The recommendations of the Joint Parliamentary Committee Report violate these principles. I need only refer to paragraph 473 of the Report which proposes 'that it should be competent for the Burma Legislature to enact legislation restricting or imposing conditions of entry into Burma in respect of all persons other than British subjects domiciled in the United Kingdom.' The Report puts it forward as an axiom that 'it would be unreasonable to include in a new constitution for Burma provisions which would in effect give all persons domiciled in India an unrestricted right of entry into Burma.' We are not told why it would be unreasonable and whether it is any more unreasonable than to give this same right to every British subject domiciled in Great Britain. The Committee further observes that there is a 'special category of persons in Burma, of United Kingdom domicile, for whose protection in India provisions will require to be made in the constitution of India.' In the case of companies established already in Burma with United Kingdom personnel and capital, the Committee suggests that there should be no restricted right of entry into India. The reason for this strange suggestion is that they were established when Burma was a province of India and 'it would evidently be inequitable if after separation

[Mr. S. A. A. Annamalai Chettiyar] [30th January 1935]

they are in a less 'favourable position than if they had established themselves in Bengal or Bombay.' I ask: Does not the same reasoning apply to Indians who have established themselves in a province of India—Burma? This is a question of national interest and self-respect. We do not want South African conditions and Kenya conditions brought about in Burma also. Everywhere in every Dominion or Colony, Indians are discriminated against. The latest is what is happening in Ceylon. I am certain that when these facts are placed before the public, every Indian will resent these discriminating provisions. I request the House to accept the amendment and vindicate the status and self-respect of Indians."

Mrs. K. ALAMELUMANGATHAYARAMMA then spoke in Tamil of which the following is an English rendering:—

"Mr. President, Sir, for the last two or three days some of the hon. Members of this Legislative Council have been making speeches. They have been speaking only on the forthcoming political reforms and other political rights, but not on the question of the welfare of women. Therefore it is my duty as their representative to point out that their interests are not sufficiently recognized.

"As women form about half the population of India, it is necessary that, for the progress of the country, our women should have a share in all the public activities. It is the British Government that helped to spread the light of education among women of India. It is the Montague-Chelmsford Reforms that first granted women the franchise. It is my duty to offer my thanks to the Government for women franchise, on behalf of women in the Province. In the Joint Committee Report now published the number of women qualified to vote is given, but the number of women eligible to vote is not equal to it. I regret to note that according to the recent census, out of 60 lakhs, only 20 lakhs of women are qualified to vote. It is not enough that the Members of the Joint Committee alone state simply that the 40 lakhs of women should send an application to be enrolled and get their franchise. I therefore request the Government to recommend that the remaining women also should automatically receive franchise without sending any application according to the suggestion of the Joint Committee. Though the Southborough Committee did not recommend franchise to women, Parliament gave scope for provincial councils to admit women to the franchise. According to the present census, it is stated that about 70 lakhs of men and women are qualified to vote and out of that total number, 3 per cent are in British India. Parliament required the Electoral Rules made under the Government of India Act to be so drawn up as to enable the provincial councils to pass resolutions admitting women to the franchise on the same terms as men, and resolutions for that purpose have been passed in every Province except the North-West Frontier Province. In paragraph 124, of the Joint Parliamentary Committee Report, the Statutory Commission's proposal that without increasing the franchise on the basis of the population, the number of women voters may be increased by 10 per cent, is referred to.

[30th January 1935] [Mrs. K. Alamelumangathayaramma]

"The first session of the Round Table Conference recommended 25 per cent of the population to be enfranchised. I request that in consideration of all these facts Government should come forward to increase the franchise for women. I not only rejoice but feel grateful that franchise has been extended to women with property, education and literary qualifications and to the wives of men in military service and their pensioned mothers and widows. But I find that the franchise to women is not given in all the provinces on the same basis.

"In paragraph 135 of the Report, the Committee has recommended the proposal of the White Paper, viz., (1) that 'the application requirement should be dispensed with in the case of women qualified in respect of a husband's property in Bengal, Bihar and Orissa, the Central Provinces and in urban areas in the United Provinces, the Punjab and Assam, a literary qualification should be substituted for the educational qualification.' According to the proposal of the White Paper, Madras is not included for the recommendation of franchise to women on the basis of property and educational qualification. Therefore I request the Government to take measures to extend the same privilege to the women of the Madras Presidency as recommended in the case of women of other provinces above mentioned.

"It is admitted by all administrators that women's advancement is essential for the country's progress. At present, Indian women are making rapid progress in all directions. Qualified women like men are serving as principals, professors and teachers in colleges, high schools and elementary schools. They are not behind men in administrative capacity. They have also qualified themselves in law and are practising as advocates. In Burma, there are also women Registrars. They are also as efficient as men in various branches of medicine. They are serving in the Postal department. In other spheres of work also the women are taking important part. Besides these, they are working vigorously for the general welfare of the country. They are holding conferences in different places where women of different parts of India meet, discuss and pass resolutions. They are taking part in and conducting provincial conferences, All-India conferences and World conferences with a capacity which is pleasantly surprising and causing admiration among men. The Simon Commission said: 'The women's movement in India holds the key of progress and the results it may achieve are incalculably great.' It must be admitted that the forthcoming political reforms are partly the result of the exertions of women. In the Franchise Committee as well as in the Round Table Conferences, Mrs. Radhabai Subbarayan and Mrs. Begum Sha Nawaz have pleaded for the franchise of women and their other rights. I need not further speak at length on the work turned out by women of India, particularly by Christian and Muslim women. Last December, women from different parts of India and from England attended the last All-India Women's Conference held at Karachi. Mrs. Corbett Ashley and Dr. Maude Roydon who attended this conference have referred to the Joint Committee Report. They said Indian women are taking part in different spheres of work and that the reforms fall

[Mrs. K. Alamelumangathayaramma] [30th January 1935]

far short of their expectations. They promised to do all that lay in their power to promote women's interests. Recently Lady Layton, in a broadcast speech in London on January 15, said, 'Despite stupendous handicaps, a rapidly growing band of women in India was bringing about a social revolution on peaceful lines. The attitude of activity of women's Indian Association, the National Council of Women and the All-India Women's Conference were changing the face of India and challenging the Government to carry out the long-needed measures of reform in education, conditions of labour, etc.'

3-45
p.m.

"I request the Government to provide proper facilities for women to enter the Provincial Councils, the Legislative Assembly and the Council of State so that they might work for the welfare of the country and especially for their sisters.

"It is stated that 6 seats are to be reserved for women in the Madras Council. I wish to plead for 10 seats.

"On page 346 of the Joint Parliamentary Committee Report, it is mentioned in Appendix II that in the Federal Assembly, for a population of 45.6 millions in the Madras Province, 2 seats are reserved for women and 4 seats for depressed classes. Women also should have 4 seats.

"It is essential that in the future Reform Councils at least a few members should be social reformers. Some should come forward to work for social reform; besides these their chief aim should be to promote political reform.

"In the Reform Councils with the enlargement of membership a variety of difficult and complicated problems are likely to come up for discussion from time to time. This needs greater deliberation and mature judgment before the measures are finally disposed of. As a check and safeguard against hasty legislation—which may have to be revised afterwards—the existence of Second Chambers is considered a reasonable device. Though some of the hon. Members have pointed out the defects of the system, I feel that Second Chambers are a matter of necessity in the present circumstances. When this question of bi-cameral system came up for discussion before this Council in December session of 1932, I, among others, spoke at length in favour of it and therefore I need not dilate further on this proposition once again."

* The KUMARARAJA OF VENKATAGIRI:—"Mr. President, Sir, the Joint Parliamentary Committee report covers such a wide field and deals with such a wide range of subjects which have vital bearing on all the important questions that affect the nation, that one is tempted to emulate Kemal Pasha who has established a record for the longest speech ever made. I do not propose to do so however great the temptation may be. Although I paid great attention to the speech of hon. the Leader of the Opposition, Dr. Subbarayan, and although I listened with great care and attention to the speeches delivered by various Members in support of his amendment—particularly that of my hon. Friend from Madura, Mr. Venkatarama Ayyar, who made

30th January 1935]

[The Kumararaja of Venkatagiri]

valiant though vain efforts to justify the position adopted by them, I fail to find any justification in support of the position taken up by them. That an institution like the Congress which continues to have faith in the efficacy of direct action and civil disobedience as weapons to ultimately secure *swaraj* for the country should prefer the present constitution which is unsatisfactory, which promotes and secures to that party a congenial atmosphere for adoption of a policy in which it has faith, is understandable. But the fact that parties like that of my hon. Friend Dr. Subbarayan's and others who have no faith in such weapons should have decided to prefer to struggle under the present constitution—particularly in view of the experience they possess and after having realized how defective the present constitution is, is indeed deplorable.

"I am afraid, Sir, it is to a certain extent due to the big landslide in favour of the Congress during the recent elections, which however was due to various causes such as the considerable disappointment caused by the White Paper proposals in many political circles. Our party, Sir, the Justice Party to which I have the honour to belong, has wisely decided not to go into the same lobby with my hon. Friend, Dr. Subbarayan, and to work, just as the Congress has decided to do, the Constitution with a view to serving the interests of the country and particularly with a view to accelerate the progress of the country towards Dominion Status. It is indeed very satisfactory to hear from British statesmen, like the Right Hon. Stanley Baldwin and from His Excellency Lord Erskine a reiteration of the pledges given to India by various British Governments. Still, it is regrettable to note that the words 'Dominion Status' have been omitted from those utterances. It is to be earnestly hoped that even now Sir Samuel Hoare will make a real and strenuous effort to have the objective of India, viz., Dominion Status, embodied in the preamble to the Act. The expression 'Dominion Status' has been interpreted in certain circles as implying a right to secede from the British Empire. Those who have studied the preamble to the Westminster Statute will remember that there is no such implied right. Whatever it may be, Sir, even assuming that the Westminster Statute implies such a right, I contend that there can be no such contingency of secession arising in the case of India, in view of the position which will be occupied by the Princes of India under the new Constitution and also in view of the loyalty of Indians, which is an article of religious faith with most Indians in this country—whatever party they may belong to—including many in the Congress, which, rightly or wrongly, has lost faith in the sincerity of the British Government to grant *swaraj* for this country. Sir, the Archbishop of Canterbury in his speech the other day enquired whether India wanted 'Dominion Status' or a Dominion Constitution. I submit, Sir, we require both. We want to be one of the members of the British Commonwealth, enjoying a status equal to that of the Dominions.

"One of the other amendments given notice of by my party states that in regard to improvements in the Centre, we stand by the Joint Memorandum. I consider it, however, very essential that I should

[The Kumararaja of Venkatagiri] [30th January 1935]

repeat certain proposals made in that Memorandum submitted to the Joint Committee by the Indian Delegation. They are: firstly, the acceleration of the Indianization of the army. I consider whatever may be the proposals made in regard to other matters, that unless there is a very efficient army under the control of Indian officers as the result of a process of Indianization—of course subject to conditions of efficiency to be decided by a committee of experts—any substance of independence or power to be secured by the country by whatever method of agitation, cannot be retained. Therefore, it is very essential not only that Indianization of the army should be accelerated, but that immediately after the inauguration of the Federation, the portfolio of defence should be placed in the hands of a non-official Indian.

"Sir, my friend, Mr. Birley, yesterday made an eloquent plea for fair treatment in regard to commercial matters. I entirely subscribe to that view; but at the same time, let me also emphasise the need for embodying in the Instrument of Instructions a clause which will say that the Governor-General should use his discretion sympathetically in matters in which the interests of indigenous industries which are in an infant state, are involved.

"Sir, as regards safeguards, they have been described by Sir Samuel Hoare—to whom I wish to pay a tribute for his sincerity to do his best to give us that measure of responsible government which circumstances now prevailing in England permit him to do—as hedges not to obstruct but to guide one along the road. While that description may be a correct one, it cannot be denied that these safeguards have created a considerable amount of apprehension in this country. I am afraid that unless certain changes proposed by us are effected, the necessary goodwill in this country which is so essential for the successful working of the constitution may not be found. In this connexion, I must emphasise the need for forming parties on definite principles, so that it may not be possible for any future Governor, however misguided he may be, to abuse the powers vested in him. I would also like to stress the need for joint responsibility. Without joint responsibility there will be a tendency on the part of various politicians to form themselves into separate groups and thereby provide scope for the misuse of these safeguards.

"When I was dealing with the question of the army, I forgot to refer to a particular observation made by the Joint Parliamentary Committee in regard to martial races. It is very necessary, Sir, particularly when we are going to have a federal constitution, that recruitment to the army should be made on a provincial basis. I still contend that we, Madras, are in no way inferior to the other classes who predominate the army. (Hear, hear.)

"Coming now to the question of a Second Chamber for this province which I have been advocating for the last so many years, I feel indeed gratified that the Joint Parliamentary Committee has recommended the creation of a Second Chamber. I believe that hon. Members who dislike the idea of a Second Chamber will concede that if I advocate a Second

30th January 1935] [The Kumararaja of Venkatagiri]

Chamber, it is not because I am not as sincere as they are, to see India progress towards her goal within the shortest possible period, but it is because I feel that there should be an institution which will act as a check, when as the result of any misunderstanding or on account of want of proper appreciation of the issues involved in any legislation, the legislature passes a predatory law. Objection was also taken to the establishment of the Second Chamber on considerations of economy. If that is to be the guiding consideration, I should advocate a sort of dictatorship which will dispense with the need of a legislature of the size proposed in the Joint Committee Report. By this I should not be understood as advocating a dictatorship; I say this only as an answer to that argument.

"Sir, I should submit that powers to consider Money Bills should also be vested in the Second Chamber. In this connection I have to point out that we are advocating this change, not because it will be a House in which the landholders will be predominating in numbers, but because we expect that Chamber, especially in view of the very extended franchise and in view of the fact that it will consist mainly of members possessing very high qualifications and also possessing mature experience, to act properly. Perhaps it may happen in the future that many of the members who are now in this House may find it impossible to find a place in the Lower House. As a landholder, Sir, I am also thankful to the Joint Committee for having proposed that any legislation dealing with permanent settlement should be reserved for His Majesty's pleasure. This is a question which has been agitating the landholders for a considerable time and numerous memorials have been submitted to the authorities on various occasions. For that reason I refrain from dealing at any length with those memorials. Suffice it to express the confident hope that the authorities will again consider the various memorials submitted to them and introduce a provision in the Bill or in the Instrument of Instructions which will secure to us the rights which we have long enjoyed. In this connection, as a sort of personal observation I may say that, if I advocate permanent settlement, it is not because I expect it to benefit me personally, but only on principle. If permanent settlement is to be scrapped and the peishcush to be paid by my estate is to be fixed, I can assure this House that the amount I will have to pay will be much less than what I, viz., Venkatagiri Samasthanam, is at present paying.

"Sir, the Rajah of Khallikote in his very able speech of farewell wanted the authorities to reconsider the demand of the Oriyas to have Mandasa and other areas included in the new Orissa province. I shall be failing in my duty that I owe to the Andhras, if I do not utilize this occasion for expressing in general the acute dissatisfaction and discontentment that prevails among the Andhras on the recommendation of the Joint Parliamentary Committee Report to have Jeypore, Berhampur and other areas included in Orissa. (Sriman M. G. Patnaik Mahasayo: Why?) I have no time to deal with it at any length.

[The Kumararaja of Venkatagiri] [30th January 1935]

This question has been dealt with at some length and therefore it will be very unnecessary for me to deal with the question now, excepting that I hope the authorities will reconsider the question of the inclusion of Jeypore and Berhampur and thereby do justice to the Andhradesa.

"Before I resume my seat, let me express the hope that under the guidance of a Benevolent Providence, the policies and the actions of the parties both in this country and also in England, will be so shaped as to further strengthen the link that binds India and Britain together and make her a contented member occupying a status of equality with the other Dominions in the British Commonwealth."

* Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"Mr. President, Sir, hon. Members who have listened to the debate during the last three days would recognize that whatever may be said against my amendment, there is a general sense of dissatisfaction on all sides of the House with regard to the proposals made by the Joint Parliamentary Committee for the future constitution of India. No recognized party in this House is prepared to say that what has been provided for in the Constitution is the satisfactory thing which the Indians look forward to. My hon. Friend, Sir Parasuram Patro asked a pertinent question, whether my statement means that I shall be prepared to work the Constitution, if the Constitution is thrust upon us even without the amendments proposed in a moderate way by my hon. Friends of the Justice Party. To that, I cannot do better than quote a passage from the recent article written by the Right Hon'ble Sir Tej Bahadur Sapru, whom Sir Parasuram described as my political Guru. The sentence is this:

'As one great British statesman said on one occasion, no politician can afford to look more than a week ahead.'

"That is my reply to my hon. Friend's question. I think my hon. Friend, Mr. Yakub Hasan, when he spoke yesterday dealt with this matter sufficiently and I need not go further than to say that even the Congressmen, like the present President of the Congress, have said that they will see whether they were prepared to work the Constitution or not when the Constitution Act is placed on the Statute Book. This is what the present President of the Indian National Congress stated in a speech he delivered at Patna: If he were asked whether the Congress were going to work the proposed Constitution, he would reply, 'that was a hypothetical question which could not be answered twelve months in advance of the inauguration of the new scheme of things. The Congress has however resolved that they would not permit mischief-makers to work mischief and commit wrongs in the name of the people through the legislatures. Whether the Congress would work the Reforms or not, this much was certain, that they would not allow men of that type to flourish in the Legislatures. Whether the new Legislatures should not be completely boycotted by the Congress would depend upon the situation and the atmosphere existing at the time of the inauguration of the new Reforms.'"

[30th January 1935] [Dr. P. Subbarayan]

"Therefore, Mr. President, we could see that even the Congressmen themselves have not made up their mind and perhaps they had in mind the quotation from the British statesman I made a moment ago that they are not prepared to say even a week ahead, what they are going to do a week hence. I am supported in my statement that the British Government have succumbed to the threats of the Conservative elements in England by a recent letter written by Professor Arthur Berriedale Keith, than whom no better living authority exists on Dominion Constitutions. This is what he says:—

"The Government, it seems to me, has made the mistake of adopting a policy which endeavours to blend two irreconcilable elements. It desires to satisfy the people of India that it is conceding responsible government, and the Conservatives of England that it is imposing such checks as will render responsible government innocuous, by depriving it of the characteristics of true responsibility."

"Therefore, I can at least stand on this ground, that the greatest living authority on Constitutions in the British Dominions, agrees with the statement I made in proposing the amendment I made the other day. I am sure Hon. Members will realize that British statesmen have fallen to the threats of their own Conservative opposition in the House of Commons.

"My hon. Friend, Mr. Birley, asked me whether I intended to threaten or cajole the Europeans into accepting the proposition I made. I never dreamt of ever threatening or cajoling them, and if you look at the prosperous manner in which they are sitting on the other side, I do not think, you will entertain the idea that they can either be cajoled or threatened. It was far from my mind to do that. I only wanted to point out that if friendly relations are to continue and if we are to live as friends in this country, which I am sure they and I desire alike, they ought to support Indian aspirations in the matter of at least getting these two blessed words 'Dominion Status' inserted in the present Constitution. That is all I ask for. I am sorry they should have run away with the idea that I was either threatening or cajoling them, as I never intended to say that a time would come when their position in this country would be such that they might have to pack up their goods and return home. That was far from my mind. I feel that in every country in the world it is a recognized fact that we ought to help any one who wants to either trade or settle in the other land and we ought to treat him in as friendly a manner as possible, subject to this condition that the paramount interests of the country must always be respected by him. I am sure my hon. Friends representing the European group in this House would subscribe to that proposition, because I am sure that in the Dominions of His Majesty which are self-governing to-day, in Canada, Australia and South Africa, no one would be allowed to settle unless he agrees to abide by the laws that exist in those countries.

"In this connexion, Mr. President, I was sorry to hear the speech of my Hon. Friend, and at one time my Chief, the present Law Member. He talked as if—I should have thought he should not have done it

[Dr. P. Subbarayan] [30th January 1935]

after having been in South Africa—the treatment accorded to our own nationals in South Africa was due to the treatment we accord to our depressed brethren in this country. As I said before, no one is more ashamed than I am of the way in which we have treated the depressed classes in this country, and we are perhaps having our retribution for that to-day in our struggle but at the same time, the Hon. Member ought to realize that as British subjects, if we have to settle down in South Africa, our rights have got to be respected as much as those of other citizens in South Africa and I am sure . . .”

The Hon. Sir K. V. REDDI NAYUDU:—“ On a matter of personal explanation, Sir. My hon. Friend must have noticed that as long as I was in South Africa I spared no pains to advocate the rights of Indians there. This answer that he was referring to in this Council, I gave in answer to an interruption when I was asked, what about the fate of our countrymen in South Africa. I said that we are paying retribution of our sins here.”

Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN:—“ I am still unconvinced in spite of the elaborate personal explanation of the Hon. Gentleman, the Law Member, of his statement that Indians in South Africa should be treated in a manner that the South African . . .”

The Hon. Sir K. V. REDDI NAYUDU:—“ Mr. President, I never said that they should be treated like that. I said that they should be treated in accordance. . .”

Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN:—“ Order, Order . . .”

The Hon. Sir K. V. REDDI NAYUDU:—“ Why do you usurp the powers of the President?”

Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN:—“ I am not usurping the powers of the President. I will yield only if the President asks me to yield and I was not going to yield to the Hon. Gentleman, because he rises.”

4-30 p.m. “ Then, Sir, this leads me on naturally to the contention of my hon. Friends of the depressed classes, who said that they want the Poona Pact to be rescinded. I am afraid it is rather too late in the day to talk of rescinding the Poona Pact. If hon. Members belonging to the depressed classes agreed to the Poona Pact, they did it with their eyes open in the year 1932. And having done that, as all the communities have agreed to it they cannot now go back. Whatever His Majesty's Government may do, they will at least keep this one pledge that with regard to the Communal Award they will not alter even a tittle unless an agreement is come to among all concerned. (Hear, hear.) Mr. President, I know that there is not a possibility of my motion being carried and I do not regret that for a moment. But, as I have said, I think there is at least this much to be said for it, that the electorates in the last Assembly elections, have convincingly decided that the motion that I have proposed is the only possible one that is acceptable to the country. With regard to the coming constitution, I cannot do better than quote the conclusion of the article of the Right Hon. Sir Tej Bahadur Sapru

[30th January 1935] [Dr. P. Subbarayan]

in which he says: ‘ Meanwhile, if the foreshadowed Constitution is to be on the Statute Book—condemn it as much as we may—it will work us, if we are not prepared to work it.’ ” (Cheers.)

* The Hon. Mr. C. A. SOUTER:—“ Mr. President, Sir, for the last three days we have listened to speeches, eloquent or otherwise, and I probably alone of all this Council, may claim that I have heard every word of them. Naturally, I hope hon. Members will pardon me if I say that I am weary. They also must be so. I do not propose therefore to take up a large portion of the time of the House in talking about the debate. I should like the House to understand that what I am going to say is entirely my own opinion. So far as I know, the Government of Madras has not been asked to give its opinion on the Joint Parliamentary Committee's Report. Therefore, any comments or opinions that come from me must be taken as my own. Now, Sir, what I propose to do is to act the part more or less of a District Judge in summing up to a jury. I propose to go through the course of the debate and to point out the salient features of it.

“ Well, Sir, to begin with the hon. the Leader of the Opposition's amendment, I may frankly confess that I was disappointed in it. I consider that Dr. Subbarayan then had a very great chance to do something really good. He seemed to me to miss it. For myself, I was not impressed by his speech. It was too general in character. To my mind it did not proceed in sufficient detail and he asked a resolution to be passed by this hon. House which one hon. Member described, I think, perfectly correctly, as a counsel of despair. I do not think that this hon. House would be acting up to their traditions of the past if they were to pass a resolution of that type. But those who followed on the same day as the Leader of the Opposition did go into some greater detail, which I will comment on shortly. But, at the other end of the scale, away from the extremists, we had hon. Members who were wholeheartedly in favour of the Report as it is. In between them were various grades of opinion, some very nearly accepting it wholeheartedly like the Raja of Kallikote, others who did so for the most part, and others again that were not so wide in their approval. It seemed to me during the course of the debate that the main points, which were raised were those relating to Dominion Status, Safeguards, Indirect Elections, Second Chambers, Government Service so far as the provinces are concerned and the Governor's Acts and Ordinances.

“ As regards Dominion Status, except for one hon. Member who said that the Preamble of the Government of India Act of 1919, might be a substitute for these words, except on that occasion I cannot remember, although I made copious notes of all the speeches, hearing a single member attempt to offer a concrete definition of what is meant by Dominion Status. Honestly, Sir, I can quite understand the hon. Members not doing so, because so far as I can understand it, this phrase has never been used in any legal enactment. It is not used

[Mr. C. A. Souter] [30th January 1935]

so far as I know, in the wording of any Dominion Constitution and I can quite see the difficulty of His Majesty's Government in trying to use a phrase like this to a future Dominion, which I hope India will some day be, and apply to a future Dominion in terms which would not clash with existing facts in other Dominions. Can we point here, to any of His Majesty's Dominions, for instance, which has a problem of the same type, of the same magnitude as the Indian Princes? Now, if you lay down the phrase 'Dominion Status', you must remember that the Indian Princes must be included in the term whatever it means. I can quite see that that might present an enormous and insuperable difficulty in defining the phrase with any definiteness. Therefore, if some such formula such as was suggested by Dr. Natesa Mudaliyar, or some such formula to that was found and could satisfy what the hon. Members here also vaguely call Indian aspirations, then I am pretty certain that very sympathetic consideration would be given to such a formula.

"Then, Sir, the next point that was raised concerned the safeguards. Here, I would only refer hon. Members to what His Excellency said the other day. Personally, I was perfectly convinced that not one of these safeguards will ever be used unless it is definitely necessary. We must remember that those safeguards are only held in reserve. They are not instruments of obstruction to the Government. No Governor, I am convinced, would be allowed by His Majesty to retain his office very long, if it was found that he was using these safeguards to the detriment of the province over which he was governing and I cannot honestly think, that those apprehensions which so many Members of this hon. House expressed regarding those safeguards, have any foundation at all. And correlated to these safeguards are the proposed Ordinances and Governor's Acts. Here again, the same, exactly the same reasons apply. Those powers of the Governor can and must be used only when there is extreme necessity for them. Otherwise we might as well scrap the whole Constitution. What is the use of framing a constitution in such detail as the present proposed constitution has been framed, if the Governors who are going to carry it out could see that it is rendered entirely nugatory? I look at the matter in that light, that there is no Governor who will stay long in his appointment if he acts in such a manner.

"The next point that I have noted is the question of Indirect Elections. Here, I am afraid, that I cannot see eye to eye with all that His Excellency said the other day. I would personally prefer Direct Election, if it could be undertaken without undue inconvenience. And I think the proper attitude for us to adopt is to say, 'all right; we will take Indirect Elections to start with; let us see how ordinary elections work. We have large constituencies here and if we find we can elect members to our own Councils without undue difficulty from large constituencies, then let us have Direct Elections to Central Parliament.' That ought to be the proper attitude. For there is no doubt about it, that with the size of the constituencies, direct elections are difficult.

30th January 1935] [Mr. C. A. Souter]

The only thing is, to overcome those difficulties in the best way we can. Let us see how the thing works to start with, and if it is unsatisfactory let us agitate for a change. That is how I would look upon the matter.

"Then, as regards Second Chambers, I confess at once that as a Member of the Franchise Committee which sat in conjunction with Lord Lothian's Committee I was against the Second Chamber. They seemed to me then to be unnecessary. (Hear, hear.) But (cries of 'No but'). But, if I say that for instance an Assembly of the nature of that at present sitting can with an overwhelming majority pass a resolution which cuts down the revenues of the province by 25 per cent, the whole revenues of the province by 25 per cent by one stroke, there seems to be some reason for a check of that sort. (Hear, hear, and laughter.)

"I hear hon. Members saying that I am obsessed. Believe me, I am not obsessed. All that the Revenue Member has to do is to collect the revenue. The man who ought to be really obsessed with it is the Finance Member. Well, Sir, I am now convinced by the arguments in the report in favour of the Second Chamber. I admit that my previous opinion was based mainly on the question of expense. If that can be got over, and if the future Legislative Assembly here would not pass proposals like those I have mentioned, I have no doubt that the question of expense will not arise. That, Sir, must conclude my remarks. I do not know what the hon. Movers of the amendments propose to do, or what the next procedure is to be. I presume that votes will be taken on the amendments that have been put forward, in which case it will not be possible for us to finish within the quarter of an hour left if I continue my remarks. I will not therefore take up the time of the House further." (Cheers.)

* The Hon. the PRESIDENT:—"I will put the main motion and afterwards the amendments to the vote of the House. The question is—

'That the Report of the Joint Committee on Indian Constitutional Reform be taken into consideration'."

The motion was carried.

* The Hon. the PRESIDENT:—"The first is Dr. Subbarayan's amendment. The question is—

'Add the following at the end:—

"and on such consideration, this Council is constrained, after full and earnest consideration of the whole situation, to record its opinion that the scheme of the Joint Select Committee for the future constitution of India does not satisfy the aspirations of the people of this country and is unacceptable and that it is better to remain and struggle under the existing constitution defective though it be, than to be saddled with the constitution proposed under the Report."

The amendment was lost.

[30th January 1935]

* The Hon. the PRESIDENT:—"The second amendment, i.e., that of Mr. Yahya Ali, is for the vote of the House. The question is—

Add the following at the end:—

"and on such consideration the Council while accepting the conclusions of the Joint Parliamentary Committee that there should be Provincial Autonomy for British India and that an All-India Federation should be inaugurated as they will end the present system of diarchy in the provinces and irresponsible system of Government at the Centre, and urging that such inauguration should take place at a very early date, feels bound to express its regret that so far from improving on the White Paper proposals, the Report further restricts the scope of responsibility which would be transferred to Indian people both in the Provinces and at the Centre; the Council therefore further urges that to secure goodwill for the working of the new constitution in a peaceful atmosphere, the following changes at least must be made by the Parliament:—

(1) In view of the very wide apprehensions that have been raised in the country, almost amounting to a feeling of distrust that the pledges given by Royalty and by representatives of the King-Emperor and prominent members of the British Cabinet regarding the political goal of India, are being indirectly withdrawn, it should be made clear in the preamble that the ultimate aim of the constitutional progress in this country must be the attainment by India of Dominion Status in the British Commonwealth:

(2) so far as provincial administration is concerned—

(a) the Joint responsibility of Ministers should be recognized, as that is the only method of preventing disruptive tendencies and creating a sound party system of Government;

(b) while recognizing that the Joint Parliamentary Committee Report has accepted the principle that there can be no real 'Responsibility' unless 'Law and Order' are transferred to the control of the Ministers, it is unnecessary to add to the safeguards already enumerated in the White Paper; further restrictions as contained in the paragraphs 92 and 93 of the Report;

(c) the Rules of Business and Procedure should be made on the advice of the Ministers and not merely in consultation with them;

(d) the power of the Governor to make Ordinances should be limited to cases where he can do so on the advice of the Ministers; in other cases, this power should be vested in the Governor-General;

[30th January 1935]

[The President]

(e) the Governor's Acts should be only of temporary duration and not be permanently on the Statute Book;

(f) the very wide discretionary power given to the Governor in relation to the Services will make it impossible for Ministers to carry on the administration particularly as the phrase 'legitimate interests' is incapable of any definite meaning;

(3) with regard to the Federal Centre, the Council urges that at least those suggestions relating to Defence and Commercial safeguards which were put forward in the Memorandum of the British Indian delegates to the Joint Parliamentary Committee may be adopted. The system of Indirect Election to the Federal Assembly is also an alteration of the proposals of the White Paper Scheme for which there is no sufficient justification; and

(4) the Council is strongly opposed to the proposal contained in paragraph 473 of the Joint Parliamentary Committee Report empowering the Burma Legislature to enact any discriminating legislation against Indian subjects."

The amendment was carried.

* The Hon. the PRESIDENT:—"I will now put the uncovered portions of Mr. Krishnayya Choudari's amendment. The question is:

Add the following at the end:—

"and on such consideration, the House is of opinion—

(a) that the constitution of a Second Chamber for Madras is quite unnecessary;

(b) that the safeguards mentioned in paragraphs 94 to 97 of the Joint Parliamentary Committee Report regarding the Police Rules and Special Branch of the Police are unnecessary;

(c) that the House of Assembly in the Federal Legislature should be constituted on a popular basis even with regard to States' representation. The States' subjects should be given power to send their representatives to that House;

(d) that the Defence and Foreign Relations should be transferred to the Indian Ministers automatically within a reasonable time without any further reference to the Imperial Parliament;

(e) that the powers of the Council of State should not be co-equal with the Federal House of Assembly in respect of Taxation and Finance; their power should be limited to approximate to the powers of the House of Lords in England;

(f) that the Federal Constitution should come into force immediately in regard to British Provinces with such States as are agreeable to join, leaving the other States to join if and when they like; and

[The President]

[30th January 1935]

(g) that the safeguards in regard to Commercial discrimination are totally unacceptable. The right of India for full autonomy in her fiscal affairs should be recognized."

The amendment was carried.

* The Hon. the PRESIDENT:—"I will now put Mr. Siva Raj's amendment to the vote of the House. The question is:

(a) Add at the end:

"and, on such consideration, this Council is of opinion that the scheme of representation for the Depressed Classes in the legislatures embodied in the Report is injurious and not beneficial to the interests and welfare of the community and therefore requests His Majesty's Government through the Government of India to exempt Madras Province from the operation of the Communal Award as amended by the so-called Poona Pact and to restore the system of representation for the depressed classes proposed in the original Premier's Award."

(b) Add the following at the end:—

"and on such consideration, this Council is of opinion that adequate number of seats be reserved in Second Chambers, Provincial and Federal, for representation of the Depressed Classes and requests His Majesty's Government through the Government of India to so modify the proposals."

The amendment was declared carried.

Mr. Basheer Ahmed Sayeed demanded a poll, and the House divided thus:

Ayes.

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1 The Hon. the Raja of Bobbili. | 19 Mr. C. Basu Dev. |
| 2 " Mr. P. T. Rajan. | 20 Rao Sahib V. Dharmalingam Pillai. |
| 3 " Diwan Bahadur S. Kumaraswami Reddiyar. | 21 Khan Bahadur T. M. Moidoo Sahib Bahadur. |
| 4 Mrs. K. Alamelunangathayaramma. | 22 The Kumararaja of Venkatagiri. |
| 5 Mr. R. Madanagopal Nayudu. | 23 " Raja of Kallikote. |
| 6 " T. Sundara Rao Nayudu. | 24 Mr. M. A. Muthiah Chettiyar. |
| 7 Khan Bahadur Syed Tajuddin Sahib Bahadur. | 25 " A. V. Bhanoji Rao. |
| 8 Diwan Bahadur A. Appadurai Pillai. | 26 Swami A. S. Sahajanandam. |
| 9 Mr. G. Ranganatha Mudaliyar. | 27 Mr. H. M. Jagannatham. |
| 10 Khan Bahadur Yahya Ali Sahib Bahadur. | 28 Rao Sahib P. Subrahmanyam Chetti. |
| 11 Rao Sahib N. Siva Raj. | 29 The Zamindar of Kirlampudi. |
| 12 Subadar-Major S. A. Nanjappa Bahadur. | 30 Rao Sahib C. Jayaram Nayudu. |
| 13 Rao Bahadur R. Srinivasan. | 31 Mr. S. A. A. Annamalai Chettiyar. |
| 14 Rao Sahib V. I. Muniswami Pillai. | 32 Rao Sahib D. V. Narasimhaswami. |
| 15 Mr. G. Sriramulu. | 33 Mr. K. Kesavaramamurti Nayudu. |
| 16 " P. V. Rajagopal Pillai. | 34 " M. S. Sreshta. |
| 17 " V. G. Vasudeva Pillai. | 35 " Mahboob Ali Baig. |
| 18 " W. P. A. Soundara Pandian. | 36 " G. R. Premayya. |
| | 37 Rao Bahadur C. Natesa Mudaliyar. |
| | 38 Khan Bahadur Schamnad Sahib Bahadur. |

30th January 1935]

Noes.

- | | |
|--------------------------------|--|
| 1 Mr. T. Narasa Reddi. | 13 Diwan Bahadur C. S. Ratnasabhapati Mudaliyar. |
| 2 Dr. P. Subbarayan. | 14 Mr. A. Ranganatha Mudaliyar. |
| 3 Mr. Yakub Hasan. | 15 " P. V. Krishnayya Choudari. |
| 4 " K. R. Venkatarama Ayyar. | 16 Diwan Bahadur M. Gopalaswami Mudaliyar. |
| 5 " T. C. Srinivasa Ayyangar. | 17 Mr. H. B. Ari Gowder. |
| 6 " Abdul Harreed Khan. | 18 Rao Bahadur R. K. Venugopal Nayudu. |
| 7 " Basheer Ahmed Sayeed. | 19 Mr. C. R. Parthasarathi Ayyangar. |
| 8 " B. Pocker. | 20 " P. Ratnavelu Tevar. |
| 9 " P. C. Muthu Chettiyar. | 21 " A. B. Shetty. |
| 10 " K. A. Nachiyappa Gounder. | |
| 11 " Ahmed Meeran Sahib. | |
| 12 " K. P. Raman Menon. | |

Neutral.

- | | |
|---|---------------------------------------|
| 1 The Hon. Sir Hopetoun Stokes. | 5 Mr. W. Scott-Brown. |
| 2 " Rai Bahadur Sir K. V. Reddi Nayudu. | 6 " C. E. Jones. |
| 3 " Rao Bahadur A. T. Pan-nirselvam. | 7 Diwan Bahadur V. N. Viswanatha Rao. |
| 4 " Mr. C. A. Souter. | 8 Rao Bahadur D. Krishnamurti. |
| | 9 Mr. R. Foulkes. |

Ayes 38. Noes 21. Neutral 9.

The amendment was carried.

* The Hon. the PRESIDENT:—"I will now put the amendment of Mr. Sreshta to the vote of the House. The question is:

Add the following at the end:—

"and on such consideration, this Council resolves to request His Majesty's Government through the Government of India to give effect to the resolution passed in this Council on the 23rd March 1933, that the number of seats assigned to Indian Christians in the Madras Legislative Council be increased by five, the total number of seats in the Council being increased by the same number."

The amendment was carried.

The Hon. the PRESIDENT:—"Now the amendment of Mr. T. C. Srinivasa Ayyangar is for the vote of the House. The question is:

Add at the end—

"and on such consideration, the Council is of opinion that proposals for separation of Burma should not be given effect to unless sufficient safeguards are provided in regard to free entry, residence, education, franchise, representation on the Legislature, services and professions, banking, trade, and ownership of lands and other properties for Indians in Burma."

The amendment was carried.

The House then adjourned to meet again at 11 a.m. on the 20th February 1935.

R. V. REDDI AYYAR,
Secretary to the Legislative Council.

V211, 32, 235
235, 74, 1